

*Celebrating into 150*

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



## MMF ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2019  
ASSINIBOIA DOWNS, WINNIPEG



**Manitoba Metis  
Federation**  
METIS GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA



# **Our Mission**

The Manitoba Metis Federation serves the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community and its Citizens through advancing their cultural, social, economic and political well-being and through a strong, representative and self-sustaining Metis Government founded on the inherent rights of the Manitoba Metis Community.

# **Our Vision**

A strong, democratic and accountable Metis Government in Manitoba committed to improving the lives of our Citizens and empowered by a proud and vibrant people forever united within the Metis Nation.



# 2019 Sponsors

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Murray N. Trachtenberg B.A., LL.B  
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Matthew Edwards, CPA



# MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION

150



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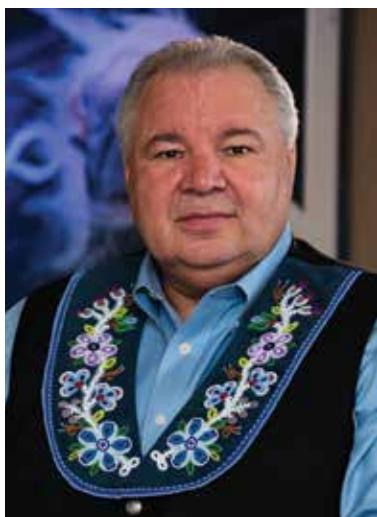
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# Annual Greetings

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## GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT DAVID N. CHARTRAND, LL.D. (HON), O.M.

### *MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION*

Tawnshi, Aaniin, Bienvenue and Welcome to all our Citizens and especially to our Metis Elders and Youth. Our Elders are the knowledge keepers of our Nation, safeguarding our culture, teaching our languages and providing our people with wise counsel and clear direction. Our Youth are the future of our Nation, the keepers of our destiny, who will carry forward our Nation for the generations to come. It is vital that all generations gather together at this Annual General Assembly to work as one, each contributing your knowledge, your voice and your vision as we take our rights and responsibilities as Metis Citizens to heart.

I am also pleased to welcome the visiting dignitaries as well as our partners and sponsors to the Manitoba Metis Federation's 2019 Annual General Assembly. Here, as we gather together in Winnipeg, the birthplace of the Metis Nation, know that it is your participation and engagement that makes the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community a strong, connected and informed Government, and one that will carry our Nation forward in strength.

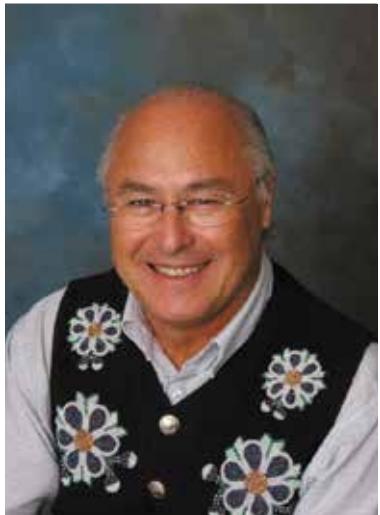
The Annual General Assembly is a core element of our Metis Nation Governance and the largest annual gathering of Metis Citizens across the Metis Nation. When we work together and organize politically, when we manage our own affairs, we truly show the dynamic force the Metis are in Manitoba and Canada. Our federal government actively recognizes us, and the important contributions the Metis have made to Manitoba and Canada. We are now seeing reconciliation in action on the federal level!

Our Distinctions-Based, Nation-to-Nation, Government-to-Government relationship with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has resulted in funding from Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada to go towards the creation of a Metis National Heritage Centre (MNHC). The MNHC will be a heart for the Metis, and put in motion the sharing of our language, culture, and the incredible contributions our people have made to the very fibre of Manitoba and Canada. Knowledge is power and the MNHC will be a place of strength. We, the Metis, turn our adversity to strength. This is history. This is fact. Our long-held vision for the Metis Nation is becoming a reality.

Despite how far we've come, we can never take our achievements for granted. There is crucial work ahead for the Metis Nation. So, let this Assembly honour the many battles we've fought, our hard-won victories, and propel us in our growing strength to the next step in our journey toward a solid Metis Nationhood.

Meeqwetch,

President David Chartrand  
Manitoba Metis Federation



## GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT CLÉMENT CHARTIER, QC

### *MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL*

As we enter the year 2020, the 150th anniversary of the Metis Nation under the leadership of President Louis Riel joining Canada, the Metis Nation has finally made substantial and significant gains for its Citizens. Over the last four years, based on the tireless and dedicated work of our national Metis Nation government, and the strong support and efforts of the Manitoba Metis Federation's Cabinet and President, David Chartrand, the groundwork laid over the past 20 years has finally paid off.

Over the past two federal budgets under the current Liberal government and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, the Metis Nation, on a distinctions-based approach has secured over two billion dollars for services such as housing, early learning and child care, scholarships and bursaries, training and employment and \$30 million for WWII Metis Nation Veterans, amongst others. This would not have been possible but for the election of the Liberal government in 2015 and the strong position of the Manitoba Metis Community in staunchly defending the integrity and future well-being of the Metis Nation.

While other Governing Member Presidents over the past 10 or more years have made a number of failed efforts to take over the Métis National Council, with the objective of expanding the Metis Nation's historic homeland to include non-Metis Nation persons of mixed-ancestry from Eastern Canada, and in particular the province of Ontario, the Metis within Manitoba have strongly resisted and to date have been successful.

What we can never forget is that the Metis Nation has a long and deeply rooted history, grounded in the current provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Nothing can change this fact of history, and as long as we remain true to this history, the current political opportunism by elected leaders from Saskatchewan and Alberta can never change that. Our national representative and governing body, the Métis National Council is exactly that. It is an institution of government of the Metis Nation, it is not the Metis Nation itself.

Changes to the MNC itself, will not change the Metis Nation. It certainly will affect its struggle to maintain its objectives from March 8, 1983, when its then leaders from the Prairie provinces got together to form the MNC as the political vehicle to pursue the rights and objectives of the Metis Nation, and to secure and safeguard its existence as a distinct Indigenous people based in what is now known as Western Canada. If the MNC were ever to go rogue, to go in a direction that is harmful to the Metis Nation, there is nothing stopping the Citizens of the Metis Nation to reject it and re-establish its government; a government true to its Citizens and Nation.

As was done in 1870, the Manitoba Metis Community 150 years later may be called upon once again to lead the fight to ensure the integrity of the Metis Nation, with a proper representative government, and to stop the invasion of persons of mixed-ancestry supported by Governing Member Presidents from Saskatchewan and Alberta from having a say in the future existence of the Metis Nation.



## GREETINGS FROM INFINITY WOMEN SECRETARIAT SPOKESWOMAN ANITA CAMPBELL

### *INFINITY WOMEN SECRETARIAT INC. MMF MINISTER OF FINANCE & HUMAN RESOURCES*

On behalf of the Infinity Women Secretariat, it is my honour and pleasure to extend greetings to the Manitoba Metis Federation's 51st Annual General Assembly. Welcome to all Elders, Women, Delegates, Youth and Special Guests.

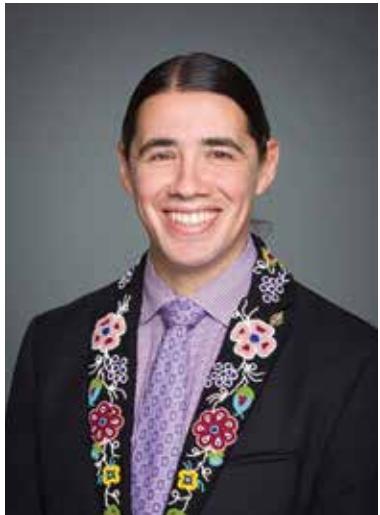
Reflecting upon this past year's achievements and growth by the Manitoba Metis Federation – from the continued efforts to ensure the protection of our rights, to the increased capacity and accountability as we strive to meet the needs of our Citizens throughout our Manitoba Metis Community – the amount of work that has been accomplished is absolutely amazing. Be assured, you have a dedicated and passionate Metis Government. We continue to work long hours and participate fully in many meetings to ensure that our collective endeavours become a reality.

Where we are today is ground-breaking, to say the least. We have a President who values the role that women play in leading our Nation. We have a Metis Government with a Cabinet that is filled with women. We have Presidential and Ministerial Personnel who are women. And our Locals – our grassroots governance, that informs our directives – are largely made up of women. Metis Women have long been the backbone of Metis culture and politics in our families and communities. By investing in our Metis Women, we are investing in a stronger and more successful future for everyone across our Manitoba Metis Community.

This past year, the Manitoba Metis Federation continued its support of our initiatives that were designed to improve the well-being of our Metis Women on the social, cultural, and economic levels. We continue to work together to defend our Nation, while advancing our rights. I am privileged to work alongside so many strong and dedicated Metis Leaders who advocate to ensure that the needs of our Metis people are being met.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to President David Chartrand, the Manitoba Metis Federation Caucus, and all our Metis Leaders and Citizens for their continued support and encouragement in developing new opportunities for our Métis Women throughout our Manitoba Metis Community.

I look forward to spending the next three days with you and I wish you all the best and safe travels home.



## GREETINGS FROM MR. ROBERT-FALCON OUELLETTE, M.P.

### *WINNIPEG CENTRE*

Bonjour, Tansi!

The history of the Metis Nation has been forging ahead, step by step, finding the Metis pride and a place in our society as a Nation.

As the Metis people consider their collective future, it is important for dreaming about what needs to be accomplished. Dreams based on our collective unity for all our relations is the only path forward.

Marci akwa Khitwam.



## GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT MELANIE OMENIHO

### *LES FEMMES MICHIF OTIPEMISIWAK WOMEN OF THE MÉTIS NATION*

Greetings, Delegates of the Manitoba Metis Federation's Annual General Assembly,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO), I would like to congratulate you on the occasion of your 51st Annual General Assembly.

It is incredible the number of achievements that the Manitoba Metis Federation has seen over the last year as a result of hard work, dedication, and determination. The Annual General Assembly is an important time to review with your Citizens the great work over the year and to receive feedback as to emerging priority areas. Your gathering will allow you the opportunity to celebrate the many victories the Manitoba Metis Federation has championed since 1967.

As you continue on your mandate to promote and protect the political, social, cultural, and economic interests and rights of the Metis Nation in Manitoba, I wish you all the best at your Annual General Assembly.

With respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "mOmeneho".



## GREETINGS FROM THE HONOURABLE MARYANN MIHYCHUK, P.C., M.P.

### KILDONAN - ST. PAUL

As Member of Parliament representing an area of great importance in the history of the Metis, it is a pleasure to celebrate the 2019 Annual General Assembly of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

Your work at this assembly will carry forward more than a half-century's worth of progress by the MMF in advancing the rights and preserving the identity and heritage of the Metis. The great strides the MMF has made, including legal victories of national historic importance, continue two centuries of vigorous protection by the Metis of their rights.

Working from a local constituency office just a stone's throw from the monument for the Metis victory in the Battle of the Frog Plains, or Seven Oaks, I am well aware of the pride, courage and determination of the Metis people. May those virtues serve you well in your work at this assembly and beyond.



## GREETINGS FROM MR. TERRY DUGUID, M.P.

### WINNIPEG SOUTH

As the federal Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South, and on behalf of the Government of Canada, I am pleased to welcome you to the 51st Annual General Assembly of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF).

Since it was founded in 1967, the MMF has committed itself to representing the best interests of the Manitoba Metis with single-minded dedication. I am proud to represent members of the community residing in Winnipeg South, which is home to the Louis Riel House, as well as historic St. Norbert, where many generations of Metis history have been written. The long and rich Metis presence in Winnipeg South, and indeed all of Manitoba, is one that needs to be celebrated, as it is directly responsible for the thriving Metis culture present today.

The Government of Canada is committed to recognizing and honouring the many contributions and achievements of the Metis people, and to renew its relationship with the Metis Nation. This was evident on May 27th, 2016, as the Hon. Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Manitoba's Metis Community in order to honour the land commitments made in the Manitoba Act of 1870.

The Government of Canada also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Metis Nation in August 2018 that commits Canada to jointly undertake the co-development of a 10-year Metis Nation Health Accord. In May 2019, our federal government was proud to announce federal funding and a partnership with the MMF for Metis Employment and Training. The new agreement and investment will ensure that over 15,000 Metis Citizens will receive the support they need for gainful employment. The Government of Canada is committed to a renewed relationship with the Metis Nation, based on reconciliation and recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership.

It is through the tireless efforts of the MMF that the Metis Nation continues to grow and thrive in Manitoba, and I wish them success in the years to come. Best wishes for a rewarding and enjoyable assembly!



## GREETINGS FROM MR. WAB KINEW, M.L.A.

### *LEADER OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF MANITOBA FORT ROUGE*

On behalf of the NDP Caucus, it is my pleasure to extend warmest greetings to the Manitoba Metis Federation as you mark your 51st Annual General Assembly. Founded in the spirit of Louis Riel, father of Manitoba and our first Premier, the Manitoba Metis Federation formed 50 years ago to ensure the Metis Nation in Manitoba is represented democratically with a self-governing political body. Since your inception, you've enriched our province in countless ways, ensuring a prominent and honoured place within the cultural fabric of our province, contributing to our economy and making an indelible mark on our shared history as Manitobans.

In your ongoing dedication, the Manitoba Metis Federation has succeeded in securing job opportunities, provided educational programming and advocated for your rights as a distinct people. It is my firm belief that you deserve a partner in government who will work together with you to empower your Citizens, and not engage in the shameful politics of division or inaction. Together with my colleagues in the NDP, I recognize the Metis people as founders of our province with a claim to this land.

I congratulate the Manitoba Metis Federation on your contributions to Manitoba over the past half century and commend President David Chartrand for his steady leadership. May the Manitoba Metis Federation Cabinet, the Metis people and your ancestors rejoice in this wonderful occasion.



## GREETINGS FROM MR. DOUGALD LAMONT, M.L.A.

### *LEADER OF THE MANITOBA LIBERAL PARTY ST. BONIFACE*

Please accept my best wishes for your 2019 Annual General Assembly. For many years the Manitoba Metis Federation has been an incredible advocate and voice for the Metis people of Manitoba. While there have been many challenges throughout the years, there have been great successes as well. Your organization has grown in size and capacity, with every region of our province benefiting from your representation and sharing in your success.

I am confident that the future will see the Manitoba Metis Federation continue to grow and prosper. It is important to continue to defend the rights of the Metis people of Manitoba.

Congratulations and thank you all for your hard work and immeasurable contributions to our great province.



## GREETINGS FROM JANE MACLATCHY

### *ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF THE RCMP*

On behalf of the RCMP in Manitoba, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 51st annual meeting of the Manitoba Metis Federation.

We have had a longstanding professional working relationship with our MMF partners and we remain committed to working and collaborating with the MMF and to always keep the lines of communications open and honest.

I am so pleased that the strong partnership between the MMF and the RCMP continues to grow and strengthen.

I wish you all a very productive event and another successful year.



## GREETINGS FROM HER HONOUR THE HONOURABLE JANICE C. FILMON, C.M., O.M.

### *LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MANITOBA*

As The Queen's representative in Manitoba, I am pleased to welcome delegates to the Manitoba Metis Federation's (MMF) 51st Annual General Assembly.

For over a half-century, the dedicated leadership and volunteer contingent of the MMF has worked together to further the best interests of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community. Your efforts have strengthened the Metis Community thorough strong advocacy and the development of programs and services that enrich the lives of your members. MMF also continues to play a leading role in increasing public awareness of the unique history and culture of Metis people, an important element in cultural preservation and intercultural appreciation.

As you come together for this year's assembly, reflecting on past successes and looking ahead to a promising future, I wish you continued success.



## GREETINGS FROM MR. BRIAN BOWMAN

### MAYOR OF WINNIPEG

It is my pleasure to extend warmest wishes to the Manitoba Metis Federation as you open the 2019 Annual General Assembly — an opportunity to make and renew friendships, review accomplishments, celebrate successes, and set goals and direction for the coming years.

As the organization promoting the political, social, cultural, and economic interests and rights of the Metis in Manitoba, the Manitoba Metis Federation plays a key role in the journey to reconciliation and equality in our society. Many of us are now accustomed to hearing land acknowledgements at events that we attend, and here in Manitoba, we are on the traditional home of the Metis Nation, something which we can all feel so proud of. The Metis Nation played a key role in the history of our province and today the Metis continue to play an integral part in Manitoba's cultural life and economic prosperity.

I am proud of my family's Metis heritage. And as Mayor I want Winnipeg to be a place where everybody can be proud of their heritage wherever they come from and know that our city is a place where their dreams can come true. I am happy that the MMF is a powerful partner in that goal.

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, I would like to recognize and thank the many sponsors, volunteers, and organizers whose work makes events like the General Assembly possible. Best wishes to all the delegates, exhibitors, and guests for a productive and inspiring Assembly.



## GREETINGS FROM MR. DANNY SMYTH

### WINNIPEG POLICE CHIEF

On behalf of the Winnipeg Police Service it is my pleasure to offer greetings to the Manitoba Metis Federation and all those attending this year's Annual General Assembly.

One of the great aspects of my job is to get to know the people that make up this great city and region. This includes the Metis Nation, whose people have contributed significantly to the history of Manitoba.

There is much to explore on what we can do as a Police Service to better serve or support members of the Metis Community living in Winnipeg and general assemblies like this help to provide a focus on the issues, to set goals and provide a clear direction for the future.

I look forward to strengthening my relationship with President Chartrand and the Metis Community.



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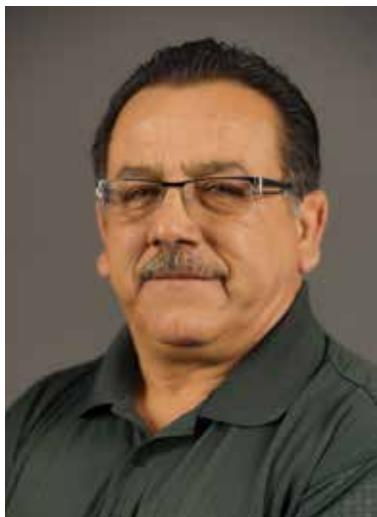
Metis N4 Construction Inc. is a for profit share capital corporation wholly owned by the MMF Metis Economic Development Trust.

Metis N4 Construction Inc. is a construction project management company with a wide range of joint venture agreements in the construction and building fields.



# Diamond Sponsor

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## GREETINGS FROM MR. JACK PARK

### *METIS N4 CONSTRUCTION – CHAIRMAN*

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Trustees and Staff of Metis N4 Construction, we would like to congratulate the Manitoba Metis Federation and its government Leaders on another year of Governance for the benefit of the Metis Citizens of Manitoba.

The Manitoba Metis Federation, under the leadership of President David Chartrand, has well positioned the Metis of Manitoba when it comes to reasserting Metis Rights within the Homeland and securing a lasting place for the Metis Citizens of Manitoba.

Today the Metis Government serves its Citizens through a revitalized Government-to-Government, Nation-to-Nation relationship ensuring the Metis enjoy their rightful place within the constitution of Canada.

Jack Park  
Chairman  
Metis N4 Construction Inc.





MANITOBA METIS



# Minutes of the 50th Annual General Assembly

**September 21, 22 & 23, 2018**  
**Assiniboia Downs – Winnipeg, MB**

## **DAY ONE:** **SEPTEMBER 21, 2018**

Mr. Oliver Boulette welcomes Elder George Fleury to recite the Opening Prayer.

Opening Prayer – Elder George Fleury

Minister Anita Campbell presents opening remarks on behalf of President David Chartrand. Minister Campbell presents the regrets for President Chartrand who is unable to attend Day One of the Manitoba Metis Federation 2018 Annual General Assembly as he is in Ottawa attending meetings with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Minister Will Goodon introduces Marc LeClair and Oliver Boulette as individuals recommended for appointment of Co-Chairs for the 2018 Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly.

### **Motion No: 01 09 18**

**Motion to accept the appointment of Marc LeClair and Oliver Boulette as Co-Chairs for the Manitoba Metis Federation 2018 Annual General Assembly.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Jack Park*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Vincent Mark Parenteau*

**Carried Unanimously**

Co-Chair Marc LeClair reviews and presents Manitoba Metis Federation 2018 Annual General Assembly Agenda to the delegates for approval.

### **Motion No: 02 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Manitoba Metis Federation 2018 Annual General Assembly Agenda as presented.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Julyda Lagimodiere*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Will Goodon*

**Carried Unanimously**

Co-Chair Oliver Boulette presents outline of events that will be taking place during the course of September 21 – 23, 2018 Annual General Assembly.

Co-Chair Marc LeClair advises the Assembly that each region is required to appoint an individual to the Resolutions Committee and opens the floor to appointments. The Resolutions Committee is appointed as follows:

<b>The Pas Region:</b>	<b>Bert Linfitt</b>
<b>Southeast Region:</b>	<b>Jackie Mason</b>
<b>Southwest Region:</b>	<b>Bertha Buote</b>
<b>Thompson Region:</b>	<b>Joanne Parenteau</b>
<b>Interlake Region:</b>	<b>Jerry Buors</b>
<b>Winnipeg Region:</b>	<b>Gerald Barron</b>
<b>Northwest Region:</b>	<b>Peter Fleming</b>

### **Motion No: 03 09 18**

**Motion to accept the names as appointed to the Resolution Committee:**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Andrew Carrier*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Mona Buors*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Mona Buors presents the Minutes as noted in the AGA kits and the resolutions as they are read:

### **Motion No: 04 09 18**

**Motion to accept the minutes of the 2017 Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly as presented in the AGA kits and to accept the 2017 Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly Resolutions as read and presented by Minister Mona Buors.**

**Moved by:**  
*Minister Andrew Carrier*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Minister Frances Chartrand*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Frances Chartrand presents the Health and Wellness Report.

### **Motion No: 05 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Health and Wellness Report as presented by Minister Frances Chartrand.**

**Moved by:**  
*Minister Mona Buors*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Joan Church, Southwest Region*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Joan Ledoux presents the Provincial Education and Louis Riel Institute Report.

### **Motion No: 06 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Provincial Education and Louis Riel Institute Report as presented by Minister Joan Ledoux.**

**Moved by:**  
*Minister Frances Chartrand*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Minister Mona Buors*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Julyda Lagimodiere presents the Metis Justice Institute Report.

### **Motion No: 07 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Metis Justice Institute Report as presented by Minister Julyda Lagimodiere.**

**Moved by:**  
*Minister Alfred Anderson*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Co-Chair Oliver Boulette welcomes Elder Norman Fleury to provide the Blessing for lunch.

Minister Alfred Anderson presents the Culture & Heritage Report.

### **Motion No: 08 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Culture & Heritage Report as presented by Minister Alfred Anderson.**

**Moved by:**  
*Associate Minister David Beaudin*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Camille Berthelette, The Pas Region*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Denise Thomas presents the Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations Report.

### **Motion No: 09 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations Report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.**

**Moved by:**  
*Associate Minister Shawn Nault*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister John Parenteau presents the Fisheries Report.

### **Motion No: 10 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Fisheries Report as presented by Minister John Parenteau.**

**Moved by:**  
*Associate Minister David Beaudin*

**Seconded by:**  
*Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Andrew Carrier presents the Metis Community Liaison Department Report, Residential Schools Report, Riel House Report, Pemmican Publications Report, and Michif Languages Report.

### **Motion No: 11 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Metis Community Liaison Department Report, Residential Schools Report, Riel House Report, Pemmican Publications Report, Michif Languages Report as presented by Minister Andrew Carrier.**

**Moved by:**  
*Minister Alfred Anderson*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Associate Minister David Beaudin*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Vincent Mark Parenteau presents the Environment & Mining Report.

### **Motion No: 12 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Environment & Mining Report as presented by Minister Vincent Mark Parenteau.**

**Moved by:**  
*Minister Mona Buors*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Minister Will Goodon*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Anita Campbell presents the Information Technology Report.

### **Motion No: 13 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Information Technology Report as presented by Minister Anita Campbell.**

**Moved by:**  
*Barbara Bruce, Winnipeg Region*  
**Seconded by:**  
*Minister Andrew Carrier*  
**Carried Unanimously**

Day One Adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

## DAY TWO: SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

### Opening Ceremonies

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Master of Ceremonies Marc LeClair welcomes Elder Norman Fleury to recite Opening Prayer.

Master of Ceremonies Marc LeClair introduces Past, Present and Future Video Presentation

Master of Ceremonies Marc LeClair invites the following dignitaries to bring greetings and welcoming remarks to the Manitoba Metis Federation 2018 Annual General Assembly.

*President Clément Chartier, Métis National Council*

*President Glen McCallum, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan*

*President Clara Morin Dal Col, Métis Nation British Columbia*

*President Melanie Omeniho, Women of the Métis Nation*

*Honourable Eileen Clarke, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Relations, Province of Manitoba*

*Mr. Wab Kinew, Leader of the New Democratic Party, Province of Manitoba*

*Mr. Dougald Lamont, Leader of the Liberal Party, Province of Manitoba*

*Mayor Brian Bowman, City of Winnipeg*

Master of Ceremonies Marc LeClair invites the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations, Government of Canada, and President David Chartrand to sign the Mutual Understanding between Manitoba Metis Federation and Government of Canada to develop interim fiscal financing agreement related to negotiations for the Framework Agreement on Advancing Reconciliation to include a payment of \$154.3 Million from Canada to the MMF. Master of Ceremonies Marc LeClair invites

Minister Jack Park and Mr. Rob Forbes of Forbes Brothers to present sponsorship donation to the Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly.

Master of Ceremonies Marc LeClair invites Elder Norman Fleury to provide Blessing for lunch.

Master of Ceremonies Marc LeClair invites Infinity Women Secretariat Spokeswoman Anita Campbell and Women of the Metis Nation President Melanie Omeniho to bring greetings to the Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly. Ms. Amanda Boudreau introduces the Manitoba Metis Federation Cabinet to the delegates of the Manitoba

Metis Federation 2018 Annual General Assembly.

President Chartrand presents the Manitoba Order of the Sash to Metis Veteran John Lavallee.

Minister Anita Campbell along with Mr. Terell Luhowy of Myers Norris Penny MNP to present the Manitoba Metis Federation 2017/2018 Non-Consolidated Audit to the delegates of the Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly.



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## **Motion No: 14 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Manitoba Metis Federation 2017/2018 Non-Consolidated Audit as presented by Minister Anita Campbell.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Alfred Anderson*

**Seconded by:**

*Camille Berthelette, The Pas Local*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Anita Campbell recommends the audit firm of Meyers Norris Penny be retained as the Auditors for the 2018 / 2019 MMF Non-Consolidated Audit.

## **Motion No: 15 09 18**

**Motion to retain Meyers Norris Penny for the 2018 / 2019 Manitoba Metis Federation Non-Consolidated Audit.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Anita Campbell*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Denise Thomas*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Will Goodon presents the Housing Report.

## **Motion No: 16 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Housing Report as presented by Minister Will Goodon.**

**Moved by:**

*Keith Ginter, Selkirk Local*

**Seconded by:**

*Raymond Garand, Powerview Local*

**Carried Unanimously**

Day Two adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

## **DAY THREE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2018**

Minister Leah LaPlante presents the Citizenship Report.

## **Motion No: 17 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Citizenship Report as presented by Minister Leah LaPlante.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Judy Mayer*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Frances Chartrand*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Leah LaPlante and Associate Minister Shawn Nault present the Natural Resources Report.

## **Motion No: 18 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Natural Resources Report as presented by Minister Leah LaPlante and Associate Minister Shawn Nault.**

**Moved by:**

*Peter Fleming, Minitonas Local*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Alfred Anderson*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Denise Thomas presents the Engagement and Consultation Report.

## **Motion No: 19 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Engagement and Consultation Report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Frances Chartrand*

**Seconded by:**

*Camille Berthelette, The Pas Local*

**Carried Unanimously**

Co-Chair Oliver Boulette invites Mr. David Gray to provide report on Manitoba Association of Friendship Centres.

## **Motion No: 20 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Manitoba Association Friendship Centres Report as presented by Mr. David Gray.**

**Moved by:**

*Camille Berthelette, The Pas Local*

**Seconded by:**

*Adrienne Carriere, Infinity Women Secretariat, Winnipeg Region*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Denise Thomas presents the Sixties Scoop Report.

## **Motion No: 21 09 18**

**Motion to accept the the Sixties Scoop Report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Judy Mayer*

**Seconded by:**

*Laura Forsythe, Bison Local, Winnipeg Region*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Denise Thomas presents the Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund report.

## **Motion No: 22 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Judy Mayer*

**Seconded by:**

*Adrienne Carriere, Infinity Women Secretariat, Winnipeg Region*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Jack Park presents the Energy & Infrastructure Report.

## **Motion No: 23 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Energy & Infrastructure Report as presented by Minister Jack Park .**

<b>Moved by:</b> <i>Camille Berthelette, The Pas Local</i>	President Chartrand presents the Economic Development Report.	Metis Community using the constitutional authorities delegated by our members;
<b>Seconded by:</b> <i>Minister Judy Mayer</i>		<b>WHEREAS</b> , on September 29, 2012, the MMF and the Government of Manitoba signed the Points of Agreement on Metis Harvesting in Manitoba ("POA"), by which the Government of Manitoba, among other things, acknowledged the Manitoba Metis Community's harvesting rights, exercised in accordance with the MMF's Laws of the Harvest, within a specified area: the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area ("RMHA");
<b>Carried Unanimously</b>		
Minister Mona Buors and Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard present the Metis Child and Family Services Report.	<b>Motion No: 27 09 18</b>	<b>WHEREAS</b> the POA, section 11, provides that "Manitoba and the MMF agree that they will consider obtaining additional research, the cost to be borne by Manitoba, concerning the potential existence of Metis Harvesting Rights in other areas of the province outside the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area, with priority being given to research in Grass River Provincial Park and the surrounding area;"
<b>Motion No: 24 09 18</b>	<b>Motion to accept the Economic Development Report as presented by President David Chartrand.</b>	<b>WHEREAS</b> on September 26, 2015, the MMF and the Government of Manitoba signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Actions about Points of Agreement on Metis Harvesting in Manitoba ("MOU"), which provided for the creation of a Joint Technical Working Group ("JTWG") composed of senior officials and legal counsel for both parties to engage in Nation-to-Nation, Government-to-Government dialogue and to assess and analyze existing research and information in order to consider the expansion of the RMHA; the MOU also stated that "[i]t is understood that the Recognized Metis Harvesting Rights Area will be adjusted to include contiguous areas in the Manigotagan and Grass River areas...,"
<b>Motion to accept the Metis Child and Family Services report as presented by Minister Mona Buors and Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard.</b>	President Clément Chartier presents the Métis National Council report.	
<b>Moved by:</b> <i>Carol Reimer, The Pas Local</i>	<b>RESOLUTIONS</b>	
<b>Seconded by:</b> <i>Minister Andrew Carrier</i>	Co-Chair Marc LeClair invites Murray Trachtenberg, MMF Legal Counsel and the Resolutions Committee to present the Resolution that have been forwarded for consideration by the Assembly.	
<b>Carried Unanimously</b>		
Minister John Fleury and Minister Joan Ledoux present the Metis Employment & Training Department Report.	<b>Resolution #1</b>	
<b>Motion No: 25 09 18</b>	<b>Expansion of the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area</b>	
<b>Motion to accept the Metis Employment and Training Report as presented by Minister John Fleury and Minister Joan Ledoux.</b>	<b>WHEREAS</b> the Metis Nation, as an Indigenous people, has inherent rights to the lands and resources of our Homeland, including harvesting rights;	
<b>Moved by:</b> <i>Minister Judy Mayer</i>	<b>WHEREAS</b> the Manitoba Metis Community's right to harvest has been constitutionally-protected by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 and recognized by the Supreme Court of Canada (Powley, 2003) and further confirmed by Manitoba courts (Goodon, 2009);	
<b>Seconded by:</b> <i>Wes Hanna, Southwest Region</i>	<b>WHEREAS</b> , flowing from the Manitoba Metis Community's inherent and constitutionally protected rights to harvest and to self-government, the Manitoba Metis Federation ("MMF") consulted with our Elders, Harvesters, and Citizens and ultimately adopted the Metis Laws of the Harvest based on the MMF Constitution, ARTICLE I, which states one of the objectives of the MMF is to provide responsible and accountable governance on behalf of the Manitoba	
<b>Carried Unanimously</b>		<b>WHEREAS</b> , on March 31, 2016, the Joint Technical Working Group submitted its unanimous report to the MMF and the Government of Manitoba, and, based on the assessment of reviewed materials and the state of the law, recommended among other things:
Minister Judy Mayer presents the Metis Rights and Constitution Report.		1. that the RMHA be expanded to include the Grassy River Region (GHAs 5, 7, 7A) and the Manigotagan Region (GHA
<b>Motion No: 26 09 18</b>		
<b>Motion to accept the Metis Rights and Constitution Report as presented by Minister Judy Mayer.</b>		
<b>Moved by:</b> <i>Minister Mona Buors</i>		
<b>Seconded by:</b> <i>Shirley Grosky, The Pas Region</i>		
<b>Carried Unanimously</b>		

26 and that portion of GHA 17A that is not within the Pimitotah Traditional Land Use Planning Area);

2. that further assessment concerning the potential existence of Metis Harvesting Rights be conducted, with particular focus on Game Hunting Areas 2A, 4, 21, 21A, and the Upper and Lower Nelson River systems and the Churchill region;

**WHEREAS**, despite repeated requests from the MMF, the Government of Manitoba has never responded to the JTWG's report and has not expanded the RMHA as recommended:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the 50th MMF Annual General Assembly provides the following direction to the MMF Cabinet:

1. that the MMF consider defending any Metis Harvester who is charged by the Crown with harvesting related

offences while engaged in harvesting activities in keeping with the Metis Laws of the Harvest in the areas recommended by the Joint Technical Working Group for inclusion in the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area—i.e. the Grassy River Region (GHAs 5, 7, 7A) and the Manigotagan Region (GHA 26 and that portion of GHA 17A that is not within the Pimitotah Traditional Land Use Planning Area);

2. that the MMF consider taking all necessary action, including legal action if required, to compel the Government of Manitoba to expand the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area as recommended by the Joint Technical Working Group (i.e. by adding GHAs 5, 7, 7A, 26, and that portion of GHA 17A that is not within the Pimitotah Traditional Land Use Planning Area); and

3. that the MMF consider undertaking an assessment and analysis of existing research and information

regarding the existence of Metis Harvesting Rights in the GHAs 2A, 4, 21, 21A, and the Upper and Lower Nelson River systems and the Churchill region and that the MMF develop a strategy for expanding the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area into these areas.

**Moved by:**

*Minister Leah LaPlante*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Alfred Anderson*

**Carried Unanimously**

## **Resolution #2**

### **MMF Litigation against Brian Pallister Government and Manitoba Hydro**

**WHEREAS** the MMF is the government of the Metis people of Manitoba and is authorized to represent, defend and advance rights, claims and interests of the Manitoba Metis Community, including, dealing with the Crown's duty to consult and accommodate.

**WHEREAS**, in July 2017, the MMF reached a negotiated accommodation agreement with Manitoba Hydro in order to deal with the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Line Project as well as other transmission line projects that have impacted or will impact Metis rights, interests and claims throughout Manitoba (the "July 2017 Agreement") consistent with the commitments and processes set out in the 2014 MMF-Manitoba-Manitoba Hydro Turning the Page Agreement (the "TPA");

**WHEREAS**, on March 21, 2018, the Brian Pallister Government breached the processes set out in the TPA and unlawfully directed Manitoba Hydro to not proceed with the July 2017 Agreement with the MMF;

**WHEREAS** the Premier of Manitoba further insulted all Metis Citizens in Manitoba and the Manitoba Metis Community by referring to the MMF as nothing more than a "special interest group" and labelled the July 2017 Agreement "persuasion money" even though similar agreements have been signed with First Nations within Manitoba and Canada;

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**WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2018, the MMF Caucus authorized the MMF to commence litigation against the Brian Pallister Government as well as Manitoba Hydro in order to uphold the honour of the Crown as well as ensure the July 2017 Agreement is respected and implemented.

**WHEREAS** the 2018 MMF Annual General Assembly is insulted by the actions of the Premier of Manitoba and is ashamed that the first Minister for the province that the Manitoba Metis Community founded has behaved in such a manner against the Metis people;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The MMF Annual General Assembly fully endorses the decision of the MMF Cabinet to commence litigation and take all actions that are necessary to uphold the honour of the Crown, the July 2017 Agreement and hold the Brian Pallister Government to account for their unlawful and unconstitutional actions;

2. The MMF Annual General Assembly demands that an apology be issued by the Premier of Manitoba in relation to his disrespectful statements about the MMF as the government of the Manitoba Metis Community as well as his ongoing disrespect to the elected leadership, rights and claims of the Manitoba Metis Community.

**Moved by:**

*Minister Jack Park*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Anita Campbell*

**Carried Unanimously**

Minister Richard Genaille presents the Sport & Youth Report as presented to the AGA.

**Motion No: 28 09 18**

**Motion to accept the Sport & Youth Report as presented by Minister Richard Genaille.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Frances Chartrand*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Alfred Anderson*

**Carried Unanimously**

**Motion No: 29 09 18**

**Motion to adjourn the Manitoba Metis Federation 2018 Annual General Assembly.**

**Moved by:**

*Minister Frances Chartrand*

**Seconded by:**

*Minister Alfred Anderson*

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Closing Prayer recited by Elder George Fleury.

**MURRAY N. TRACHTENBERG B.A, LL.B  
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# Office of the President

## PRESIDENT ~ David Chartrand



The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) has worked for more than half a century to build our Nation's strength and the prosperity of our People. We are now realizing the dream of our Ancestors and are taking our rightful place in Canadian Confederation as Canada's partner.

Together in partnership with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Government, we are developing initiatives to address our People's needs and we are advancing our People's interests, rights and claims in negotiations with the Government of Canada. We are no longer "the forgotten people." Canada is for the first time in nearly 150 years treating the Manitoba Metis with respect and using a Distinctions-Based, Nation-to-Nation, Government-to-Government approach.

In that spirit of partnership, I am proud to be able to share with you that for the first time in our history, the MMF is mentioned specifically in the federal Budget 2019. The Budget stated that "Canada and the Manitoba Metis Federation have committed to work together to reach a self-government agreement that implements the Manitoba Metis Community's vision of self-determination." This commitment is true reconciliation in action and an acknowledgement

of the importance the Manitoba Metis Community and its governance has for this federal government.

MMF elected representatives take our governance responsibilities and this commitment to self-government very seriously. Together with our Elders, Citizens, Leaders and Youth, we are building upon our rights to self-determination and self-government for the future prosperity of the Manitoba Metis.

Next year is the landmark 150 years since the historic Metis Nation joined Canada. It was through the historic events of 1870 that the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community became known as Canada's Negotiating Partner in Confederation and the Founder of Manitoba. It is for this reason that our theme for this year's Annual General Assembly is "Celebrating into 150."

This year and into the next we have and will be continuing to work with Canada on a number of initiatives to celebrate our important 2020 anniversary. We invite all Manitobans, indeed all Canadians, to join us as we mark Manitoba's 150th birthday.





In addition to the 150th birthday we do have much to celebrate this year and the next. In my report I will summarize much of what we have done together as a People over the past year since the 2018 Annual General Assembly. I encourage you to read each Metis Ministers' reports as they will go into much detail for their portfolios for which they are responsible.

## NEGOTIATING AGREEMENTS

I again thank Prime Minister Trudeau along with the Honourable Ministers Carolyn Bennett and Seamus O'Regan, and others for their efforts in support of the Manitoba Metis. We have seen strong federal leadership in the last year and the Metis Nation has made great strides. Under the terms of the Canada-Metis Nation Accord of which the MMF is a signatory, I have been the Metis Nation's lead negotiator for many of the agreements that are making unprecedented investments in the future of the Metis Nation across our Homeland.

These agreements include a Metis Nation Skills and Employment Training Accord that provides over \$625 million over 10 years for employment services, skills development, and job training; a Metis Nation Housing Accord that invests \$500 million over 10 years for the design, delivery and administration of housing services; and an Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework that will

provide up to \$450 million to improve early learning and child care access for the Metis Nation.

As was announced at last year's AGA, the MMF is receiving \$154.3 million from the Government of Canada to invest in the Manitoba Metis Community and to support the MMF's transition to legal status and jurisdiction as a self-governing Metis Government. Together we are taking the next steps necessary to advance reconciliation between the Manitoba Metis Community and Canada. No longer will there be any question of your Metis Government's legal or jurisdictional status as a partner.

In May, I presented to the Federal Standing Committee in Ottawa on Bill C-92, an Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families. This Act has now passed in Parliament and received Royal Assent. Through this Act, the MMF's jurisdiction and authority is now recognized in Metis child and family services.

This will allow us to focus more on proactive and preventative services as we develop our own legislation for Metis child and family services. This will give us more tools to protect the richness of our culture, strengthen the resilience of our families, and promote the healthy growth of our children.

It has been the province that until now has had the jurisdiction and authority for our children. We have out of necessity followed the province's law and not our Metis Law. Canada's Bill C-92 changes all that. It gives us the ability to create our own Metis child and family services laws over the coming years.

Next year we will take the necessary steps to transition out from under the provincial thumb. We will focus on prevention and keep our children with our families and in our Community. This would be a welcome change from the current provincial legislation and funding models that reward removal.

It is truly unfortunate that while the federal government is trying to make positive change, in the meantime we face a provincial government that in order to balance their books slashes funding to our most vulnerable children and families.

As President, I endorse and support Act C-92. I want to recognize Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his Cabinet for introducing this critical piece of legislation.

Each of these new victories and accomplishments also mean our work is just beginning. We've still got a long way to go. And, we will grow stronger than ever before.

## **RIGHTING PAST WRONGS**

Our strength grows when we embrace our past. This year I had the honour of attending the 75th anniversary of the D-Day Landings in Normandy, France, with other leaders from around the world. I had the opportunity to lead a delegation of Metis Veterans, family members and elected officials and took part in several official events commemorating this historic day. It is right that we continue to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifices to protect our democracy and our way of life.

Unfortunately, the vast majority of our Metis Veterans did not receive the recognition they deserved upon returning to Canada. Because they had fought for our country, they were to receive economic benefits including land and education. This they didn't get.

Starting with the good work done by former Minister of Veterans Affairs Seamus O'Regan, and current Veterans Affairs Minister Lawrence MacAulay, bringing it over the finish line, Canada has shown great leadership taking action to correct the wrongs done to our Metis Nation Veterans who joined Canada's call to arms only to be met with broken promises upon their return.

Thanks to close to 20 years of my negotiating, the federal government has recently committed to fully and properly acknowledge Metis Veterans with the creation of a legacy fund of \$30 million. This initiative has allowed me the honour to personally present cheques of \$20 thousand to surviving Metis Veterans of World War II. They were willing to give the ultimate sacrifice, for a country that up until now, had done little to show its gratitude. As the Metis Nation leader responsible for Metis Veterans, it is my duty, obligation, and my privilege to properly acknowledge our Metis heroes.

## **BEING INCLUSIVE**

We have so many Metis heroes. Recently, the MMF made history by creating a Two-Spirit Michif Local (2SLGBTQ). I am so proud to welcome the newly created Two-Spirit Michif Local to the family. As a



Metis Government, and as a People, we always celebrate inclusion and diversity. With the creation of this Local, I want to congratulate the Executive members on their new leadership roles. Like so many Metis leaders before them, I know they will summon the courage and fortitude to create lasting and positive outcomes for those they serve.

## **METIS AND THE SIXTIES SCOOP**

The Sixties Scoop represents a dark chapter in Canadian history when Metis children were stolen. We have been fighting for over 40 years for Canada to reconcile with our Sixties Scoop Survivors. As your President and the Métis National Council's Vice-President and Minister responsible for Social Development, I applaud Prime Minister Trudeau's commitment to reconciliation.

It was with the support of Canada that the MMF hosted two Sixties Scoop engagement sessions this past year: one in Swan River and one in Winnipeg. The Métis National Council co-hosted four more engagement sessions across the Metis Nation Homeland for each of the governing members. At these sessions, Metis Sixties Scoop Survivors shared their vision for justice and healing. Their vision informs our future discussions on a reconciliation framework with the federal government.

There are legal challenges and obstacles to cross as we move forward this coming year. The MMF and our legal counsels are finding ways to ensure our people do not get caught up in Class Actions occurring across the country – some of which are purporting to represent the Metis. They do not represent the Metis. The MMF is focused on bringing justice to our Sixties

Scoop Survivors – those who were stolen from us. We cannot undo the injustice perpetrated against our People. We can, however, stand united with Metis Survivors and our families to heal, to seek justice, and to make sure that we do not let these injustices happen again.

## PROTECTING AND PROMOTING OUR METIS CULTURE

We have many allies in our battles against injustice. In direct contrast to our provincial government, the federal government actively shows its recognition of the important contributions the Metis have made to Manitoba and Canada. Nearly \$5 million in funding from Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada led by Minister Bennett will go towards the creation of a Metis National Heritage Centre (MNHC). Once again, the federal government shows what reconciliation in action looks like. Imagine if everyone knew the full history of the Metis? This is our goal.

The MNHC will be a heart for the Metis Homeland with the mandate to share our language, culture, and the other contributions our people have made to the very fibre of Manitoba and Canada. In the MNHC, our artifacts will no longer be scattered across the country. They will have a home. There will be a time when our story is fully known. The MNHC will be a place to gather our strength. A place for many to revisit their roots. It will be at the beating heart of our Metis Nation, the place where we first joined forces to protect our identity, our families, our way of life and our Homeland.

Many of our Ancestor's spirits, and our history, is at Red River Settlement, what we now call Winnipeg, Manitoba. As we well know, it is the Birthplace of the Metis Nation and the Heart of the Metis Nation Homeland, while the historic Metis Nation, the historic Red River Metis, and the Manitoba Metis Community are the same Indigenous Community for which the names have been used interchangeably.



For over two centuries the Manitoba Metis Community, through the blood and sacrifices of our Ancestors has exercised our rights of self-determination and self-government. We have protected our rights and our identity since the 1816 Battle of Seven Oaks, the 1816 unveiling of the Metis Nation Flag, the 1849 Sayer Trial, the 1869 Red River Resistance, and the 1885 Battle of Batoche. We have, in our most recent times, protected our rights, claims, and interests in several court decisions including the Supreme Court of Canada's 2013 MMF v. Canada.

### We know who we are.

Unfortunately, there are others who are attempting to steal our identity. Over the years, Metis Nation of Ontario has been unilaterally reinterpreting what is the Metis Nation. They are attempting to move the eastern boundary of our historic Metis Nation Homeland to include Eastern

Ontario and as far east as the Quebec border. They are doing this without the consent of the core of the historic Metis Nation – the Manitoba Metis.

We cannot allow others to redefine or confuse what our Metis Nation is or who our Citizens are. There will be struggles to protect our identity. There will always be people out there we still have to teach and to educate about who we are. At times there will be others we will have to push back eastward and tell them they are not one of us – not a part of the Metis Nation. We have a very big job ahead of us. The next generation should never again have to fight for the most basic recognition and understanding of our rights, our history or our identity.

The strength of our Elders inspires us to be strong. The recent landmark 80th anniversary of the Ste. Madeleine story is a firm reminder of why we fight so hard

against injustice. The tragedy happened not so very long ago. That is why we gather together to celebrate acts of reconciliation, and why we must always be vigilant and strive to protect our Metis Families and ensure future generations, remember our past.

## DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Our vigilance will always encompass nature for the Manitoba Metis are stewards of the land and our harvester and our Elders hold much traditional knowledge about our lands, waters and the environment. We are protectors and conservationists. We are independent hard-working people who use our brains and our backs to build our families' futures in the forest industries, commercial fisheries, trapping, and other traditional and modern economies. We believe in sustainable development and the need to balance environment and economy.

While hosting consultation sessions across the province on our Boreal Forest Initiative, Climate Change, and Wildlife Issues, our Elders and Harvesters have told us about environmental changes. There are changes to weather, changes to the behaviour and the populations of fish and wildlife. We are hearing from our Citizens that there are important opportunities to focus our conservation and sustainability efforts.

For instance, our Youth Boreal Forest Initiative engages youth to preserve the boreal forest, one of our most precious resources. It is a framework to bring together and coordinate a number of programs and projects focused towards ensuring our Youth are a part of the global effort to make positive change in what has been termed a Climate Crisis. To this end we are working to protect our wildlife. We are doing climate change monitoring and looking at ways to make investments in the Green economy. We recognize that our future and indeed the future of all Manitobans rests on our ability to develop a green economy. We are committed to sustainable innovation.



We have undertaken consultations and surveys and we are hearing that the federal government's carbon pricing initiative is a wise investment in our future. Where the province chose to opt out of this plan, the federal government has stepped in to ensure incentives for industry to change from fossil fuels to green solutions. We will remain vigilant at both the provincial and national levels to ensure our people, hardworking taxpayers, are not feeling the brunt of carrying more than our fair share while we tackle climate change.

When we were consulting with our community to develop the Metis Laws, we were told that conservation was number one and we needed to help protect our fish and wildlife resources. We took the necessary steps. Later for protection of human life and property, we were directed by our People to enact safe night hunting and night lighting laws for Metis

Citizens. We passed those laws at our last AGA. We will continue to develop the laws that will assist us in protecting and exercising our rights.

## DISHONOUR OF THE PROVINCIAL CROWN

Our rights have been contravened many times. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s the construction of Manitoba Hydro Dams flooded traplines, created dangerous water conditions, and in many cases brought about the destruction of homes, the decline of commercial fisheries, and the erosion of shorelines with the loss of traditional campsites and ancestral cemeteries. After years of confrontation between the Manitoba Metis and Manitoba Hydro over these continuing impacts and new projects, the MMF, Manitoba (under an NDP Government), and Manitoba Hydro reached the Turning the Page Agreement.

Years of hard negotiations led to the signing of the Turning the Page Agreement in 2014. This agreement established a clear relationship between the Province of Manitoba, Manitoba Hydro and the MMF to advance reconciliation in this province. Turning the Page improved the lives and communities of thousands of Metis across Manitoba. The agreement also set terms for consultation and monitoring of Hydro projects that allowed us to work together in a collaborative way with Hydro and the Province, as opposed to creating unnecessary and expensive confrontations.

Then Premier Brian Pallister terminated the Agreement and turned his back on reconciliation with the Metis People in Manitoba. This was done illegally and without honour. This was done in contravention of Manitoba's constitutional obligations to the Manitoba Metis. The Province and Manitoba Hydro must be held to account for these actions and its attempt to ignore its commitments to the Manitoba Metis Community.

The MMF is acting to ensure that Metis rights are respected and the impacts of projects on the Manitoba Metis Community, including those of the Manitoba Minnesota Transmission Project (MMTP), are fully addressed and accommodated. But hydro developments are not the only area where the Pallister Government is attempting to ignore the Metis.

The MMF is also not surprised the Pallister Government has left the Metis out of the new Manitoba – First Nation Mining Development Protocol. But being left out will create problems for industry. If the Metis are not consulted and accommodated this will hurt companies in their exploration and developments. There must be a proactive approach to



move forward in successfully collaborating with projects on our traditional lands. This is about the honour of the Crown, the duty to consult and accommodate, and about public trust and the common good.

It is important that Metis Citizens join with other Manitobans to defend our public institutions, to protect our collective social interests, and to ensure that Indigenous rights are protected and upheld. Keep a close watch on Manitoba's Crown corporations. Also keep close watch of his government's decision to balance the budget on the backs of our Metis children and families. As the Founders of this Province, we are taking the lead. We are building a

better Manitoba for everyone. In this we carry the vision of President Louis Riel forward to ensure that our children, and our children's children inherit a thriving province.

## OUR TRADITIONAL ECONOMIES

One way that the Metis can exist and even thrive is through traditional economies and many of our small communities rely on income from forestry and fur trapping to support their families. For many towns and villages there is no other economy. There is little chance that a large factory or phone centre will open its doors in these communities anytime soon. We will continue to provide supports for

**The MMF is receiving \$154.3 million from the Government of Canada to invest in the Manitoba Metis Community and to support the MMF's transition to legal status and jurisdiction as a self-governing Metis Government.**



small businesses and education and training opportunities so our Citizens can continue to build and strengthen their communities.

For many, the freshwater fishery is the last of the traditional economies and one of the few accessible opportunities for our rural and northern Citizens. A strong fishery drives many of the small businesses such as mechanics, equipment suppliers, grocery stores, and gas stations to mention a few.

There will be both short-term and long-term consequences to Manitoba's recent commercial fishing licence buy-back program. This buy-back is already devastating our Metis villages which rely on the Lake Winnipeg fishery. These are our People all of whom have families and mortgages, all of whom spend their hard-earned money in their villages.

There is the risk that this will destroy rural fishing villages and leave the countryside littered with ghost-towns.

To ensure a sustainable commercial fishing future there needs to be investments in hatcheries, rearing ponds, marketing, and research. This is not being done. Unfortunately, it appears that the Pallister Government is willing to trade the livelihoods of commercial fishers to save money by not having to invest and hope that recreational fishers take their place.

It is not surprising that the Pallister Government is setting this up in a way that pits the livelihoods of the small commercial fisher against the interests of the big commercial fishers and all commercial fishers against the sports fishers. Nothing that we have has been given to us and we will need to work to make the necessary investments to keep the industry alive.

## BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Despite nothing being given to us, we have accomplished so much. As the single largest Indigenous Nation in

Manitoba, and indeed all of Canada, the Metis' economic strength cannot be overlooked. Metis-owned businesses are providing services in several sectors throughout the province, including the food and restaurant industry, clean energy solutions, and digital technologies. Considering the strong economic arm of the MMF and the support it provides to Metis entrepreneurs, the Metis' substantial economic contribution to Manitoba's economy is only going to increase in 2019 to the benefit of all Manitobans.

Remember that we as Metis Citizens have the power of the dollar. Each of us has a dollar in our pocket which is equal to the dollar in any Canadian's pocket no matter what economic class they belong to, what ethnic group, or city or geographic region. What is important is how we spend that dollar. For growth of our businesses, and for strengthening our Metis Community, we need to spend that dollar wisely and spend it in such a way that it helps our people. For that reason, we need to make



## **With investments of \$25 million in endowment funds to universities and colleges for our students in Manitoba, the MMF is committed to ensuring a bright future for our Metis youth.**

our purchases from our own people first. And, that they in turn make similar purchases from within our Metis Nation. The businesses hire Metis employees who again, in turn, continue to spend their dollar in Metis businesses for products and services. As the dollar goes around within our Community it strengthens our Community. That is why the MMF has a procurement policy that makes it a priority to make business-minded and fair purchases of products and services from a Metis business. This helps our businesses grow and remain profitable.

As the Minister responsible for economic development, this commitment is part of my larger vision for Metis economic development.

And there are other ways we help business in addition to our procurement policy. We have the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) and the Metis

Economic Development Fund (MEDF), two MMF Affiliates that can provide loans and investments to also help Metis businesses grow for their benefit, their owners, shareholders, their families, and for the entire Nation. If you are not already in the LRCC Metis Business Directory, I encourage you to register at [www.lrcc.mb.ca/business-directory](http://www.lrcc.mb.ca/business-directory).

### **EDUCATION**

My goal for the future is widespread success for Metis Citizens. I have been working for decades to support our Metis youth as they pursue their careers goals. This year, with myself as the Metis Nation lead, the Trudeau government committed \$362 million over 10 years for Metis Nation post-secondary education. With this investment we will build on our successes and ensure a legacy of leadership for generations to come.

Other highlights for the Metis Nation this year include the direct investment of \$50 million in economic development over the next five years, \$362 million for Metis post-secondary students and continued support for Metis housing, early learning and childcare.

With investments of \$25 million in endowment funds to universities and colleges for our students in Manitoba, the MMF is committed to ensuring a bright future for our Metis youth. We will continue to develop initiatives and provide options to assist our youth to build their careers and reach their aspirations.

### **CHILDCARE AND EARLY LEARNING**

For our children to succeed, the supports and learning must start right away. For over twenty years the Metis have been

# The Government of Canada has committed up to \$450.7 million to strengthen Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) programs and services for Metis children and families in the Metis Homeland.

left out of federally funded Indigenous Early Learning Programs. During this time, the lack of federal commitment to reconciliation with the Metis Nation has hurt our children and our families. Thanks to Prime Minister Trudeau we will now have affordable, Metis-specific, child-focused programs with support for recreation, education, and early learning development. The Government of Canada has committed up to \$450.7 million to strengthen Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) programs and services for Metis children and families in the Metis Homeland. This is another example of reconciliation in action as we work in a Nation-to-Nation relationship with Trudeau's federal government.

But the Pallister government is failing our Metis children, and the children of all Manitobans. According to Canada's Department of Finance, Manitoba receives \$4.3 billion in transfer payments this fiscal year alone, intended to support the provinces in the delivery of programs and services. Yet studies show when it comes to early learning programs in Manitoba, children residing in poorer areas had higher odds of not being ready for school. Reporting also finds that more than one third of Metis children in Manitoba are not ready for school. Should Metis children have less of a chance at a successful, prosperous future than other children in Canada? We look to the future, and the Metis Nation says no. No longer will we be discounted. We will own our Metis destiny.

## EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Educator is power. The MMF invests heavily in education of all types and all levels. For instance, our Metis Employment and Training Department supports approximately 2,500 Metis Citizens per year to accomplish their career goals.



I recently signed a new agreement with the federal government that ensures over 15,000 Metis Citizens across our Metis Nation receive the supports they need for gainful employment. That's over 15,000 skilled Metis Citizens ready for the labour market.

I commend Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Hajdu for their commitment to the Manitoba Metis Government. Thanks to their vision, a vision based on reconciliation, we have made history and ensured a legacy for our hardworking, taxpaying people.

The agreement enables the Metis Nation to identify and deliver programming and initiatives that are culturally relevant and self-empowering for their Citizens.

This is another important milestone on our journey towards reconciliation with Canada and reflects the partnership between the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Government of Canada.

## HOUSING

Our Citizens work hard to support themselves and their families but with the high cost of living, many of us struggle to save a down payment for a home. I am proud to have been able to announce that this year alone the MMF is investing \$25 million in affordable housing for our Metis Citizens, particularly seniors and families.

We have had over 600 applications for this down payment initiative. We have well over 250 that have now moved into their new homes. These are homeowners



who would not have been able to purchase a home if they had not received help through this unique MMF program.

If you are a Metis Citizen who is purchasing your first home, I encourage you to apply for the grant through Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC). As well, through another MMF initiative, by the end of December, nine Metis seniors will have new, affordable homes in the St. Laurent area. Safe, affordable housing gives people a foundation for the future, and a connection to their community.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

It is our tradition to be connected to our community and to look after our Elders. This is the way it has always been. I am delighted that MEDOCare is improving health outcomes for our Elders as well as for the general Manitoba Metis population, while also providing a convenient community pharmacy. Our new Prescription Drug Program covers medication costs for low-income Citizens aged 65 years and older. No longer should our Elders have to make the decision as to whether they can afford their medications. They should not have to make the decision whether to spend on medications or food or heat for their homes. We are here to help our Elders just as they looked after us when we were young.

The MMF also offers prescription eyeglasses to our Elders, as well as firewood to heat their homes. MEDOCare

is owned by the Metis Crown Corporation, this is truly “our” pharmacy – here to meet the needs of our Metis Elders, seniors, and other vulnerable Metis Citizens, with all profits from our pharmacy going back into Metis programs and services. Remember that this is your Pharmacy and it is for the benefit of you and the whole community.

## IN SUMMARY

We always hold close to our hearts the contributions of our Elders, who are the keepers of our history and our values. Today we are building the foundation upon which our youth can construct their future. As you can see the foundation is solid. But there is much more work to do on the national, provincial, regional and local levels. Together we can do this.

It is great that we have the ability to assemble here at the Annual General

Assembly to celebrate our Governance, our Culture and our Ancestors. We have been joining in assemblies together since the time of the buffalo hunt. But there was a time after 1870 and again a time after 1885 when federal and provincial authorities did not allow the Manitoba Metis to assemble. Times have changed. Today we will continue to gather together, protect our identity, assert ourselves, raise our voices, and be proud to be Metis.

This is an exciting time for the Metis Nation. We are now realizing the dream of our Ancestors and are taking our rightful place in Canadian Confederation as Canada’s partner.

I look forward to seeing you over the coming days at the Annual General Assembly.

Meeqwetch







# Central Registry Office

MMF Department

**MINISTER**  Leah LaPlante



## Greetings Metis Citizens!

We have had another very busy year for Metis Citizenship and Harvesting in our Central Registry Office (CRO)! Our staff at the Home Office and in our Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Regional Offices have been working hard to help Metis Citizens obtain their Citizenship and Harvester cards. The CRO staff can help Metis people renew their Metis Citizenship cards and ensure their information on file is current. We also issue Conservation Trust Fund stickers and big game tags for Metis harvesting.

We continue to receive large numbers of applications on a daily basis, both from across Manitoba and outside of Manitoba. We have been doing our best to meet the heavy load of Metis Citizenship and Harvesting applications, and we are working on methods for streamlining our internal processes to decrease wait times and expedite these requests. We want to ensure that every Metis person has the ability to receive their Citizenship and Harvester cards in a timely manner, and we are working hard to meet that goal.

## CENTRAL REGISTRY OFFICE

As the Minister responsible for Natural Resources and Metis Citizenship, I oversee the MMF CRO. This department is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Metis Citizenship and Harvester identification card applications, approvals, and associated processes. The CRO maintains a database for MMF Citizenship, ensures that all of our Citizens' information is up to date, and assists Metis people throughout the application process to obtain Metis Citizenship with the MMF. Using an objectively verifiable process, the CRO ensures that all of our Citizens and Harvesters meet the definition of "Metis" as per the MMF Constitution and the nationally adopted definition (self-identification, ancestral connection and community acceptance).

The definition in the MMF Constitution, which is critical to exercising our rights to self-determination and self-government, reads, in part:



“Metis’ means a person who self-identifies as Metis, is of historic Metis Nation Ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples, and is accepted by the Metis Nation.”

The historic ancestry component of the definition is confirmed through a Citizen’s official genealogy. A genealogy is more than a revelation of a family’s legacy and its Manitoba Metis Community heritage; it is a reclamation of identity which many felt the need to hide over generations. We encourage all of our Metis Citizens

to obtain their genealogy, to claim their birthright and confirm their Citizenship with the MMF and the Metis Nation.

## CENTRAL REGISTRY OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS

The CRO has been very busy with Citizenship and Harvester approvals. From July 2018 to July 2019, the Central Registry Office has:

- ∞ Approved 3,780 new Citizenship cards

- ∞ Taken in 261 new out-of-province applications

- ∞ Approved 2,435 Metis Harvester Identification cards

- ∞ Issued a total of 34,102 Citizenship cards and 17,522 Harvester cards to date.

The CRO has continued with the development of a new database maintenance system. In June 2019, the CRO hired a Database Maintenance Coordinator to work full-time on system upgrades to the CRO database. The CRO is anticipating a brand-new system with higher levels of functionality and upgraded technology. This new system will help the CRO to manage Metis Citizen and Harvester information in the most efficient and secure way possible.

The CRO continues to undertake Indian Registry checks for all MMF applicants through the Federal Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada department. This is an important step in protecting our Metis identity and Citizenship. Formal letters are sent out to individuals identified on the Indian



Registry list advising them that they are ineligible for MMF Citizenship, that their Citizenship cannot be approved or will be terminated. These individuals have the right to appeal this decision and any appeals are reviewed by the MMF Citizenship Tribunal Commission.

The CRO would like to remind Metis Citizens to be aware of the expiry date on their Citizenship card, and ensure that their card is renewed before the expiry date. MMF Individual Citizenship Cards must be renewed every five years. This five-year renewal date allows the CRO and Regional Offices to ensure that Citizens' contact information, mailing addresses, and photos are up to date. The issue and renewal date is located on the Citizenship card below the gender and eye colour area. Citizenship cards issued between 2013 and 2014 are now at or near their renewal dates, and we encourage those Citizens to contact their Regional Office to renew their card. Children's Citizenship cards expire when the person becomes eligible for an Individual Citizenship card with full voting rights.

## OUT-OF-PROVINCE CITIZENSHIP APPLICATIONS

Given the traditional practice of mobility for Metis people and the history of the Metis Nation being forced to flee from our Homeland, many Metis people who have ancestral connections to Manitoba now live outside of the province. In response to this, the Central Registry Office has been processing Out-of-Province Citizenship cards and this new option for our kin who have moved away from the historical Metis Homeland has had a very positive response. The Central Registry Office has received 1205 applications to date for MMF Citizenship cards from Metis people who live outside of Manitoba and the number of applications continues to grow on a



daily basis. This endeavor recognizes the historic links our Citizens around the world have with the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community, its land, and traditions whether at home or away, allowing people to reclaim and be proud of their Metis identity no matter where they reside.

Red River Settlement, now Winnipeg, Manitoba, is the Birthplace of the Metis Nation and the Heart of the Metis Nation Homeland, while the historic Metis Nation, the historic Red River Metis, and the Manitoba Metis Community are the same Indigenous Community for which the names have been used interchangeably.

In 1870 the Manitoba Metis Community became the Founder of Manitoba and Canada's Negotiating Partner in Confederation and, after governing their province peacefully, they then faced a Reign of Terror resulting in many Manitoba Metis dispersing throughout their Homeland, and beyond, in search of peace and security.

The MMF represents the Citizens of the Manitoba Metis Community, a community not bound or defined by Provincial or International Boundaries, including those who are the beneficiaries of the Supreme Court of Canada Declaration in MMF v Canada, 2013

The Out-of-Province Citizenship card provides a Metis person the ability to confirm their ancestral connection to the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community. Currently, a Metis Citizen must reside in Manitoba to access programs and services through the MMF, including a Metis Harvester card. A Citizen who lives outside of Manitoba can obtain a Citizenship card to verify their Manitoba Metis identity and reclaim their connection to the Manitoba Metis Community.

**The CRO is anticipating a brand-new system with higher levels of functionality and upgraded technology. This new system will help the CRO to manage Metis Citizen and Harvester information in the most efficient and secure way possible.**

## **POST-ADOPTION METIS CITIZENS**

The CRO has built a positive working relationship with the Manitoba Post-Adoption Registry, which has allowed more Metis people the opportunity to connect with their identity. After the June 15, 2015, amendments to Manitoba's Adoption Act, individuals adopted in Manitoba gained access to copies of their original birth documents. This change has been significant for MMF applicants adopted outside of their birth families. With the ongoing partnership between the Post-Adoption Registry and the CRO, we have been able to obtain genealogical information to assist adopted Citizens in accessing the required genealogy for applications, and to reconnect our kin within the Manitoba Metis Community.

The CRO has opened 113 files for adoptees who now have the opportunity to undergo genealogical research with the St. Boniface Historical Society. This research has been made possible by the ability to share information through the MMF's agreement with the Manitoba Post Adoption Registry. This working relationship with the Post-Adoption Registry has already proved beneficial in helping adopted Metis Citizens.

The CRO has been working with Sixties Scoop Survivors to help them obtain their MMF Citizenship and Harvester cards. In October 2018, the CRO had an information booth at the Metis Nation Sixties Scoop National Symposium in Winnipeg where we were able meet with Survivors, discuss the application processes, and provide information. In March 2019, Provincial Engagement Sessions were held in both Swan

River and Winnipeg. These sessions provided the CRO with the opportunity to deliver a detailed presentation to educate the Survivors in attendance who were adopted about what specific documentation is required to meet the MMF application requirements and how to obtain it. The presentation covered the resources available to adoptees in order to help meet application requirements and prove their ancestral connection to the Metis Nation Homeland. The CRO was able to make meaningful connections with Survivors and help them with their continued journey, connecting to their culture and community once again.

If you have been adopted and would like more information about connecting with Metis heritage, please contact the MMF Central Registry Office. We would be happy to assist you.



**MMF has issued a total of 34,102 Citizenship cards and 17,522 Harvester cards to date!**



**The CRO has opened 113 files for adoptees who now have the opportunity to undergo genealogical research with the St. Boniface Historical Society. This research has been made possible by the ability to share information through the MMF's agreement with the Manitoba Post Adoption Registry.**

## LOCAL CAPACITY GRANTS

The CRO has been spearheading the implementation of the new Local Capacity Grant application process. The CRO has hired a Provincial Citizenship Coordinator who is the responsible point of contact at the MMF Home Office for each of the seven MMF Regional Offices. The Provincial Citizenship Coordinator works with Locals through their applicable Regional Office to process grant applications which will assist with funding for events, meetings, and fundraising initiatives. The amount a Local can apply for is \$5,000 per fiscal year which is to be funded in stages:

Installment #1 - \$2,500

Installment #2 - \$2,000

Installment #3 - \$500

To date, the CRO has issued:

- ∞ \$22,500 in Grant Advancements for the 2019-20 fiscal year
- ∞ \$157,504.88 in Grant Reimbursements for the 2018-19 fiscal year

The CRO has been working with Locals through their Regional Office to assist them with questions regarding eligible expenses for capacity grant funding. Locals that have participated in the Local Capacity Grant program have received funds to help hold Local meetings, host fundraising events and provide support within their community. The Local Capacity Grant provides financial support for each Local and the CRO strongly encourages each active Local to apply. If your Local has questions about the Local Capacity Grant process, please contact your Regional Office for more information.

## MOBILE CITIZENSHIP OFFICE

The Mobile Citizenship Office is in its third year as part of the CRO, and it has had another busy season! The Mobile Unit gives the MMF the ability to travel to communities to assist Metis people with applying for their Metis Citizenship and Harvester cards. The staff on the Mobile Unit can answer questions about obtaining genealogies and birth documents and assist applicants with the process for receiving their Metis Citizenship and Harvesting cards. The Mobile Office also carries information about other MMF programs and services so we can provide as much information as possible to visitors.

In the past year, the Mobile Unit has travelled across Manitoba to serve Metis Citizens in a variety of communities. We have focused on providing services to Citizens who might not have the ability to travel to their closest Regional Office. We also bring the office directly to Citizens within rural and even more remote communities. The positive feedback received from Metis Citizens has been substantial.



The CRO would like to encourage MMF Locals to utilize the presence of the Mobile Office during Local meetings, events or Citizenship/Harvester drives. If your Local would like to have the MMF Mobile Office at a meeting or event, please contact your Regional Office for more information.

The Mobile Citizenship Unit is here this weekend at the MMF's Annual General Assembly. Please be sure to come by and visit our staff. They would love to meet you and answer any questions you may have.

## IN CONCLUSION

It has been an incredibly busy and exciting year for Citizenship activities throughout the MMF. If you have suggestions, questions about the application requirements and approval processes, or queries about any of our work, please contact the CRO or your Regional Office.

Thank you for your continued support of our registry work and for recognizing its vital importance to our Manitoba Metis Community. We are proud to serve our Metis Citizens and provide them with access to their Metis Citizenship and Harvester cards.



# Engagement & Consultation

MMF Department

## MINISTER ∞ Denise Thomas



The Engagement and Consultation Department works to ensure the Manitoba Metis Community is consulted in a full, proper, and meaningful way on any project that has the potential to impact our rights, claims, and interests. Consultation with our Community is vital to ensure our rights are protected and that any negative impacts on our Community are minimized, mitigated, and accommodated. As the Minister responsible for this portfolio, it is my pleasure to be able to engage directly with our Citizens and ensure that their views and concerns are taken into consideration for our decision-making on the part of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF), Manitoba, and Canada.

## RESOLUTION NO. 8

In 2007, the MMF adopted Resolution No. 8 which sets out the process that is to be followed by governments, industry, and other proponents when developing plans or projects that have the potential to impact the s. 35 rights, claims, and interests of our Community. Unanimously passed by the MMF Citizens, Resolution No. 8 mandates a “one-window” approach to consultation and engagement with our Community with the MMF Home Office as the central point of contact for all consultation and engagement on behalf of the Community.



In consulting with the MMF, on behalf of the Community, the Resolution No. 8 Framework calls for the implementation of five phases:

**Phase I:** Notice and Response;

**Phase II:** Funding and Capacity;

**Phase III:** Engagement and Consultation;

**Phase IV:** Partnership and Accommodation; and

**Phase V:** Implementation

Since the adoption of Resolution No. 8, the MMF Engagement and Consultation Department has worked hard to ensure that every file is treated with the attention it deserves, and that our Citizen's concerns are heard and acknowledged.

## **ADDITIONS TO RESERVE (ATR) AND TREATY LAND ENTITLEMENT (TLE) CONSULTATIONS**

For the past five years, the MMF and Canada have engaged in a collaborative consultation process to identify the potential impacts which proposed addition of lands to First Nation reserves in Manitoba will have on the rights, claims, and interests of our Community. This agreement between Canada and the MMF continues the work of minimizing the impacts associated with TLE/ATR by developing and agreeing on a process for meaningful and appropriately funded consultations.

As part of the ongoing collaborative nature of this file, the MMF and Canada developed a multi-year funding agreement, which includes funding for the

MMF to undertake the work of engaging our Community and identifying potential impacts on a site-by-site basis. To date the MMF has held a number of community consultation meeting with Citizens, including harvester, to explain the TLE/ATR process, inform the community of proposed Additions to Reserve, and collect Citizen concerns and priorities.

## **FEDERAL LAND DISPOSALS AND DIVESTITURES**

In 2013, the Supreme Court of Canada found that the federal government breached the honour of the Crown as it failed to implement the long outstanding contract of lands owed to our Community. This history helps inform the MMF's work with regard to Crown lands. Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is responsible for disposing and divesting Federal owned lands that are deemed "surplus" and no longer necessary for Crown purposes. For the past five years, the MMF and PSPC have engaged in a process where PSPC identifies and notifies the MMF of Federal land to be disposed or divested in the near future, including quarterly updates. The MMF continues to work with Canada to advance reconciliation with our Community and address any concerns or opportunities this process poses.

## **KIVAHIKTUQ AGREEMENT**

The MMF has engaged with Crown-Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada regarding their intent to consult the MMF on the proposed Kivahiktuq Agreement. The Agreement is a trilateral lands claims agreement between Canada, Manitoba, and the Inuit, and sets out Inuit harvesting, land ownership, and other related rights within a specified area of Northeastern Manitoba. The MMF has been working with advisors to navigate

discussions with Canada and to ensure our Community's rights, claims, and interests are protected.

If you have any questions regarding **Engagement and Consultation** please contact **Jasmine Langhan, Engagement and Consultation Director** via telephone at **204-586-8474 Ext. 234** or via email at **jasmine.langhan@mmf.mb.ca**.

**For the past five years, the MMF and Canada have engaged in a collaborative consultation process to identify the potential impacts which proposed addition of lands to First Nation reserves in Manitoba will have on the rights, claims, and interests of our Community.**





# Energy & Infrastructure

MMF Department

## MINISTER ∞ Jack Park



Greetings and welcome to the 51st Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Annual General Assembly. Your Metis Government has been working hard to serve you, the Citizens of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community. I assure you that the Energy and Infrastructure Department is no exception! The Energy and Infrastructure Department is focused on a number of industry sectors including natural gas and oil pipelines, hydro transmission and generation, nuclear energy, and major infrastructure projects such as roads and water diversion projects.

Over the past year our Department has worked tirelessly to ensure the voice of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community is heard loud and clear by government and industry alike. We have participated in environmental assessments, regulatory processes, consultation and engagement meetings and sessions, and monitoring opportunities so that Metis specific information and perspectives are integrated into proposed projects and our rights, claims and interests are protected. Our Department has also worked with Canada to improve federal legislation and ensure that Metis-specific concerns and priorities are not only considered but reflected in the legislation itself.

The Energy and Infrastructure Department often collaborates with a number of departments and portfolios including: Natural Resources, Engagement and Consultation, Environment and Mining, Fisheries, the Central Registry Office, Metis Employment and Training, and Metis N4 Construction Inc. Our priority concerns are the continued protection of the Metis way of life and the interests of our Metis Nation. As the Minister responsible, I am pleased and proud to offer our Citizens a summary of some of our most significant activities below.

### **ENBRIDGE – LINE 3 REPLACEMENT PROJECT (L3R)**

Construction on the project is complete across the 9 spreads. Your Metis Government had more than 225 Metis Citizens at work on the project during the 2018/19-construction season including three (3) Aboriginal Construction Monitors and two (2) Indigenous Inspection Monitors.

With the pipe fully installed, the Manitoba Metis Government is now focused on ensuring Enbridge adheres to the Metis-specific mitigation and accommodation measures that were agreed



to in 2018. The MMF is also working with Enbridge to revise their current Indigenous policy to better reflect the Metis Nation.

Your Metis Government will also be working with Enbridge to ensure the Citizens of the Manitoba Metis Community have the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the decommissioning of the current pipeline and the operations and maintenance phase of the replacement pipeline.

The Manitoba Metis Government worked with Enbridge to revise their Indigenous Operational Engagement plan and will continue to work with Enbridge to ensure their engagement strategy appropriately considers the needs of the Manitoba Metis Community.

### **LINE 3 – INDIGENOUS ADVISORY AND MONITORING COMMITTEE (IAMC)**

Canada's approval of L3RP was subject to 37 binding conditions recommended by the National Energy Board (NEB) in its report, including the establishment of the IAMC to provide ongoing monitoring and engagement throughout the life cycle of the Project.

The IAMC was established with two government members, one from Natural Resources Canada and one from the NEB, and 16 Indigenous members from across Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba – four of whom are from the Metis Nation (1-MNA, 2-MNS, 1-MMF).

Your Metis Government's representative has taken a lead role in the IAMC and the various subcommittees to ensure the MMF and the Metis Nation is appropriately represented with a focus on Indigenous monitoring. The MMF has taken the lead on both the filings review process and the Indigenous monitoring to ensure the rights, claims and interests of the Citizens of the Metis Nation are respected by the Proponent, its mainline contractors and subcontractors as well as representatives from Canada and the NEB.



Through the IAMC, the NEB provided funding for two Metis monitors (Jade Dewar and Tayler Fleming) to accompany NEB inspectors during their scheduled inspections of L3RP in Manitoba. With Enbridge moving from construction to operations, the inspections will be reduced to two per year with one inspection on Spread 7 and another on Spread 8.

The MMF is also working diligently with other Metis governments impacted by the project—MNS and MNA—on issues specific to the Metis Nation and will continue to push a Metis-specific focus at the committee table and through the various work components.

### **MANITOBA-MINNESOTA TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

Manitoba Hydro's Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project (MMTP) includes construction of a 500-kilovolt AC transmission line in southeastern Manitoba and upgrades to the associated stations at Dorsey, Riel, and Glenboro. The federal licensing decision was made on June 14, 2019, to approve MMTP with additional conditions as set out by Canada.

Your Metis Government is acting as an observer of Manitoba Hydro's MMTP monitoring advisory group, which, along with representation from other impacted

indigenous communities, has been tasked with providing input into the ongoing monitoring and management of the project area throughout the life cycle of the project. The MMF continues to push for a monitoring program similar to L3RP's to ensure a Metis Citizen is out on the right-of-way (ROW) monitoring the construction process.

The Manitoba Metis Government has provided Manitoba Hydro with significant information about areas of concern in and around the transmission corridor as well as concerns around access to traditional harvesting areas, and an increasing number and variety of predators and other challenges faced by our harvesters. The MMF will continue to work with Manitoba Hydro as the project moves into the construction and monitoring stages. To date, Metis monitors have fully participated in archeological activities along the MMTP to ensure the MMF is well informed and that any Metis artifacts are dealt with in an appropriate way.

The MMF is working with MN4CI to implement the commitments Manitoba Hydro made in its procurement process with regard to mandatory minimums for Indigenous content – including equal participation of Metis and First Nations. The MMF is also working diligently to push for similar procurement commitments on all Manitoba Hydro projects.

# The Energy and Infrastructure Department often collaborates with a number of departments and portfolios including: Natural Resources, Engagement and Consultation, Environment and Mining, Fisheries, the Central Registry Office, Metis Employment and Training, and Metis N4 Construction Inc.

## ST. VITAL TRANSMISSION COMPLEX

The project includes construction of two 230-kilovolt transmission lines that will both start at the St. Vital Station and run to either the Letellier Station or the La Verendrye Station. The project is being built on an existing ROW and was designed to enable the Winnipeg network to withstand various severe outages; improve performance during normal operation and promote the reliability of the power system in southern Manitoba. The St. Vital Transmission Complex received a Class 2 development Licence under The Environment Act (Manitoba) on January 30, 2017, with an in-service date of 2020. No funding has been provided on this project since the license was issued by Manitoba and although the MMF is working with MN4CI to bid on work related to the construction of the transmission line, no economic development opportunities have been finalized.

Manitoba Hydro began archaeological work along the ROW and the MMF has provided Metis monitors to accompany Manitoba Hydro, the project archaeologist, monitors from various First Nations in Manitoba and Ontario, and representatives from Manitoba Sustainable Development on digs related to the St. Vital Transmission Complex project.

## BIRITLE TRANSMISSION PROJECT

Manitoba Hydro's proposed project is a 230-kilovolt transmission line from the Birtle Station, south of the community of Birtle, to the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border. The Project is subject to a provincial environmental review and Manitoba Hydro has filed their Environmental Assessment Proposal (EAP) with Manitoba.

Your Metis Government undertook a Metis Land Use and Occupancy Study to assess the impacts of the Project on the rights, claims, and interests of the Manitoba Metis Community with a special emphasis on potential impacts to the historical community of Ste. Madeleine. The MMF will continue to work with Manitoba Hydro to ensure the information is incorporated in the development of their environmental protection program and construction management plans.

There has been no consultation on this project to date although brief discussions have taken place with Canada in relation to the project and the connection to the SaskPower line.

Your Metis Government is working to identify issues that are not or cannot be mitigated by Manitoba Hydro in the drafting of their environmental protection and monitoring programs.

The Manitoba Metis Government provided Metis monitors to accompany Manitoba Hydro, the project archaeologist, monitors from various First Nations in Manitoba, and representatives from Manitoba Sustainable Development on digs related to the project.

## WHITESHELL REACTOR #1 – DECOMMISSIONING PROJECT

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) is decommissioning the Pinawa site and is applying for a license from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) on their proposed decommissioning plan to bury the reactor in concrete and grout. With funding from the CNSC and CNL, the Manitoba Metis Government has undertaken a Technical Review of the Project, a community consultation meeting, a consumption survey, Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study (TKLUS) and an assessment of the value components (VCs) used by the Proponent to assess the potential impacts of the Project.

Using the information collected to date, your Metis Government will participate in the regulatory hearings for the environmental licensing of both the current reactor and the planned decommissioning of the nuclear reactor.

The Manitoba Metis Government is pleased to have negotiated an agreement with CNL to have a Metis Environmental Monitor, Jade Dewar, on site for a variety of monitoring tasks including water sampling at the discharge lagoon, environmental monitoring of the lagoon operation, groundwater sample collection and garden crop monitoring.

The MMF and MN4CI are reviewing CNL's procurement and prequalification process to determine the best options for economic development opportunities.

## **PROJECT 6 – ALL-SEASON ROAD**

Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) is proposing to construct Project 6 – an all-season road linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation and God’s Lake First Nation.

The Project is subject to both provincial and federal environmental review and MI filed their Environment Act Proposal in June 2017. No provincial consultation has taken place to date on this project. Canada has provided your Metis Government with federal crown consultation funding and the MMF recently filed a technical review of MI's Environmental Impact Statement for the project. The technical review is currently being considered by Canada in the instructions to MI with regard to the drafting of their environmental assessment. Once the report is released, the MMF will host a number of community consultation meetings to

ensure Citizens have the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the process.

The Manitoba Metis Government will continue to work with Canada to ensure the rights and perspectives of our Metis Citizens are appropriately recognized and heard through a full, proper and meaningful engagement and consultation on this Project.

The MMF continues to work with MI to develop an engagement work plan and budget that appropriately considers the potential impacts of the project on the way in which our Citizens use the land, water, and resources in and around the Project area.

This Project is subject to multiple regulatory reviews by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Transport Canada, as well as Manitoba Sustainable Development.

The Manitoba Metis Community has been identified by CEAA as one of the Indigenous communities to be most affected by the project and is an active participant on the Technical Advisory Group where federal and provincial regulators, local governments, and impacted Indigenous communities meet to discuss the Project.

## **LAKE MANITOBA AND LAKE ST. MARTIN OUTLET PROJECT**

Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) is undertaking the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Project to regulate both lakes during peak flooding season. In addition to the channels, the project includes an access road and a transmission line. The MMF has worked diligently to ensure the appropriate regulatory bodies are aware of the potential impacts of the project and our Community's concerns are fully considered and mitigated where possible.

**The Manitoba Metis Government will continue to work with Canada to ensure the rights and perspectives of our Metis Citizens are appropriately recognized and heard through a full, proper and meaningful engagement and consultation on this Project.**



The MMF has conveyed concerns about the Project as well as the consultation and engagement processes to the appropriate federal and provincial Ministers and your Metis Government continues to advocate for appropriate studies to ensure that the path forward fully considers the impact of the project on the rights, claims, and interests of our Citizens.

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENT LEGISLATION**

The MMF has been approved for funding from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to participate in consultation and engagement activities on the development of policies and guidance related to the proposed new impact assessment system. Canada has proposed a system that is intended to include: respect for Indigenous rights, including mandatory consideration of impacts on rights and Indigenous culture; Indigenous engagement and partnership early and throughout the process; mandatory consideration of Indigenous knowledge; provisions for arrangements with Indigenous groups to exercise powers and duties under the legislation; and aiming to secure free, prior, and informed consent through processes based on mutual respect and dialogue.

The consultation process will include a technical and legal review of the proposed system as well as a series of community meetings to allow our Citizens to fully participate in the process.

## **CANADIAN NAVIGABLE WATERS ACT**

In February 2018, Canada introduced an Act to enact the Impact Assessment Act and the Canadian Energy Regulator Act, to amend the Navigation Protection Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts (Bill C-69) to deliver on its promise to restore protections and put in

place modern safeguards to protect the public right of navigation.

Proposed changes to the Navigation Protection Act in Bill C-69 would introduce protections on all navigable waters in Canada and create the new Canadian Navigable Waters Act. The MMF recently received funding to assist the MMF in reviewing the Major and Minor Works Orders and the proposed additions to the Schedule of the Act as well as to draft recommendations specific to the potential impacts of those processes on our Citizens.

A number of the recommendations that flow from this process will also be applicable to the revisions being made to the Fisheries Act and as such, the report will also be provided to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

## **INTEGRATION OF METIS KNOWLEDGE IN THE MODERNIZATION OF THE NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD**

Your Metis Government has provided a number of submissions to Canada on the federal reviews currently being undertaken and has provided a variety of recommendations specific to the potential impacts of the processes on the rights, claims and interests of the Citizens of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community. Each of these submissions has included recommendations on how Canada might best implement a process that meaningfully considers and appropriately manages Metis-specific information provided by the Metis government on behalf of its Citizens.

The Manitoba Metis Government recently provided Canada with a report specific to policy and legislative review related to the integration of Metis Knowledge in the implementation of Bills C-68 and C-69 –

specifically the roles and responsibilities of the National Energy Board. The MMF identified and evaluated how the National Energy Board currently uses and/or manages Metis Traditional, Land Use, and Ecological Knowledge. The MMF also provided recommendations as to the new legislative requirements in the Canadian Energy Regulator Act relating to the consideration of Metis Knowledge as well as considerations and/or practices that should be reflected within the approach.

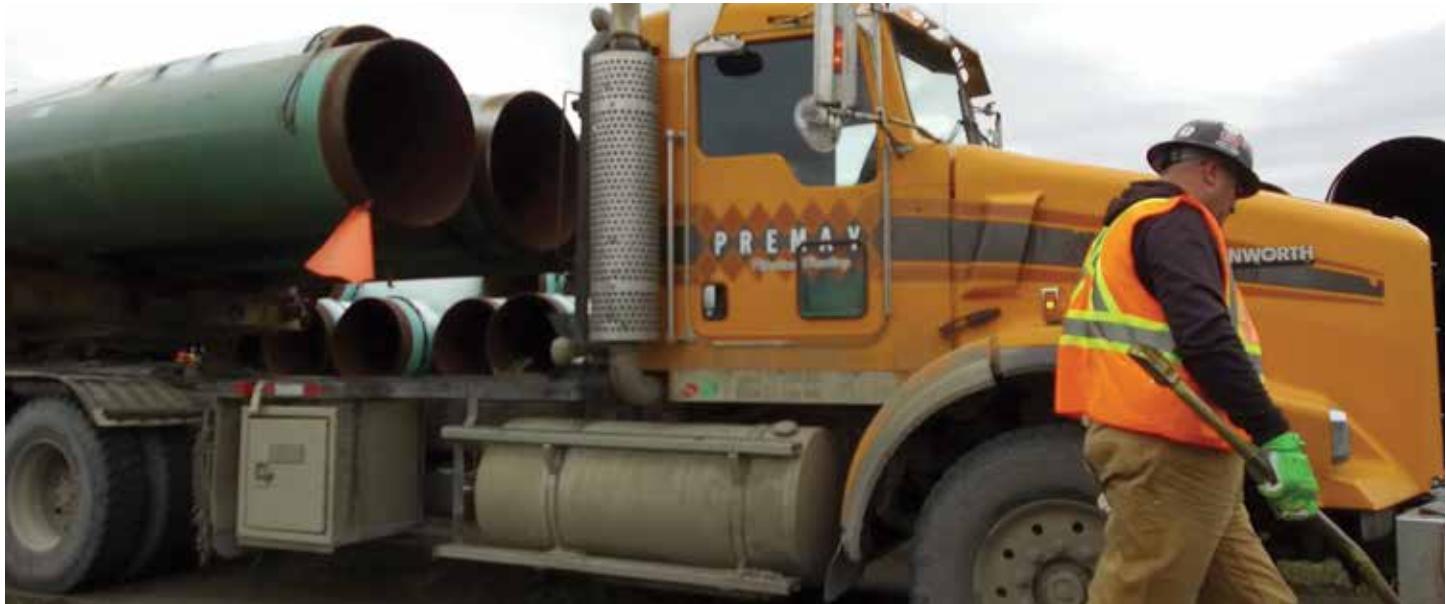
## **WANIPIGOW SILICA SAND PROJECT – CANADIAN PREMIUM SAND INC.**

Canadian Premium Sand Inc. (CPSI) have proposed to construct the Wanipigow Silica Sand Project near Manigotagan. The proposed project has a projected life of more than 50 years and includes an open-pit silica sand mine, a silica sand processing facility, a 6-km access road, a 6-km powerline, and progressive annual site reclamation.

Your Metis Government contacted both Manitoba and CPSI in an attempt to initiate full, proper, and meaningful engagement and consultation with the Manitoba Metis Community. Both Manitoba and CPSI have ignored the MMF and their correspondence. Despite the lack of consultation, Manitoba issued an Environment Act Licence on May 16, 2019. The MMF filed an appeal to this decision on June 12, 2019.

The project does not meet the requirements for Federal review under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012 (CEAA 2012) and although the MMF requested a federal Environmental Assessment for the projects due to the lack of engagement and consultation and concerns about the potential impacts of the project, Minister McKenna chose not to designate the project under CEAA 2012.

**Your Metis Government contacted both Manitoba and CPSI in an attempt to initiate full, proper, and meaningful engagement and consultation with the Manitoba Metis Community.**



The Manitoba Metis Government is currently pursuing legal options to ensure that the MMF is fully engaged and consulted on the Wanipigow Silica Sand Project.

### **LYNN LAKE GOLD MINE – ALAMOS GOLD**

Alamos Gold Inc. is proposing the construction, operation, decommissioning, and reclamation of an open pit-gold mine and new metal mill located near Lynn Lake, Manitoba. The Lynn Lake Gold Project would involve the redevelopment of two historical gold mines (the Gordon site and the MacLellan site) and have an ore input capacity of 8,000 tonnes per day over an 11-year period. Components of the project would include new mine infrastructure, open pits, an access road, a central ore milling and processing plant, ore stockpiles and mine rock storage areas, and a tailings management facility.

The Project is subject to a federal environmental assessment under CEAA and the Manitoba Metis Government has been identified by CEAA as being highly affected by the project. Your Metis

Government has applied for participant funding to participate in the EA review of the Project and to hold a community consultation meeting in the Thompson Region.

The MMF is in the process of negotiating funding for a Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study, technical review of the Project as well as a community meeting. Alamos Gold Inc. has agreed to keep the MMF informed of potential economic development and employment opportunities flowing from the Project and we are working on revising their engagement strategy and procurement policies to better reflect the abilities of the Manitoba Metis Community to fully participate in this type of project.

### **CN OIL SPILL AT ST. LAZARE**

Tragically, at least one million litres of crude oil was released into the environment on February 16, 2019, when a Canadian National (CN) train carrying crude petroleum oil derailed near St. Lazare. Clearly this is a huge concern for the Manitoba Metis Community, as conservation and environmental stewardship is a top priority.

In the wake of this rail disaster, your Metis Government contacted both CN and Transport Canada (the federal department responsible under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act) in an effort to remain updated and ensure that the MMF is meaningfully engaged and consulted and that Metis-specific information and knowledge are fully incorporated into the emergency reclamation efforts.

The Manitoba Metis Government continues to pursue a Metis monitoring agreement with CN, to guarantee reclamation efforts are environmentally sound and culturally appropriate, as well as meetings with Transport Canada to ensure that a similar disaster does not occur in the future.

**The Manitoba Metis Government is currently pursuing legal options to ensure that the MMF is fully engaged and consulted on the Wanipigow Silica Sand Project.**

## WETLAND RESTORATION

Wetlands are essential aspects of a well-functioning watershed. Healthy wetlands reduce the impacts of flooding, improve water quality, protect lake shores from wave erosion, and provide critical habitat for many plants and animals – including those harvested by Metis Citizens. For these reasons, healthy wetlands are in the best interest of the Manitoba Metis Community. The MMF is pursuing engagement and consultation with several proponents on marsh improvement projects.

Your Metis Government is currently working with the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC), a not-for-profit organization designed to help facilitate a cooperative approach to water management within the Red River Basin, Southern Chief's Organization (SCO),

and Manitoba Sustainable Development to ensure that the Metis perspective is included and that the MMF is consulted on an upcoming Netley-Libau Marsh Restoration Project. Additionally, the MMF is seeking a position on the Board of Directors for the RRBC.

If you have any questions or would like further information on any of our files, please feel free to contact the **Director**, **Marci Riel**, or any of our other staff members at the Home Office at **204-586-8474**.

The Manitoba Metis Government is also engaging with Ducks Unlimited Canada on the Cumberland Marsh Project and any other future restoration projects within the Saskatchewan River Delta. Wetland restoration projects like those noted above may provide many benefits to the Manitoba Metis Community; however, the MMF must ensure that consultation and Metis-specific information is incorporated. In conclusion, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve you, Citizens of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community, as your Minister of Energy and Infrastructure.





# Health & Wellness

## MMF Department

### MINISTER ∞ Frances Chartrand



The Manitoba Metis Federation's (MMF) Health and Wellness Department (HWD) was established in 2005 and plays a leadership role in its vision of 'A Well Metis Community' by developing and using knowledge that is culture-based and holistic.

The MMF and the HWD undertook a ground-breaking, first-of-its-kind in Canada, comprehensive Metis health status and healthcare services utilization study known as the "Metis Atlas", which was published in 2010. The Metis Atlas, and subsequent qualitative and quantitative studies, have been fundamental to our engagement with the provincial health system for many years. The Metis Atlas informs decisions on health planning, policy and programs and services to better meet the needs of Metis Citizens.

Research strongly suggests that failures within the provincial health system and Metis life circumstances have had, and continue to have, devastating impacts, which are evidenced by the burden of illness experienced by Metis Citizens today—burdens that may be preventable. The HWD's objective is to "close the gap" of poor health status for Metis families and communities.

Toward that end, in 2017 our Metis Government developed, and is delivering, its first Metis Health Benefits-Prescription Drug Program designed so that Metis seniors and Elders may have access and coverage to obtain essential prescription drugs necessary to increase their quality of health and well-being.





**The MMF and the HWD undertook a ground-breaking, first-of-its-kind in Canada, comprehensive Metis health status and healthcare services utilization study known as the “Metis Atlas”, which was published in 2010.**

## METIS HEALTH BENEFITS

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM

Eligibility requirements for this program are:

- ∞ **Metis Citizenship**
- ∞ **Age 65 or over**
- ∞ **Income of \$25,000 or less**
- ∞ **Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment for previous year**
- ∞ **Manitoba Pharmacare Deductible for current year**

The MMF and the HWD, in partnership with MEDOCare Pharmacy, have operated this successful program for almost 24 months. New applications and renewals continue to be processed, and updated documentation is regularly disseminated.

### METIS SENIOR VISION CARE INITIATIVE

Eligibility requirements for this program are:

- ∞ **Metis Citizenship**
- ∞ **Age 65 or over**
- ∞ **Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment for previous year**
- ∞ **Manitoba Pharmacare Deductible for current year**

To make the vision care of Metis seniors a priority, this unique program delivers vision care services, which include managing healthy eye care, eye examinations and prescription eyeglasses. Collaborating with the Mobile Vision Care Clinic Inc., the HWD receives a negotiated rate of \$150 per set of prescription glasses including bifocals or progressive lenses.

### GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Your Metis Government, working with the Métis National Council, continues to negotiate an ever-strengthening relationship with the government of Canada, through the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC). Focusing on the Health and Wellness of Metis Citizens, we continue to grow culturally competent capacity and systems.

### PARTNERSHIPS

Numerous working partnerships which enhance Metis health and wellness have been formed with the HWD, including the Métis Community Liaison Department (MCLD) and MEDOCare Pharmacy to assist in both the Prescription Drug Program and the Senior Eyeglass Program; PHAC; First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB); ISC; Canadian Institute on Health Research (CIHR); University of Manitoba (UM); Children's Health

Research Institute (CHRIM). We are also working at a strategic level with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) and CancerCare Manitoba to address Metis-specific preventative issues. Day-to-day networking with our caucus is key, and we also partner closely with our seven MMF Regions, and the Infinity Women Secretariat, to connect with our Metis Citizens on a grassroots level about their health and wellness issues.

## LAUNCHING METIS-SPECIFIC RESEARCH

The HWD continues to spearhead research projects to build a Metis health-specific body of knowledge that can be used to determine the provincial/federal health system and prospective funding bodies in support of Metis health and wellness.

- ∞ **Validating What We Already Know: Measuring Metis Health Status in Manitoba (Chronic Disease Study)**

Life with chronic disease is a reality for many Metis Citizens. In 2010, the Metis Atlas assembled the rates of many chronic diseases that affect our Citizens. The PHA are funding further study, ranging over the years of 2019-2024, to refresh data which will assist the MMF and the HWD to build capacity through an up-to-date chronic disease study and an in-depth-diabetes study. Further, we are investigating the development of a database to safely house this research so it may be linked through various MMF programs.

- ∞ **Understanding the Opioid Crisis in Manitoba Metis: Evidence to Support Interventions (Opioid Study)**

Citizens and communities have all been touched by the opioid crisis. Led by

the MMF and the HWD, a 3-year PHA-funded study, beginning in April 2019, will be a first look at the use of opioids by the Metis in the province. In the first year, a data linkage will be undertaken to determine rates of use. In the second year, a phone survey will be completed by HWD staff to Metis Citizens across the province regarding opioid use and effects on family. Key messages will then be determined and taken back to the communities in 19 community engagement session to gain Citizens' observations on our results and gather their input to address this issue.

## PARTICIPATING IN METIS-SPECIFIC RESEARCH

The HWD continues to support and participate in research projects which expand a Metis health-specific body of knowledge to enhance Metis health and wellness.

- ∞ **STRENGTH: SupporTing REsilience in iNdiGenous child heaLTH and development**

Funded by the CIHR (and outside funding) and led by the UM, the research team analyzed the effect of childhood programming on Metis infants and children. The programs reviewed were: Families First Home Visiting, Healthy Baby Prenatal Benefit, Full Day Kindergarten, Roots of Empathy, and Boys and Girls Club. These outcomes will be key as Early Learning and Child Care programs are developed.

- ∞ **Participatory Risk Communication: Indigenous Youth-Generated Health Messages**

Youth play an important role as future leaders and knowledge holders. Using culture camps, we are working with

youth aged 18-30 to build relationships with youth and Elders using a variety of land and water-based activities. The study involves youth from SW and NW Regions. Benefits of the project include one student Research Assistant hired each summer at UM; development of health messages for youth; promotion of culture and traditional knowledge; building relationships among youth and Elders; and promotion of leadership amongst youth.

- ∞ **Scaling Up the Healthy Smile Happy Child Initiative: Tailoring and Enhancing a Community Development Approach to Improve Early Childhood Oral Health for First Nations and Metis Children (Oral Health Project)**

From their ability to chew food properly to their ability to speak, oral health is essential to a child's success in school. This program gives caregivers of young Metis children the ideas and tools to share and to promote oral health to children. Oral screening on pre-school children in Duck Bay, Camperville and in Winnipeg is an additional feature of this program.

**The HWD continues to spearhead research projects to build a Metis health-specific body of knowledge that can be used to determine the provincial/federal health system and prospective funding bodies in support of Metis health and wellness.**



# Housing & Property Management

MMF Department

**MINISTER ∞ Will Goodon**



## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

### INTRODUCTION

Since the 1970s, Housing has been a critical pillar of self-government for the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF). In the early years, service provision for housing was limited to small programs delivered on behalf of other levels of government. Today, through a renewed Nation-to-Nation, Government-to-Government relationship with Canada, Metis Housing has flourished with new investments and commitments. This renewed focus will see the Housing Portfolio become one of the crown jewels of the MMF. As the governing body of the Manitoba Metis Community, the MMF is accountable for addressing our Citizen's housing needs and priorities. To support Metis Citizens in finding an affordable home today, the MMF offers new targeted initiatives to provide the "head start" promised in 1870 – initiatives such as the first-time home buyers program, new affordable housing projects, potential renewable

energy investments, and the development of a Metis-specific strategy to eradicate homelessness. The combination of these many initiatives will see Metis housing in Manitoba reach new, unimaginable heights of accomplishment.

### CANADA-METIS NATION HOUSING SUB-ACCORD

On July 19, 2018, the Métis National Council and the Government of Canada signed the Canada-Métis Nation Housing Sub-Accord. This is the second sub-accord issued under the Canada-Métis Nation Accord signed in 2017, which established a permanent bilateral mechanism for Nation-to-Nation negotiations. Through the sub-accord, \$500 million over the next 10 years will be dedicated to address the housing needs of Métis Citizens across the Homeland. The MMF will receive \$12.5 million annually for the next 10 years to address the priorities of the Manitoba Metis Community.



## METIS FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS PROGRAM (FTHPP)

Everyone deserves an affordable place to call their home, yet for many of our hard-working Metis Citizens, especially youth, students, and seniors, it can feel impossible. In addition to the high cost of living, there aren't enough houses for Citizens to buy or apartments to rent. To find good, affordable housing is extremely difficult. To support Metis Citizens in finding an affordable home today, the Metis First Time Homebuyers Program (FTHPP) provides the "head start" Metis Citizens need to purchase their first home, where that ability may not have otherwise been possible. Administered through the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC), the program is designed to help Metis Citizens overcome the challenge of saving

sufficient funds for a down payment by providing them with a grant of up to 5% of the purchase price (up to \$15,000) plus closing costs of 1.5% (up to \$2,500) required to obtain a mortgage through a financial institution. The LRCC continues to provide eligible Citizens with valuable information and advice throughout the application process, such as referrals to professionals, which will help ensure their dream of owning a home becomes a reality.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The MMF and the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation (MHRC) signed an agreement in 2007 to build 10 new homes under the Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI). The MMF currently owns and provides property management to the 10 AHI units located in the communities of Eriksdale, St. Eustache, Powerview, and Dauphin. The 2007 AHI is now reaching

the end of its mandate, meaning that tenants will soon be able to purchase their homes at 50% of the fair market value and become homeowners. In 2013, the MMF and the MHRC entered into an additional partnership agreement that allocated \$5.5 million over five years to build additional affordable housing for Manitobans. As of 2019, two additional homes in The Pas have been constructed bringing the total to 26 properties owned and managed by the MMF. Our Department is now in the process of:

- ∞ Developing a 10-year maintenance strategy, including a replacement reserve plan, for current housing stock;
- ∞ Conducting annual unit inspections to determine property management priorities;
- ∞ Pre-qualifying Metis contractors to generate employment and training opportunities to foster Metis business growth.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR METIS ELDERS AND SENIORS

Providing safe, accessible, and affordable housing for seniors is considered an utmost priority for the Metis Government. After multiple consultations with the Manitoba Metis Community, it was apparent that the safety and well-being of Elders and seniors are important to Metis Citizens. In response, President Chartrand and I have committed to building affordable housing for Metis Elders and seniors with the goal of reaching 100 units across Manitoba.

To kick-start that goal, a cul-de-sac in the Metis Community of St. Laurent which consists of nine affordable housing units and a community building is currently in the late planning stages. These homes are tailored to be as safe and accessible as possible for Metis seniors. Each unit is equipped with an accessibility ramp and a sun/green room for leisure and gardening. A building that will serve as a community gathering space will also be constructed to foster community growth and pride. Moving forward, we know that many communities across Manitoba like St.



Laurent are in need of affordable senior housing. Utilizing data from the Central Registry Office's Falcon Database, our Department has assembled a demographic profile that maps the population of Metis Elders and seniors aged 55+ for all Locals and Regions. This demographic will provide a better understanding of where housing needs are and where future projects like St. Laurent can be considered and pursued in the future.

## ADDRESSING METIS HOMELESSNESS

Informed by best and promising practices, the Department of Housing is committed to developing holistic and meaningful approaches to the pervasive issue of homelessness. There is an understanding that simply providing an individual or family with a physical home does not resolve the issue of homelessness – it is through addressing deep socioeconomic issues that cross all sectors of government including health, child and family services, employment, justice, law enforcement, and education. Our Department will soon be developing a Metis-specific homelessness strategy in order to move toward the shared goal of eradicating homelessness.

## PRESERVING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

Climate change is an immediate and significant threat to our communities and to our Canadian economy. As an Indigenous people, the Metis Nation have always been stewards of the land and advocates for the well-being of the environment, and that is why we must continue to do our fair share to protect it. We are currently conducting extensive research based on best practices to develop a cost-benefit analysis on utilizing green renewable energies such as solar energy, geothermal energy, and efficient appliances, for the purposes of affordable housing and the potential retrofitting of current stock.



# PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

## INTRODUCTION

Property Management became a stand-alone department in 2014 following an MMF Cabinet restructuring that merged the Department of Housing and the new Property Management division under the responsibility of one Minister. A new division within the LRCC was created to lead this important portfolio for our Metis Government-owned properties. As your Minister of Housing and Property Management, my continued responsibility is to ensure that the Property Management division maintains its due diligence by confirming all revenues and expenses are collected and recorded, guaranteeing that all buildings meet provincial and municipal regulations, and that all repairs and financial obligations are estimated, performed, and paid in a timely manner. We currently have seven clients and provide property management for ten properties across the province, with one in Ontario. I am pleased to report that the annual revenue for the properties totalled \$3,150,000 for the 2018/19 fiscal year with a total combined estimated market value of all properties totaling \$24,972,000.



### 150 HENRY AVENUE – WINNIPEG

**Estimated value: \$9,000,000**

Owned by MEDO Developments Ltd., 150 Henry Avenue continues to serve as the Home Office for the MMF, where many direct services and programs are offered to Citizens. In addition to service provision, 150 Henry Avenue serves as the government house for the Manitoba Metis Government. It is here that your MMF Cabinet gathers and governs the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community. In the upcoming months, we aim to make 150 Henry Avenue a more environmentally efficient building. A proposal was submitted and approved by the federal government under the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, a program to make building retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030. The planned retrofit to 150 Henry includes a new building envelope, exterior windows, re-insulated roofs, new heating systems, and solar panels.

### MEDO SQUARE – WINNIPEG

**Estimated value: \$6,000,000**

Owned by MEDO Developments Ltd., MEDO Square is home to prominent tenants within Manitoba including: Metis Child and Family Services Authority, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Park

Avenue Vending, and Manitobah Mukluks. Regular routine maintenance and repair continues for MEDO Square, including roof replacement and parking lot repair.

### 2000 PORTAGE AVENUE – WINNIPEG

**Estimated value: \$3,500,000**

Owned by WMA Landholdings Inc., Michif Child and Family Services Authority continues to provide the essential supports needed to strengthen and support the health and well-being of Metis families. A new HVAC System has been installed at 2000 Portage Avenue.

### 406/412 MCGREGOR AVENUE – WINNIPEG

**Estimated value: \$1,500,000**

Owned by the Winnipeg Metis Association Inc., McGregor is also home to Michif Child and Family Services Authority. Recent renovations to the property include new flooring, walls and ceiling for the Metis Club.

### 29 ROYAL ROAD – PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE

**Estimated value: \$350,000**

Owned by LRCC Metis N4 Investment Inc., 29 Royal Road is leased to Metis Child and Family Services to provide essential services to Metis families around the Portage La Prairie region. Essential upgrades to the building include new water heaters, insulation, an AC system, new exterior siding, and a reinforced staircase.

### 456 FISCHER AVENUE – THE PAS

**Estimated value: \$1,500,000**

Owned by the Manitoba Metis Federation, 456 Fischer Avenue is leased to Metis Child and Family Services to provide essential services to Metis families around the Pas region. Recent repairs to the property included maintenance for the water meter and installation of new water-efficient toilets.



## **2 – 340 MACLAREN STREET – OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

**Estimated value: \$1,600,000**

340 Maclaren continues to operate as the Home Office for the Métis National Council (MNC). Located in the Nation's capital, the building serves as the location where the Governing Members of the MNC meet and govern the Metis Nation at a national level. The building is owned by both the LRCC (50%) and MEDO (50%). Routine maintenance of mechanical and building systems continues.

## **44 COPPER ROAD – THOMPSON**

**Estimated value: \$130,000**

44 Copper Road is owned by LRCC Metis N4 Investment Inc. Although there is no

current tenant, negotiations are ongoing with KAO Daycare to lease the property. LRCC Metis N4 Investment Inc. is working with an engineering firm to ensure that the building accommodates the needs of the prospective tenant.

## **95 – 101 SUTHERLAND – WINNIPEG**

**Estimated value: \$192,000**

MEDO Developments Ltd. currently owns the parking lot and greenspace located at MEDO Square. Routine maintenance continues to meet the commercial needs of tenants.

## **49 AUSTIN STREET – WINNIPEG**

**Estimated value: \$1,200,000**

A division of the LRCC (5785066 Manitoba Ltd.) owns and operates the parking lot located at 29 Austin Street in Winnipeg.



# Information Technology

## MMF Department

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### MINISTER ∞ Anita Campbell



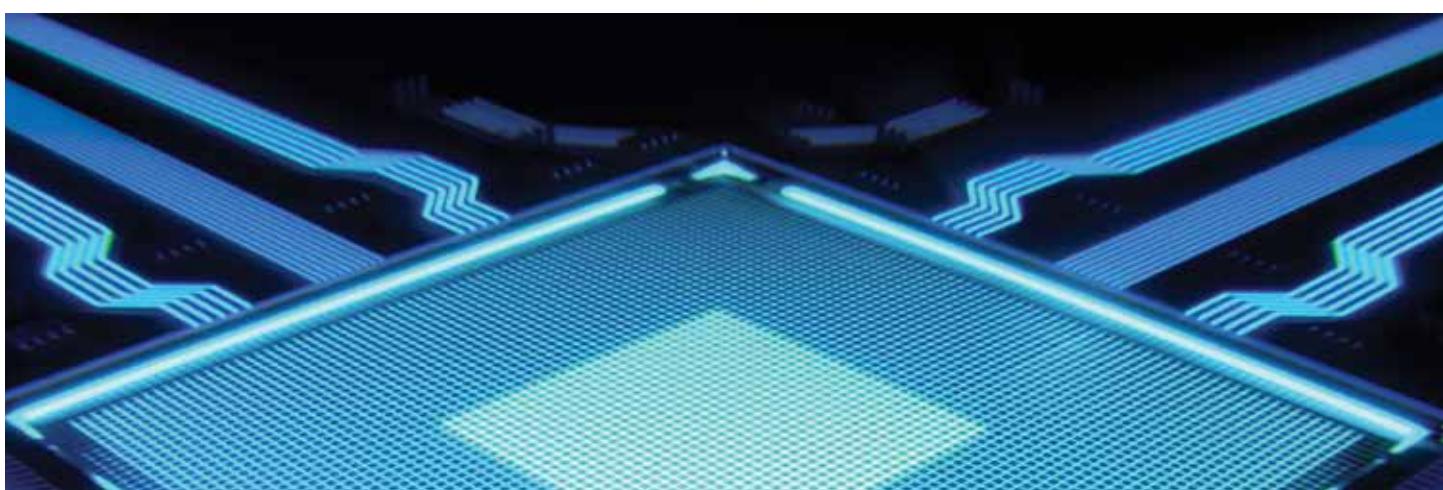
The Manitoba Metis Federation's (MMF) Department of Information Technology (IT), whose daily services span across the Metis Community and support our Citizens, staff, students, educators, leaders, and regional offices, has had a very challenging year. It is an honour to support the hard work of our Government on behalf of the Metis Citizens across the province. Information technology now permeates all aspects of society, including the way people interact, the economic landscape, the skills needed to get a good job, and even political decision-making. The Metis Community has the potential to generate new research and breakthroughs, fueling job opportunities and economic growth to improve how our Citizens live their lives.

As Metis people, we have always been part of transforming society in Canada. We can increase our efficiency, improve our government's programs, and preserve the MMF legacy to encourage a more empowered and engaged Citizenry. The MMF Leadership has the vision and opportunity to shape this idea and further, to examine the impact that the information economy will have on our people's jobs, our well-being, and our lives in general.

This year, the MMF Department of IT has seen a huge increase in the number of insidious attacks against our servers, data, staff, and

Citizens. Ransomware, cyber threats, denial-of-service attacks, and phishing have become more frequent and stealthier as our Government enjoys more success. We became a larger target to both public and private attacks. We have increased our responses to these issues, vigilantly monitoring progress that has been made with the implementation of new equipment and servers, cloud computing, new versions of applications and databases, and more security updates in effort to prevent information security breaches.

With the future in mind, plans for implementing an entirely new network of IT operations are under way. These improvements will enable the MMF to reach its strategic goals to improve program and project management, standardize key processes and metrics, and develop digital training and acumen. Along with this new series of developments, the Department of IT continues to deliver basic services and supports for its clients daily, with a new emphasis on research, development, and higher-level issues concerning information security, protection, training, and delivery. New additions to our staffing will include an expansion of positions for basic user IT support, such as assisting with daily issues of printing, scanning, passwords, and other simple tasks. This will enable IT to focus on more robust capacitive issues facing the Metis Community.



## OUR SERVICES

The MMF Department of IT provides daily network, internet, email, phone, hardware/software, and database support services to a growing base of 600+ users across Manitoba on several different platforms, distributing over 30 gigabytes of data per day. Through a wide array of servers, switches, routers, cables, protocols, terminals, licenses and devices, we manage issues ranging from the simple to the impossible.

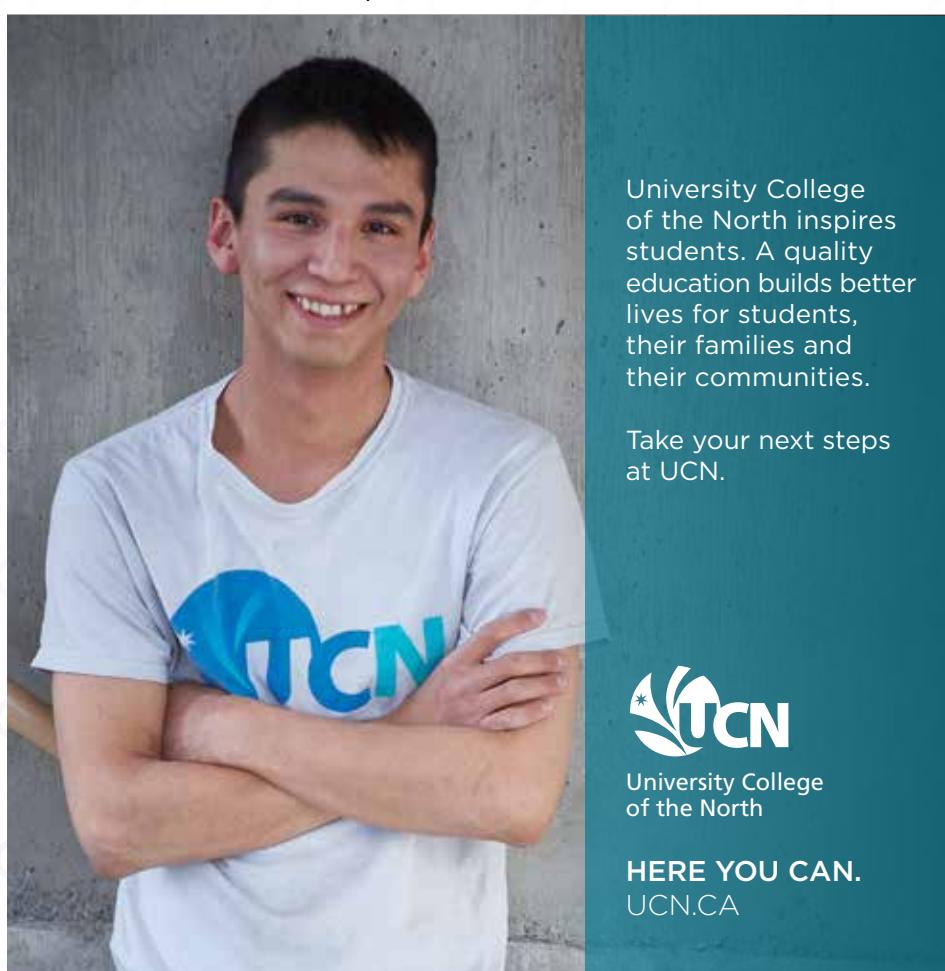
## SECURITY

The MMF IT team will be implementing new security features across its environment to securely protect and safeguard information (business and personal data, voice conversations, images, movies, documents, emails, presentations, etc.) utilizing Office 365 technology developed to create, store, use, and exchange such information against any unauthorized access, misuse, malfunction, destruction, or improper disclosure. This enhanced security will

also preserve the value, confidentiality, integrity, availability, intended use, and the MMF's ability to perform critical functions. In conjunction with the MMF Human Resources Department, the Department of IT is developing an information security management system which is a set of policies and procedures for systematically managing an organization's sensitive data. The goal is to minimize data risk and ensure continuity by proactively limiting the frontline impacts of a security breach.

## RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The Metis People are historically known for their resilience, determination, and insight into new and unexplored areas, and we are drawing on an alignment perspective to work with the many departments and regions. Through theory-driven research and development, the MMF can adapt new models for innovation in areas of Education, Health, Employment, Economics, Policy, Youth, and more.



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## TEACHING & LEARNING

Education was one of the first applications for IT. The enormous potential of technology for managing knowledge and transforming the way our people interact with one another offers significant benefits in the generation and sharing of content, and the manner of gaining access to and working with our people's knowledge. We are excited and hopeful to work with our partners in Metis Education and develop learning tools for digital literacy, preservation, education and online security for MMF Citizens.

## YOUTH & ELDERS

Video games, mobile technologies, virtual/augmented reality and collaborative content development are now a 150-billion-dollar industry annually, and offer new opportunities to improve the digital experience for Metis Youth and Elders. As a Department, we are very interested in working on supportive and engaging projects or training/testing experimental systems, developments, and solutions.

## CONCLUSION

The staff of the Department of IT would like to offer thanks for your support, patience, and understanding as we begin another period of great undertaking and change.

Meegwetch!

**Department of Information Technology**

Email: [support@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:support@mmf.mb.ca)

**Education was one of the first applications for IT. The enormous potential of technology for managing knowledge and transforming the way our people interact with one another offers significant benefits in the generation and sharing of content, and the manner of gaining access to and working with our people's knowledge.**





# Metis Community Liaison Department

MMF Department

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**MINISTER**  Andrew Carrier

The Metis Community Liaison Department (MCLD) assists Metis individuals, families, and Elders to access services and resources in their communities, locally, regionally and/or provincially. MCLD has staff in six of the seven regions with one vacancy in the Thompson Region. These Metis Community Liaison Workers aid Metis Citizens and families regarding a variety of issues including employment and income assistance, parenting programs, and outreach services. MCLD also offers referral and advocacy, reunification, Elder support, income tax preparation, bereavement support, repatriation, Christmas celebrations and community development. In addition, MCLD offers a variety of non-mandated parenting programs that run

parallel with the requirements of families from various CFS agencies.

Newly added parenting programs facilitated by MCLD include an attachment-based program called Circle of Security and Super Dads Super Kids, which is an interactive program for dads and the children they are raising. Another featured MCLD program is Little Moccasins, a Healthy Baby Program initiative of the Manitoba Government supported by Healthy Child Manitoba.

The Home Office located in Winnipeg, Manitoba, houses two Community Liaison Workers, a Little Moccasins Facilitator, and an Administrative Assistant.



## PROGRAM AREAS

### CLIENT FAMILY SUPPORT

Working with Metis children and families on a variety of issues including but not limited to: referral and advocacy, reunification, employment and income assistance, as well as other forms of income security, housing, health supports, income tax preparation, and outreach services.

### PARENTING PROGRAMS

Various programs to assist parents with learning or enhancing their skills.

### ELDER SUPPORT

Aiding Metis Elders in accessing existing services and identifying gaps.

### REPATRIATION

Assisting with the repatriation of Metis adults who were placed for adoption in childhood and who wish to reunite with their families of origin.

## ELDER SUPPORTS

### METIS SENIOR VISION CARE INITIATIVE

This distinctive program of vision care supports Metis Seniors who require assistance in managing their eye care. This includes regular eye examinations, specialized testing, and prescription eyeglasses. Currently MCLD is working with Sean Sylvester, Chief Executive Officer of Mobile Vision Care Clinic, who has been fitting our Metis Seniors with quality eye wear.

### METIS PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM

The Prescription Drug Program is an Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) initiative that pays for Pharmacare-eligible prescription drugs. This program pays the MMF-calculated deductible throughout the year. MCLD staff are responsible for conducting intakes and collecting supporting documentation, which is uploaded to a central database system. In order to qualify, clients need to be 65 or older, hold a current Metis Citizenship Card, have an annual income of \$25,000 or less, and be enrolled in the Manitoba Pharmacare program. In partnership with the Health and Wellness Department of

the MMF and MEDOCare Pharmacy, we have been able to provide service to those Metis Seniors in need.

## MCLD PROGRAMS

### LITTLE MOCCASINS – A HEALTHY BABY PROGRAM, SUPPORTED BY HEALTHY CHILD MANITOBA, AN INITIATIVE OF THE MANITOBA GOVERNMENT

Little Moccasins is a weekly program for pre or post-natal parents from all cultures. It is an opportunity for parents to get out of the house and socialize with other parents. Clients also have the opportunity to learn or enhance their knowledge on different topics related to parenting. Parents have access to a public health nurse and a dietitian should they have questions or concerns. Healthy snacks from the Healthy Baby cookbook are prepared each week for participants to enjoy.

Little Moccasins runs every Thursday, alternating between two locations:

**Windsor Park United Church  
1062 Autumnwood Dr., Winnipeg, MB  
1:30-3:30pm**

**Access-Access Saint-Boniface  
170 Goulet Street Winnipeg, MB  
9:30-11:30am**

## PARENTING PROGRAMS

### TRIPLE P POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

This approach to parenting aims to promote child development and manage child behavior in a constructive and non-hurtful manner.

### CIRCLE OF SECURITY PARENTING

This eight-week, attachment-based parenting program offers the opportunity to self-reflect and think about parenting in a different way.



## **NOBODY'S PERFECT**

A six- to eight-week program for parents with children from birth to five years of age. Nobody's Perfect promotes positive parenting and increases parent understanding of children's health, safety and behaviour.

## **SUPER DADS SUPER KIDS**

An eight-week, interactive activity program for dads and the children they are raising. During the program, dads participate in activities with their children as well as having some time for discussion with each other. This program takes the position that when dads and kids are put together, good things happen!

## **LITTLE METIS SING WITH ME**

A parent-child program with three strands: Metis Culture and History, Family Literacy and Essential Skills.

## **COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

### **MMF BEREAVEMENT FUND**

The MMF Bereavement Fund helps those Metis families in need of financial support for expenses involved with the loss of a loved one. Financial resources for the MMF Bereavement Fund are replenished strictly through fundraising efforts of the MMF. MCLD staff are responsible for conducting intake and follow-up to ensure Citizens can access the \$200 donation.

### **REPATRIATION – LOST MOCCASIN CAMPAIGN**

MCLD strives to facilitate the repatriation of Metis adults who were placed for adoption in childhood and who wish to reunite with their families of origin, as resources allow. Throughout the years, this Lost Moccasin Campaign has been hindered by a lack of financial commitment from the federal and provincial governments. Support for repatriation is still in demand. The campaign remains a strong objective of the department as well as a strongly communicated need of the community.

It is imperative that the federal and provincial governments recognize the need for Metis cross-cultural adoptees to re-engage with their families.

## **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS**

It is an unfortunate reality that many of our Metis children and families go without food during the Christmas season. MCLD staff work diligently with various support programs, churches and the Christmas Cheer Board providing referrals, advocacy and support to ensure our Metis children and families are accessing these much-needed resources.

We would like to thank the MMF Board of Directors, affiliates, sponsors, vendors, partnering organizations, and the MMF Citizenship for their continued support and generous donations.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

MCLD staff are active participants on a number of Parent-Child Coalitions across the province sharing information from the MMF to partnering organizations. This year, MCLD staff have played an active role in assisting and coordinating our

Annual General Assembly, Ste. Madeleine Metis Days, the MMF's Annual Elders Gathering, and the MMF's Annual Golf Tournament in support of the MMF Bereavement Fund. Other events that MCLD have been involved with are Indigenous Day celebrations, the MMF BBQ to celebrate the 203rd Anniversary of the Victory of Frog Plain (Battle of Seven Oaks), the annual meetings of the seven MMF regions, community gatherings, celebrations, fundraising events, and other consultations. It is through these efforts that we are able to ensure the success of our Metis Government's initiatives.



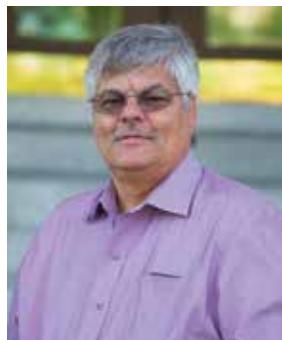


# Metis Employment & Training

MMF Department

**MINISTER ∞ John Fleury**

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ Joan Ledoux**



Manitoba Metis Federation's (MMF) Metis Employment & Training Department (MET) operates through funds provided by the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Agreement with Canada.

The Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program (which replaces the Aboriginal Skills Employment and Training Strategy) links employment and training programming to current and future labour market demands and ensures that Canada's Indigenous people can fully participate in employment and economic opportunities.

Key elements of the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program include:

#### **Distinctions-Based Strategy**

- ∞ Metis Nation separate funding envelope
- ∞ Allows for greater coordination and specialization to respond to the unique circumstances, needs and priorities of the Metis Nation

#### **Capacity Building**

- ∞ Building capacity in areas of governance, planning, administration, professionalization, and finances

- ∞ The ability to provide more flexible interventions, wrap-around supports, and longer-term interventions

#### **Performance Measurement Framework**

- ∞ Emphasis on overall client outcomes and their progression along the skills development continuum
- ∞ Closing the employment and earning gaps between Metis and non-Indigenous people, Metis Nation determines meaningful performance indicators

#### **Longer-Term Agreements & Administrative Flexibility**

- ∞ Streamlining reporting and facilitating greater flexibility and improved operational guidelines

The MMF ISET Agreement with Canada was signed May 15, 2019, at MMF Home Office in Winnipeg. This 10-year agreement, beginning April 1, 2019, provides enhanced funding and increased flexibility to create and deliver Metis-specific employment and training programs and services.

ISET and prior labour market strategies have allowed the MMF, through the MET Department, to provide employment and training programs and services for over 20 years. Our programs have

**Metis Employment and Training provides a wide range of services to clients seeking employment and training.**

assisted thousands of Metis to gain the skills, training, and education needed to successfully compete in Manitoba and Canada's labour market by obtaining sustainable and meaningful employment.

The MMF is proud to partner with Canada on the ISET Program and we have been extremely successful in achieving goals, building partnerships, and meeting the employment and training needs of our people, our communities and our employer partners.

Metis Employment and Training provides a wide range of services to clients seeking employment and training. These services include needs assessment and career planning, job search assistance including resume and cover letter preparation, access to the labour market, academic program information, sponsorship, skills training, programs to enhance employability, and referral to employers. Innovative partnerships are a major focus for MMF and MET. Partnerships

are developed with private industry, government, non-profit and community organizations, training and educational institutions, as well as our own internal MMF departments and affiliates. These innovative and unique partnerships enable us to be responsive to economic and labour market needs, combine resources and common goals, and establish links to meaningful sustainable employment by creating unique employment and training opportunities for our clients and our communities.

Funded activities included single-seat sponsorships, project-based training initiatives, wage subsidies, summer employment partnerships and youth programming.

For more information about MET programs and services, employer partnership opportunities and our current recruitment activities, please visit the MET Department booth in the tradeshow area during the AGA, visit us online at [mmfemployment.ca](http://mmfemployment.ca) or call us at 204-586-8474.

## 2018-2019 RESULTS

### ACHIEVED

Metis Employment and Training once again surpassed our annual Results Targets. Our final results were:

2,796	Clients Served
960	Clients Employed
914	Clients Returned to School to pursue further education & training



**Manitoba Metis Federation's Metis Employment & Training Department (MET) operates through funds provided by the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Agreement with Canada.**





# Metis Justice Institute

## MMF Department

### MINISTER ∞ Julyda Lagimodiere



As Minister of Justice I would like to welcome everyone to this year's Annual General Assembly. The Metis Justice Institute has continued to provide programs and services to assist Metis Citizens throughout our Regions in the area of Justice.

Specifically, the department has continued to focus on the delivery of our Metis Community Justice Program to assist in the diversion of Metis Citizens to community-based alternatives instead of the formal court process. The Justice Support Program continues to assist individuals to reintegrate from correctional facilities. Our relationship with the RCMP continues to expand to focus on community-based policing. The delivery of programming in the areas of Domestic Violence and Anger Management have continued.

The Metis Justice Institute (MJI) of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) was established in July 2003 and is assigned the task of focusing responsibility and authority for justice issues within the MMF.

The mandate of the MJI is to develop and maintain a full range of justice services and

programs that meet the expectations of the Metis Community in Manitoba. The MJI is guided by the MMF Minister of Justice to establish working relationships and partnerships to provide support and advocacy to Metis Citizens in need of justice support by focusing on the following objectives:

1. Reduce the number of Metis people involved in the Criminal Justice System;
2. Prevent and reduce crime, and enhance the safety and well-being of Metis individuals as well as the Metis Community;
3. Strengthen Metis families and the Metis Community to promote a strong Nation;
4. Provide support at the grassroots level where justice measures are developed and delivered by individuals who have a direct interest in the Metis Community; and
5. Ensure that justice measures are culturally specific and incorporate Metis values, traditions, and culture.



## CURRENT INITIATIVES

Since the inception of the MJI in 2003, the MJI has continued to lobby Manitoba and Canada to work towards the development of Metis-specific Justice Programs and Services. The MJI has utilized information obtained through Metis Community Consultations to focus efforts to develop Metis Community Justice Programming that will support Metis Citizens involved in the Criminal Justice System.

Current Initiatives for the Metis Justice Institute include:

- ∞ The Metis Community Justice Program and Thompson Community Justice Program;
- ∞ The Justice Support Program;
- ∞ Thompson Domestic Violence Court;
- ∞ Justice Programming;
  - Domestic Violence Programming; and
  - Anger Management Programming.
- ∞ Metis Community Inquiries; and
- ∞ Policing

## METIS COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROGRAM (MCJP) & THOMPSON COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROGRAM (TCJP)

The Metis Community Justice Program (MCJP) is a Court Diversion Program that enhances the capacity of the Metis Community to deliver culturally appropriate justice alternatives that support the diversion of Metis people from the mainstream justice system to a community-based alternative. The MCJP focuses on providing culturally appropriate supports, alternatives,



advocacy, and resources to individuals that are referred to us as clients from the Crown or RCMP through a Restorative Justice Process. Our process focuses on building relationships within the community to repair the harm done by those individuals diverted to the program at a community level. The MCJP currently operates within the MMF Northwest, The Pas, and Interlake Regions.

The Thompson Community Justice Program (TCJP) is a Court Diversion Program that enhances the capacity of the community within the City of Thompson to deliver appropriate justice alternatives that support the diversion of residents within the City of Thompson from the mainstream justice system to a community-based alternative.

The TCJP provides appropriate supports, alternatives, advocacy, and resources to individuals who are referred to us as clients from the Crown or RCMP through a Restorative Justice Process. The Program is designed to mirror the work undertaken by the MCJP that focuses on building relationships within the community to repair the harm done by those individuals diverted to the program.

Over the reporting period, the MJI has undertaken case diversions from the Crown Attorney and RCMP within the Thompson, The Pas, Interlake, and Northwest Regions. In total, the MMF has received a total of 254 Individuals for diversion from the Crown and RCMP.

In total, the Program has received 254 Files that include 61 Youth Files and 193 Adult Files. The total Combined Number of Charges diverted is 339. The types of charges being diverted from the Courts include: Possession of a Weapon for a Dangerous Purpose, Forcible Entry, Underage Possession/Consumption of Liquor, Failure to Comply, Causing a Disturbance, Uttering Threats, Assault, Motor Vehicle Theft, Theft, Breaking and Entering, Mischief, and Possession.

Clients are required to complete Sanctions and Measures based on the individual circumstances of their offenses. Specifically, clients may be required to undertake Letters of Apology, Essays, Programming, Community Service, Restitution, Assessments for Alcohol or Mental Health, etc.

**Over the reporting period, the MJI has undertaken case diversions from the Crown Attorney and RCMP within the Thompson, The Pas, Interlake, and Northwest Regions. In total, the MMF has received a total of 254 Individuals for diversion from the Crown and RCMP.**

# Since the inception of the MJI in 2003, the MJI has continued to lobby Manitoba and Canada to work towards the development of Metis-specific Justice Programs and Services.

This program focuses on clients undertaking these activities at a community level to assist the client in dealing with underlying issues that contribute to their involvement with the criminal justice system.

## THOMPSON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TREATMENT COURT

The MJI has continued to work in partnership with the Thompson Provincial Court and Crown Attorney's Office in the undertaking of the Domestic Violence Treatment Option Court Project, aimed specifically at residents of the City of Thompson. The MJI does not receive funding to deliver this program but provides access on an as-needed basis to Metis Community Members.

The MJI is responsible for the intake process of the program and referring individuals to proper resources located within the City of Thompson based on recommendations from the Crown Attorney and Duty Counsel. Over the last fiscal year, 67 individuals have participated in the Court and have accessed supports for Domestic Violence Programming.

## JUSTICE PROGRAMMING

### Domestic Violence Programming

The MJI has continued to deliver the Metis Justice Domestic Violence Program for individuals that require Programming as a part of their Sanctions for Court Diversion. Within the Five Regions, a total of 49 Individuals have participated and completed programming.

The Program is utilized within the Regions as a part of the MMF's commitment to develop programming that is accessible for Metis Citizens in terms of location, access, cost effectiveness and

meaningfulness. The MJI does not receive funding to deliver this program but provides access on an as-needed basis to Metis Community Members in order to meet the need identified by our Citizens.

Referrals for the Program are received through our Home Office in Winnipeg.

### Anger Management Programming

The MJI has continued to deliver the Metis Justice Anger Management Program for individuals that require programming as a part of their Sanctions for Court Diversion. Within our Five Regions, programming has been utilized as a component for the Metis Community Justice Program in the Regions to assist individuals who require Anger Management as a component of their court involvement for both youth and adults. In addition, Metis Community Members who require Anger Management as a part of their probation orders have also been provided programming to assist them with meeting probation requirements in a timely manner.

Referrals to the Program can be received through the Provincial Court, Probations, Community Resources, Self-Referrals, Schools, etc. The MJI does not receive funding to deliver this Program but provides access on an as-needed basis to Metis Community Members in order to meet the need identified by our Citizens.

Within the Five Regions a total of 80 individuals have accessed the Metis Justice Institute for Anger Management Programming from The Interlake, The Pas, Northwest, Winnipeg, and Thompson Regions.

Referrals for the Program are received through our Home Office in Winnipeg.

## METIS COMMUNITY INQUIRIES

The MJI continues to receive many inquiries from Metis Community members in terms of support, advocacy, and information regarding resources to help with specific justice issues.

The Metis Justice Institute welcomes Metis Community inquiries that seek out assistance with information regarding resources to help with justice issues and concerns. The MJI does not provide legal services or provide money to pay for these services but will assist with resource information and paperwork completion to help deal with legal issues.

The MJI has Region-specific listings to assist with resources available in the areas of legal aid referrals, record suspension (formally "pardons") information, policing issues, advocacy, addictions, housing, transportation, employment and training, Manitoba Public Insurance, Identification, individual support with probation orders, food, and individual support.

The MJI received a total of 111 inquiries from April 2018 to March 2019 from Metis Community members.

## POLICING

The MJI has continued to enhance a working relationship with the RCMP "D" Division Aboriginal Policing in regard to policing of Metis Citizens within Manitoba.

## RCMP METIS COMMUNITY INITIATIVES COORDINATOR

An RCMP Officer is located at the MMF Home Office through the development of a Memorandum of Understanding between the MMF Metis Justice Institute and the Manitoba RCMP.

The RCMP Metis Initiatives Coordinator assists with:

- ∞ Program Partnerships with the RCMP in the MMF Regions;
- ∞ Metis Citizens with Policing Issues;
- ∞ Metis Citizens interested in the RCMP as a Career; and
- ∞ Information sharing regarding incidents that result in a serious offence, injury or death.

The RCMP Officer provides direct service and can be contacted directly for assistance to Metis Citizens.

## RCMP METIS INITIATIVES

Over the reporting period, the MJI has continued to work with the RCMP in regard to an established work plan as a part of the RCMP MOU.

The MOU was signed on February 12, 2018, and work has continued from the RCMP Coordinator on the development of a work plan to guide work deliverables into the new fiscal year. Meetings have been undertaken and a work plan has been established for inclusion of the Metis Government in the following areas:

1. RCMP Annual Performance Plan Process
2. Restorative Justice
3. MMF Annual General Assembly
4. Developing Mutual Training Opportunities
5. Communication
6. Community-Based Policing

The deliverables in each of the above-noted areas will begin over the new fiscal year based on the information obtained from Metis Citizens through our work and through our community safety surveys. These surveys will be utilized to ensure the work plan areas meet the needs of our Citizens and the priorities of each Region.



## CONCLUSION

The Metis Justice Institute Justice Minister and staff are committed to continue work over the next year on the above-noted Initiatives and to further develop justice programs and services needed within the Metis Community to assist Metis Community Citizens involved within the Criminal Justice System.

Over the last fiscal year, the MJI has continued to build The Metis Community Justice and Thompson Community Justice Programs to assist with Court Diversions. Our programs have been working diligently in partnership with the Provincial Court to ensure that programs and services meet the standards of the Provincial Court by ensuring clients take responsibility for their actions and are accountable to the community and the Court. This last fiscal year, relationships have been built to include access to diversion opportunities from select cases from the Winnipeg Region.

The MJI's programming in Domestic Violence and Anger Management has continued to be delivered to Metis Citizens without any dedicated funding from Manitoba and Canada. Access to these programs is essential for our Citizens and the MJI is committed to continuing to provide programming to assist clients in our Regions who may benefit from programming as a consideration to their court proceedings

or as a diversion from formal court proceedings. Our programming is provided at no cost to the individual and focuses on providing resources and tools to further deter involvement with the justice system.

The MJI is committed over the next fiscal year to work with the Provincial and Federal Governments in the area of Justice to look for innovative ways to support our Citizens.

Discussion areas over the next reporting period will include additional areas of programming to be developed. Specifically, the MJI will focus on information obtained from Metis Citizens through our Community Safety Surveys to identify areas of support, programming, and assistance. The MJI will focus on Elder and Youth programming and resources that include Life Skills, Anger Management for Youth, Mediation, and Elder Education to reduce the potential of victimization and abuse.

If you would like further information on any of the initiatives through the MJI, please feel free to contact our office at:

**Metis Justice Institute**  
**150 Henry Avenue**  
**Winnipeg, Manitoba**  
**R3B 0J7**  
**204-586-8474**  
**(800) 665-8474**





# Natural Resources

MMF Department

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**MINISTER ∞ Leah LaPlante**

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ Shawn Nault**



The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Natural Resources Department is dedicated to protecting our Harvesters and our constitutionally protected right to harvest. We have forged ahead with both the federal and provincial governments, resulting in promising new partnerships with some very important key government agencies. We have also been involved with other non-governmental and industry sectors, leading to stronger and more respectful relationships and an enhanced understanding of our Metis self-government system and MMF Harvester Card initiatives.

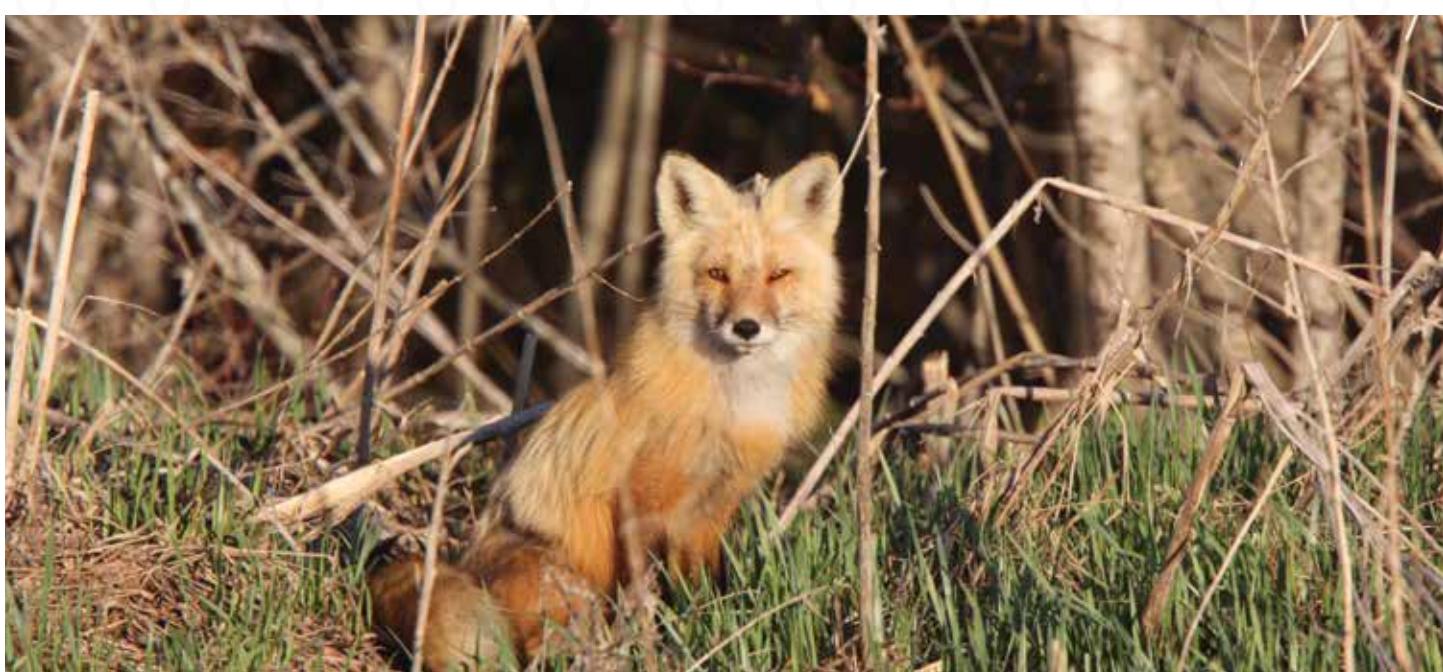


An historic harvesting agreement was signed between the MMF and the Province of Manitoba at the MMF's 44th Annual General Assembly in September 2012. The agreement recognizes Metis harvesting rights in mutually agreed-to regions of the province, and relies on the *Metis Laws of the Harvest* booklet as the basis for the development of new provincial regulations to govern Metis harvesting. MMF Harvester Cards are now recognized by Conservation Officers, and related Regulation Enforcement Officers, as

a means to identify our Harvesters within the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area. Our Harvesters must continue to follow the Metis Laws of the Harvest within the RMHA, otherwise they will not be legally supported by the MMF.

## EXPANSION OF THE RECOGNIZED METIS HARVESTING AREA

On September 23rd, 2018, delegates to the MMF Annual General Assembly voted unanimously in favour of a Resolution to defend Metis harvesting rights in expansion areas bordering the Recognized Metis Harvesting Area (RMHA). The expansion area includes: the Grass (Grassy) River Region (GHAs 5, 7, and 7A); and, the Manigotagan Region (GHA 26 and the portion of GHA 17A outside of the Pimitotah Traditional Land Use Planning Area/Bloodvein Registered Trapline). To date, no Harvester has been charged while exercising their right to harvest in this Expansion Area, though the MMF is prepared to defend if this should occur.





## NIGHT HUNTING AND NIGHT LIGHTING AGRO-ZONE BOUNDARY

Following consultations with our Community regarding Night Hunting issues, the MMF submitted a report to Manitoba and passed two Resolutions at our Annual General Assembly on September 24th, 2017. First, a complete prohibition on Dangerous Spotlighting throughout Manitoba and second, prohibition of Night Hunting within Agro Manitoba from dusk to dawn, with continued Night Hunting and Stationary Spotlighting in Non-Agro Manitoba, away from settlements and local populations. On February 9th, 2018, the MMF Cabinet passed the MMF Night Hunting and Night Lighting Agro-Zone Boundary Resolution, which provides policy specifying Metis Night Hunting law in Manitoba, including definitions, maps, and map notes. All information can be found on the MMF website. Please note that the Metis Laws of the Harvest will be amended to reflect this Resolution.

## HARVESTING CHARGES AND ENFORCEMENT

Conservation Officers charging our Harvesters while exercising their constitutionally protected right to harvest remains an issue for the MMF. In many

cases, Harvesters have been charged simply due to a lack of understanding on our Metis harvesting rights. Assuming the Harvester is following laws of public safety and conservation, as laid out in our Metis Laws of the Harvest, MMF will provide legal assistance in these circumstances and has provided assistance with nine Metis harvesting charges in the past year. In the case of a wrongful charge, it is important that Harvesters contact the MMF in a timely manner. We will evaluate the circumstances and determine the next necessary steps. Natural Resources Department Staff remind our Harvesters of the risks they must be willing to take to harvest in the RMHA Expansion Area, including uncertain timelines and outcomes when charges go through the courts.

## CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE – MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) has renewed funding with a multi-year agreement for the MMF's Migratory Birds Program, enabling continued assessment of the harvest of migratory birds by our Community, organization of a Wildlife Workshop event, and the exploration of an electronic reporting system. The Harvesting Survey is mandatory for our Harvesters to fill out before receiving their Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) Sticker

and big-game tags and is a critical factor in helping us manage our resources and harvesting activity. Information collected is shared with the CWS to assist in monitoring and conservation efforts.

## FORESTRY

The MMF is negotiating Agreements with the Province for the following forestry plans:

- I) Nisokapawino Forestry Management Corporation 2019-2021 Operating Plan
- II) Louisiana Pacific's 20 Year Forest Management Plan

As these Forestry Management Plans may impact the rights, claims, and interests of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community, Crown consultation must take place to ensure that impacts to our Community are minimized and opportunities for accommodation and mitigation are fully explored.

## NATIONAL BOREAL CARIBOU KNOWLEDGE CONSORTIUM

The MMF has taken part in the National Boreal Caribou Knowledge Consortium (NBCKC) since its beginnings in June 2018. The NBCKC brings together a number of participants with knowledge

relating to and experience working with Boreal Caribou, including federal and provincial governments, academic, industry, non-governmental organizations, and Indigenous governments and representatives. The NBCKC has developed a number of working groups which the MMF has been involved with, including the Indigenous Knowledge Circle, the Monitoring Working Group, and the Habitat Restoration Working Group. The MMF has received funding to undertake a community consultation meeting in Thompson and a series of ongoing traditional knowledge interviews, as well as to help facilitate our involvement in the NBCKC.

## SPECIES AT RISK

For years, the MMF has dealt with a large number of files relating to Species-at-Risk, and the process of having species listed under Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act, which provides legal protections. These have included plants, insects, fish, birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, with a large number of species identified requiring a process of prioritizing by MMF. Unfortunately, for the vast majority of these species, there has been no funding available to consult with our Community about how listing status could impact us. More recently, the MMF has developed a more positive relationship with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), resulting in funding to consult our Community on the listing of Barren-ground and Eastern Migratory Caribou. The MMF will continue to address Species-at-Risk notifications as they arise.

## HARVESTING PERMISSION SLIPS

Due to recurring issues surrounding our Harvesters hunting on private property with verbal permission only, a permission slip must now be used to obtain written permission from private landowners/tenants. The permission slip will reduce the chance of our Harvesters being faced with a hearsay situation if the landowner/tenant decides to revoke permission after the fact. Be aware that verbal permission from a landowner/tenant is no longer acceptable. Written permission supports our harvesting rights to hunt on private property with permission when approached by a Conservation Officer. The MMF has amended its permission slip to include a section (Permission Conditions) that allows landowners/tenants the opportunity to provide written reminders to Harvesters (e.g., close gate(s), access by foot only, do not gut on property, species-specific hunting, etc.). The amended permission slip is available at the MMF Central Registry Office and Regional Offices, as well as on the MMF website.

## HARVESTING INFORMATION PROTECTIVE PACKAGE

To ensure our Harvesters are equipped with all necessary documentation for safe and stress-free harvesting, the Natural Resources Department has created a pocket-sized, waterproof Harvesting Information Protective Package. The protective package is intended to hold harvesting permission slips, big-game tags, Harvester Card, the *Metis Laws*

*of the Harvest booklet*, and any other documentation necessary for rights-based harvesting. Packages are available upon completion of the mandatory Harvesting Survey and renewal of their CTF Sticker. Packages are also available at the Natural Resources booth during community meetings.

For further questions regarding the **Natural Resources** portfolio, you may contact **Minister Leah LaPlante or Connor Staub, Harvesting Officer**, via phone at **204-586-8474 ext. 340** or via email: [connor.staub@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:connor.staub@mmf.mb.ca).





# Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations

MMF Department

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**MINISTER** ∞ Denise Thomas



## Comes to a close after 31 years!

*As far back as the late 1700s the Metis have been self-governing in order to safeguard Metis interests. Since the 1960s the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) has carried on this tradition of self-government.*

The constitutional discussions regarding Aboriginal and Treaty rights of the 1980s led to the development of a framework for trilateral negotiations on Metis self-government. The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) initiated the TSN process by writing the Premier of Manitoba and the Prime Minister of Canada and asking both governments to participate. Both governments responded positively, with all three levels of government hoping that – through the TSN process – progress would be made towards achieving the self-government aspirations of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community.

Since formalization, this trilateral relationship has seen significant achievements in the development of institutions of self-government and initiatives that have positively impacted the quality of life of the Manitoba Metis Community. TSN has been guided by the following five principles: recognition, partnership, comprehensive, capacity, and accountability, as established in the Manitoba Metis Policy, which was developed and formally signed in 2010. These principles guide the activity for the Joint Management Committee (JMC) through the MMF, TSN, the Government of Canada (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada and Indigenous Services Canada), and the Province of Manitoba

(Indigenous and Northern Relations). The commitment from Canada to work on a Nation-to-Nation basis with the Metis Nation to advance reconciliation and renew our relationship based on cooperation, respect for rights, and a commitment to end the status quo encouraged a stronger presence at the tripartite table. However, the Province of Manitoba has not been supportive over the past two years and in March 2019 Manitoba ended their commitment to the funding, despite the important remaining work required to continue to build and strengthen institutions of self-government.

The tripartite process is important to the promotion of a strong and representative government through the development of self-sufficient Metis institutions and sustained efforts to promote political, legal, social and economic interests, and the inherent rights of the Manitoba Metis Community. Over the past 31 years, accomplishments within the TSN department have been many, and are all part of the process of fulfilling the self-government mandate.

The MMF Annual General Assembly held in September is the venue in which the MMF Caucus reports to its constituents, with over 2,000 Metis Citizens attending. The MMF AGA is an opportunity for the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba, and other stakeholders, to engage with Metis Citizens across all seven MMF regions. TSN has held Governance Workshops at the AGA since 2010, the venue in which Metis Citizens are engaged in matters of import, with the opportunity to provide direction for moving forward. Governance Workshops have had the following themes:

- ∞ **TSN and its Sectoral Priorities (2010)**
- ∞ **Intra-Governmental Capacity (2011)**
- ∞ **Duty to Consult – Resolution 8 (2012)**
- ∞ **Institutional Capacity Building (2013)**
- ∞ **Journey to Engagement (2014)**
- ∞ **Knowledge in Motion (2015)**
- ∞ **Empowerment through Engagement (2016)**
- ∞ **Governance and Preservation (2017)**
- ∞ **Strengthening Our Metis Government (2018)**

The theme of the 2018 TSN Governance Workshop was “Strengthening Our Metis Government.” The purpose of the workshop was to facilitate an understanding of Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. It explored how the Metis are recognized as a rights-bearing people under Section 35, and discussed the rights of the Metis, including the inherent right to self-government. The MMF sees itself as a government founded on the inherent rights of the Manitoba Metis Community. The presentation explored how the MMF government functions in action, with specific consideration given to the MMF Constitution, Resolution 8, and the Manitoba Metis Community Research and Ethics Protocol (MMCREP).

The 2018 workshop was a continuation of the 2017 workshop which explored the topic of “*Governance and Preservation: Developing a Research and Ethics Protocol as a Means to Protect the Manitoba Metis Community*”.



This theme was based on the need for Metis Citizenship engagement, the support of a research ethics protocol, and the further development of the Metis Knowledge Base, while providing reasoning for the development of an Institute for Metis Research (IMR).

Integral to the TSN work is the development of a Governance Manual, which was a top-action item from the MMF Strategic Plan. TSN finalized a draft Terminology and Terms of Reference as the preliminary documents needed to move forward on the creation of the MMF Governance Manual.

As a department that promotes the building of self-governing institutions, TSN has spent the past several years envisioning institutions that can help to promote the self-governance of Metis knowledge. More specifically, TSN supports the governance of knowledge through four core complimentary initiatives:

1. Manitoba Metis Community Research Ethics Protocol
2. Metis Knowledge Base
3. Metis National Archives Strategy “Pathways Project”
4. Institute for Metis Research

The development and implementation of the Manitoba Metis Community Research and Ethics Protocol (MMCREP), the Metis Knowledge Base (MKB), the Pathways Project toward a Metis National Archives, and the Institute for Metis Research (IMR) will provide a system through which the Metis Government can more efficiently conduct research and evaluation, navigate scholarship, protect Citizen knowledge (including Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Ecological Knowledge), advance program and policy development, and support culturally appropriate and relevant ethical practices in research involving the Metis Nation’s Manitoba Metis Community.

**TSN has spent the past several years envisioning institutions that can help to promote the self-governance of Metis knowledge.**

**TSN Portfolios: Over the past 30 years, there have been many significant developments within the MMF that represent institutions of self-government. The five portfolios did not change over the years as the work is ongoing, and even though great progress has been made, there is the need for formalization of governance institutions. Under each portfolio is the work that has been accomplished by TSN over the years.**

## EDUCATION, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

The establishment of the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) which is recognized in Manitoba under an Act of Legislation. Today LRI is the MMF representative for Metis education, culture and heritage. LRI has evolved, featuring an Adult Learning Centre, a Vocational College, a Standing Tall program, Bursary and Endowment Funds, a Literacy and Essential Skills Mobile Unit, management of the Riel House National Historic Site, Historic Metis Tours, memorandums of understanding (MOU) with Red River College and the University of Manitoba, and representation on Provincial Committees and Post-Secondary Advisory Committees. Each year LRI is engaged in new and exciting programs that strengthen the Metis history in school curricula and educates mainstream society.

**Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia (LAA)** – in partnership with LRI, the Province of Manitoba created and promoted the Grade 11 Interactive Learning Resource about the first government of Manitoba which was made up of Metis people and led by Louis Riel. The LAA was responsible for bringing Manitoba into Confederation. Employment and Social Development Canada has launched the **National Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Framework**. In 2017, TSN completed an options paper to move forward with Metis Early Childhood Education (ECE) in anticipation of the Framework. Today an agreement has been signed with Canada for the ELCC program.

TSN prepared a paper entitled “**Strategic Considerations for a Canadian Indigenous Languages Act**”, with Metis-specific recommendations regarding the development of the Act. Canada has included Michif Language in its legislation for the preservation of Indigenous Languages. Various Michif Language classes are held across the province. The combination of the Pathways to Success Program, Aboriginal Skills Employment and Training Strategy, and the Hydro Training Program led to the establishment of the **Metis Employment and Training (MET)/Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy Agreement (ASETS)**.

**Pemmican Publications** – Canada’s eminent Metis Publishing House with a mandate to promote Metis authors and stories.

## HOUSING

The MMF Housing Department had programs in place prior to TSN, but there have been significant initiatives that TSN was involved in:

- ∞ TSN assisted in the **development of a housing framework** that complimented Canada’s commitment to a **Metis Nation Housing Strategy**. The framework outlined a series of priority action areas for implementation to provide for short - and long-term planning by the MMF, stakeholders and partners in relation to housing. Canada and the MMF signed a multimillion-dollar Housing Agreement
- ∞ Metis Housing Development, Inc. – established in 1987
- ∞ Community Housing Managers of Manitoba – established in 1999
- ∞ Affordable Housing Initiative – 2006
- ∞ Aboriginal Skills & Training Strategic Investments Fund – 2009
- ∞ National Conference on Ending Homelessness and the Homelessness Partnering Strategy Information Session. Provided a literature review on Housing and Homelessness

## CITIZENSHIP

Database and enumeration is key to all that the Manitoba Metis Government does is based on the needs and voice of its Metis Citizens:

- ∞ **Central Registry Office (CRO)** – In 2017, the CRO received the results of the MMF Census Survey. TSN conducted statistical analysis and a report on the Manitoba Metis Community Census Survey results.
- ∞ MMF Membership and Needs Assessment Survey, which formulated the MMF’s Membership Policy
- ∞ Provincial Registry
- ∞ MMF Citizenship Database
- ∞ **MMF Citizenship Policies** established in 2009, with reforms made to the application process and procedures in 2011.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

- ∞ **Metis Child and Family Services Authority** – the devolution of Child and Family Services from the Province of Manitoba to the Metis Nation
- ∞ Creation of the Metis Child and Family Services Agency
- ∞ In 2000, the signing of the MOU between the MMF and the Province of Manitoba
- ∞ Metis Child and Family Support Services Program Pilot in 1982
- ∞ Metis Family & Community Institute
- ∞ Metis submission to the Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry – 2013
- ∞ Analytical review of the Royal Commission of Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP) and the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry (AJI) – Child Welfare Initiative

- ∞ The Government of Manitoba initiated a process of conducting a **review of the legislation that guides Manitoba's child welfare system**. The Metis Child and Family Services Legislative Reform Community Consultations held in 2018 provided the MMF and the Government of Manitoba with the opportunity to develop an enhanced awareness of the current issues in the child and family services (CFS) system in Manitoba in relation to the Metis. **TSN developed the document entitled Metis Child and Family Services Legislative Reform Community Consultations: What Was Heard, which presented the recommendations flowing from the Manitoba Metis Community in relation to CFS**

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TSN's work over the years in relation to Housing; Children, Youth and Families; and Education, Culture and Heritage have all had components related to economic development.

- ∞ Louis Riel Capital Corporation – established 1992
- ∞ Manitoba Metis Community Investments – 1992
- ∞ Build a Business Program
- ∞ MMF Procurement Policy
- ∞ MMF Communications Strategy to best address Metis business development
- ∞ Manitoba Metis Economic Development Fund
- ∞ Manitoba Metis Economic Strategy
- ∞ Manitoba Metis Economic Organization

TSN also conducts work in areas that do not necessarily fall under one of its five pillars. These include the following topics:

*Divestiture of Community Pastures Program:* TSN continues to examine the Community Pastures Program by carrying out research and development throughout the community on the impacts of the Program. Aside from on-going research, TSN is working with the MMF Consultation Unit and legal to ensure the voices of the Metis Citizens of Manitoba are heard prior to the divestiture process and the establishment of any land entitlement on any of the pasture lands.

*Archival Program:* TSN has examined options for the implementation of an archival plan to manage all valuable historic and contemporary information held by the MMF.

*Metis Residential Schools and Sixties Scoop Files:* TSN has been responsible for connecting to Metis Citizens who have

been a part of this tragic history in our Manitoba Metis Community for the past 11 years.

There has been so much more work accomplished in TSN over the years than there is even room to note, and I want to thank each past Minister of TSN and every one of the past Associate Ministers who have been a part of the TSN Steering Committee. To all the dedicated team members that made this incredible department the success that it was over the 31 years – THANK YOU!







# Agriculture

## MMF Portfolio

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### MINISTER ∞ Jean Desrosiers



Metis farmers have played an important role in the Manitoba Agriculture Industry since the province's entry into confederation. As the Minister responsible for Agriculture, Jean Desrosiers made it his goal to ensure that our Community's interests were considered in all provincial policies brought forward. The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) would like to thank Minister Desrosiers for his involvement and dedication to this portfolio and his work to diligently ensure that all agricultural issues were handled with the attention they deserve. A few developments within the portfolio include:

#### **PRE-FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/ TERRITORIAL AGRICULTURE MINISTERS MEETING**

In preparation for meetings between federal, provincial, and territorial Agriculture Ministers—scheduled to take place on July 17–19, 2019 in Quebec City, QC—Manitoba Agriculture held a “Consultation” on June 20, 2019, with Manitoba stakeholders in Portage la Prairie, MB, to discuss issues to bring forth to the national meetings. While the MMF does not consider this meeting to constitute formal consultation with the Metis Nation’s Manitoba Metis Community, MMF Staff attended to listen in on what items were being discussed. Major topics of discussion included: Economic Growth; Provincial Protein Strategies; Business Risk Management; Labour Issues; Regulatory Agendas; Animal Health; and, Emergency Planning. Information gathered will be used to help guide potential agriculture related initiatives undertaken by the MMF moving forward, with an intention to become more involved in the Manitoba Agriculture Industry so as to best represent our Citizens involved in the industry.

#### **BISON HERD**

The MMF continues its partnership to maintain a bison herd in Rosa, MB. The herd consists of ten bison, including one bull, one mature cow, two heifers, and six calves. We continue to maintain the herd so that we may harvest the animals for food, cultural, and educational purposes. Opportunities to utilize the herd for educational purposes are being explored, as well as opportunities to improve the livelihood of our animals. The MMF will continue working with our partners to support our bison as the herd serves as a valuable teaching tool for our youth and helps sustain a resource our ancestors were so reliant on historically.

For further questions concerning the Agriculture portfolio, you may contact the **Natural Resources Department** or **Connor Staub, Harvesting Officer**, by phone at **204-586-8474, ext. 340**, or by email at **connor.staub@mmf.mb.ca**.

**The MMF continues its partnership to maintain a bison herd in Rosa, MB. The herd consists of 10 bison, including: 1 bull, 1 mature cow, 2 heifers and 6 calves.**



# Culture & Heritage

## MMF Portfolio

### MINISTER ∞ Alfred Anderson



As the Minister responsible for the Culture and Heritage Portfolio, it is my pleasure to continue to work on promoting Metis culture throughout the Manitoba Metis Community. I believe Metis culture can be preserved through bringing youth and elders together to engage in traditional activities, particularly music and dance. It is my vision to create a calendar of cultural events taking place throughout the regions that specifies dates, locations, entertainers, number of people attending, and contact information for organizers. This calendar will provide support to the regions and their Locals, and promote Metis-specific entertainers.

I will continue to support all regions and Locals in the planning and promoting events and pursuing initiatives that will ensure our culture and heritage are preserved and celebrated. I have been involved in many cultural events in past years, including:

#### SANTA CLAUS PARADE

On November 17, 2018, the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) participated in the Winnipeg Santa Claus Parade, Winnipeg's longest running

free community event. The MMF's float placed among the top four, showcasing Metis jigging on the flat deck and the MMF leadership greeting the parade-goers.

#### SELKIRK INDIGENOUS DAY CELEBRATION

On June 21, 2019, the annual free Indigenous Day celebration took place at Selkirk Park from 9am to 7pm. This celebration has occurred for the last 14 years and was a huge hit with over 2,000 attendees and 11 live performances. Over 150 Metis flags were setup along Main Street and in Selkirk Park. The celebration included educational and departmental booths, a free pancake breakfast, a free barbecue, and fun activities such as hide stretching, bounce-a-roos, and a petting zoo. Over 100 volunteers made this free event possible and most importantly, this celebration showcased Metis youth serving Metis Elders.



## LOWER FORT GARRY CANADA DAY CELEBRATION

On July 1, 2019, the Canada Day Celebration took place at the Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site for the second year in a row. Parks Canada hosted the event and partnered with the MMF to provide a fun-filled day for 1,750 people. The celebration consisted of guided tours, games, face-painting, and dancing. As a result of this partnership with Parks Canada, our Metis flag will be permanently flying at Lower Fort Garry. This is history in the making!

## SELKIRK RODEO PARADE

On Saturday, July 13, 2019, the MMF participated in the Selkirk Triple S Fair and Rodeo Parade. With the help of the Interlake Metis Association, and the Selkirk, Stonewall, St. Laurent, and Kinew Locals, the MMF float made its

appearance in front of 10,000 people who lined the Selkirk streets. Out of 72 floats the MMF float took first place, displaying jigging, live music, and the MMF leadership welcoming the parade-goers.

## METIS DAYS

Held at the Metis Grounds in St. Laurent, this three-day event is organized by the Father Guy Michif St. Laurent local. 3,000 people attended the event which consisted of a Little Miss Metis Contest, jigging, square dancing, a slow pitch tournament, strong man contest and a mud bog.

I am committed to work on the organization, promotion, and continuation of these and other events in the future.  
Regions helping regions and Locals helping Locals make these events possible.

If there are events within your area that need promotion or if you have any questions regarding the Culture and Heritage portfolio, please reach the **Culture and Heritage Coordinator, Jessica Keena**, via telephone at **204-586-8474**.



FREEDOM 1791  
IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY  
FOR THE ENTHRALLED  
ON THE 21ST OCTOBER 1815  
COUNCIL DR. ROGER STONE AND  
WILLIAM JONES  
15 NOVEMBER 1816



# Environment & Mining

MMF Portfolio

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**MINISTER ∞ Vincent Parenteau**

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ Mildred Dorion**



## ENVIRONMENT

The Metis have historically had close connections to the lands, waters, and environment within our traditional territory. To this day, many Metis Citizens work closely with, and rely strongly on, our environment for day to day livelihood, sustenance, and cultural purposes. It is imperative that the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) works to ensure our environment is protected for ourselves as well as future generations. Without a healthy, sustainable environment, it is not possible to continue many of our traditional social and economic practices or exercise our Metis rights. As the Ministers responsible for Environment, it is our responsibility to ensure that our environment is protected while also ensuring that our rights are not infringed upon. We are committed to working collaboratively with Canada, Manitoba, and other partners to ensure these issues are given the utmost attention. With this in mind, we have been working on a number of environment-related files, including the following:

### METIS NATION-CANADA JOINT TABLE ON CLEAN GROWTH & CLIMATE CHANGE

Since the first meeting in December, 2017, MMF leadership and staff have been involved in the Metis Nation-Canada Joint Table on Clean Growth & Climate Change. The Joint Table was formed to ensure that the Metis Nation plays an active role in the implementation of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth & Climate Change, itself a response to the Paris Agreement, calling for a number of measures to be taken to protect our environment and address climate change issues. The Joint Table consists of representatives from the Métis National Council's five Governing Members and applicable Federal Departments, and allows for dialogue between the Metis Nation and Canada on these issues, ensuring that both sides are fully informed regarding concerns, opportunities, priorities, and programs. A number

of national meetings and teleconferences have been held which have focused on issues such as economic development, accommodation, climate monitoring, education and health. MMF will continue to sit at the Joint Table to bring our Citizens' views forward and ensure we are aware of any emerging opportunities.

### REGIONAL CLIMATE CONSULTATION MEETINGS & SURVEYS

As the democratic representative of the Manitoba Metis Community, it is important that activities undertaken by the MMF are in line with the interests of our Citizens. To help guide our environment and climate-related work moving forward, MMF's Engagement & Consultation Department undertook Climate Consultation Meetings throughout MMF's Seven Regions throughout the summer of 2019, as well as a centralized "Three Pillar Meeting" in March which discussed climate, wildlife, and boreal forest issues. At these meetings, MMF leadership and staff provided presentations on climate change and its impacts, work done to date on these issues, and plans for the future. In-depth surveys were completed and discussions undertaken to collect our Citizens' major concerns and priorities. These meetings were collectively attended by hundreds of Metis Citizens, and MMF staff are currently working to analyze feedback and develop a report which will outline a path forward for MMF's environmental work.

### METIS YOUTH BOREAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (GUARDIANS)

One major aspect of MMF's environmental work is the Metis Youth Boreal Stewardship Program, which is funded under a commitment through Environment and Climate Change Canada's

Indigenous Guardians Pilot Program. Led by the Engagement & Consultation Department, with assistance from the Louis Riel Institute and Metis Employment & Training, the program aims to develop training and educational opportunities in environmental stewardship and conservation work, eventually leading to both direct and indirect employment opportunities. Guided by Community feedback collected during Regional Climate Consultation Meetings, the Program will be developed throughout the 2019-2020 fiscal year, with the intention of having Citizens working on the land by summer 2020.

## METIS COMMUNITY-BASED CLIMATE MONITORING

The second major environmental project being undertaken is the Metis Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program, funded through Canada's Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program. This Program will work hand-in-hand with the Boreal Stewardship Program but will focus on monitoring efforts rather than direct conservation efforts. The exact focus of this monitoring work will be determined through analysis of Community Climate Consultation feedback, with the Program being developed throughout the 2019-2020 fiscal year to be running by summer 2020. To date, MMF has hired a Climate Outreach Officer and Research Assistant to facilitate this work, undertaken community consultation meetings throughout the summer, and began work on analysis of feedback and development of a report to guide efforts moving forward. MMF will ensure our Citizens are aware of all education, training, volunteer, and employment opportunities related to this Program.

## FEDERAL CARBON PRICING BACKSTOP

The Federal government implemented carbon pricing in Manitoba on April 1, 2019, beginning at a rate of \$20/tonne increasing by \$10/tonne annually until it reaches \$50/tonne by 2022. Of these revenues, 90% will be returned to individuals through taxation, while 10% will be distributed through programs



to help small businesses, schools, universities, and Indigenous Communities pursue environmental initiatives. Environmental Canada has notified the Metis Nation Environment Committee that there will be a Metis Nation set aside within the 10%, and the Metis Nation is currently working with Canada to determine how these funds will be allocated.

## FEDERAL REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY PROCESSES

The MMF have been engaged in discussions and consultations with the Federal Government regarding Bills C-68 and C-69, relating to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, the National Energy Board Act, the Fisheries Act, and the Navigation Protection Act. These bills received royal assent on June 21, 2019 and the MMF remains active in ensuring our Community's views are considered on the regulatory changes and guidance documents under the newly created Impact Assessment Act Agency, Canadian Energy Regulator, and the amended Fisheries Act and Navigation Protection Act.

## MINING

Mining activities play a number of roles in the lives of our Citizens. Many of our Northern Citizens reside in areas where mining has been the primary economic driver and source of employment for many years. This has been beneficial

to many Metis families, but the Mining Industry has also led to many negative impacts to our environment which have affected the health and well-being of our Community. Today there are new operations being started across the Province, drawn in by the demand for new resources and products. These operations pose their own unique opportunities and challenges. As the Ministers responsible for Mining, it is our responsibility to ensure that our Community is properly engaged and consulted on any Mining operations across the Province, and that we are able to best utilize opportunities and avoid negative impacts to our Community. Some recent mining files include:

## WANIPIGOW SILICA SAND MINE

Canadian Premium Sand Inc.'s Wanipigow Silica Sand Mine located next to Seymourville, MB, was approved by the Province on May 16, 2019. The 50-year Project seeks to mine silica sand through an open pit, construct a processing plant next to the community, and truck processed sand down Highways 304 and 59. While the Proponent has negotiated an Memorandum of Understanding with Hollow Water First Nation, the MMF was never appropriately engaged or consulted on the Project. The MMF sent letters to the Proponent, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, Manitoba Growth, Enterprise and Trade and Manitoba Sustainable Development

seeking thorough environmental assessment and meaningful engagement and consultation processes with our Community. No official response to our correspondence was ever received from the Province or the Proponent and the MMF officially filed an appeal of the Project License on June 13, 2019.

## **HD MINERALS INC. SILICA SAND EXPLORATION**

HD Minerals Inc. is currently engaging in silica sand exploration activities in southeast Manitoba between Anola and Steinbach. The company is seeking to undertake sand extraction through drill holes rather than an open pit mine, though has yet to fully develop the technology needed to move forward. The MMF contacted HD Minerals following a public news release and have met with the company ensuring the MMF continues to be informed as the project moves forward.

## **LITHIUM MINERAL EXPLORATION**

The MMF has sent letters to New Age Metals Inc. and the Province seeking information and meaningful engagement related to proposed Lithium Mine Exploration Projects in Nopiming Provincial Park. While New Age Metals signed an exploration agreement with Sagkeeng First Nation, the MMF was never notified by either the Proponent or the Crown.

MMF is awaiting further information from the Province of Manitoba regarding other mineral exploration permits, with Manitoba identifying the companies QMC Quantum, Equatorial Exploration and Grid metals. These companies are expected to have lithium mine exploration sites northeast of Lac du Bonnet, MB, on or near Nopiming Provincial Park, however Manitoba has currently not provided appropriate notification or information on these Projects.

## **TUNDRA OIL AND GAS LICENSE APPLICATION**

The MMF received notification from the Province of a Tundra Oil and Gas well exploration application near St. Lazare and the Ellice-Archie Community Pasture. MMF staff met with Provincial officials to discuss the Project as well as the process of consultation between Manitoba Growth Enterprise & Trade and the MMF on oil and gas license application files.

## **HUDBAY NEW BRITANNIA MILL**

Hudbay filed an Environment Act Proposal with Sustainable Development for the refurbishment and expansion of the New Britannia Mill in Snow Lake, MB. The MMF officially responded to the Province of Manitoba regarding the need for full, proper and meaningful consultation with the Manitoba Metis Community. The MMF has also held preliminary

discussions with Hudbay towards negotiating a full, proper and meaningful engagement process with the Manitoba Metis Community on the New Britannia Mill and associated Hudbay Projects. We have had constructive discussions with Hudbay and are moving forward towards exploring economic partnerships as well as employment and training opportunities on all Hudbay projects in Manitoba.

## **LYNN LAKE/ALAMOS GOLD MINE**

The MMF continues engagement with Alamos Gold regarding the proposed gold mine at Lynn Lake. A work plan is currently being negotiated with funding confirmed for community engagement. Potential economic partnership opportunities are being explored for the development and operation of the mine, and MMF will ensure that any potentially impacted Citizens will have a chance to have their concerns heard. The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency has also provided consultation funding to the MMF, to consult our Community and undertake a review of the Environmental Impact Statement, expected in October 2019.

For further questions regarding the **Environment & Mining** portfolio, you may contact **Stephen Howatt, MMF Environment Coordinator**, by phone at **204-586-8474 ext. 329** or by email at **stephen.howatt@mmf.mb.ca**.





# Fisheries

## MMF Portfolio

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### MINISTER ∞ John Parenteau

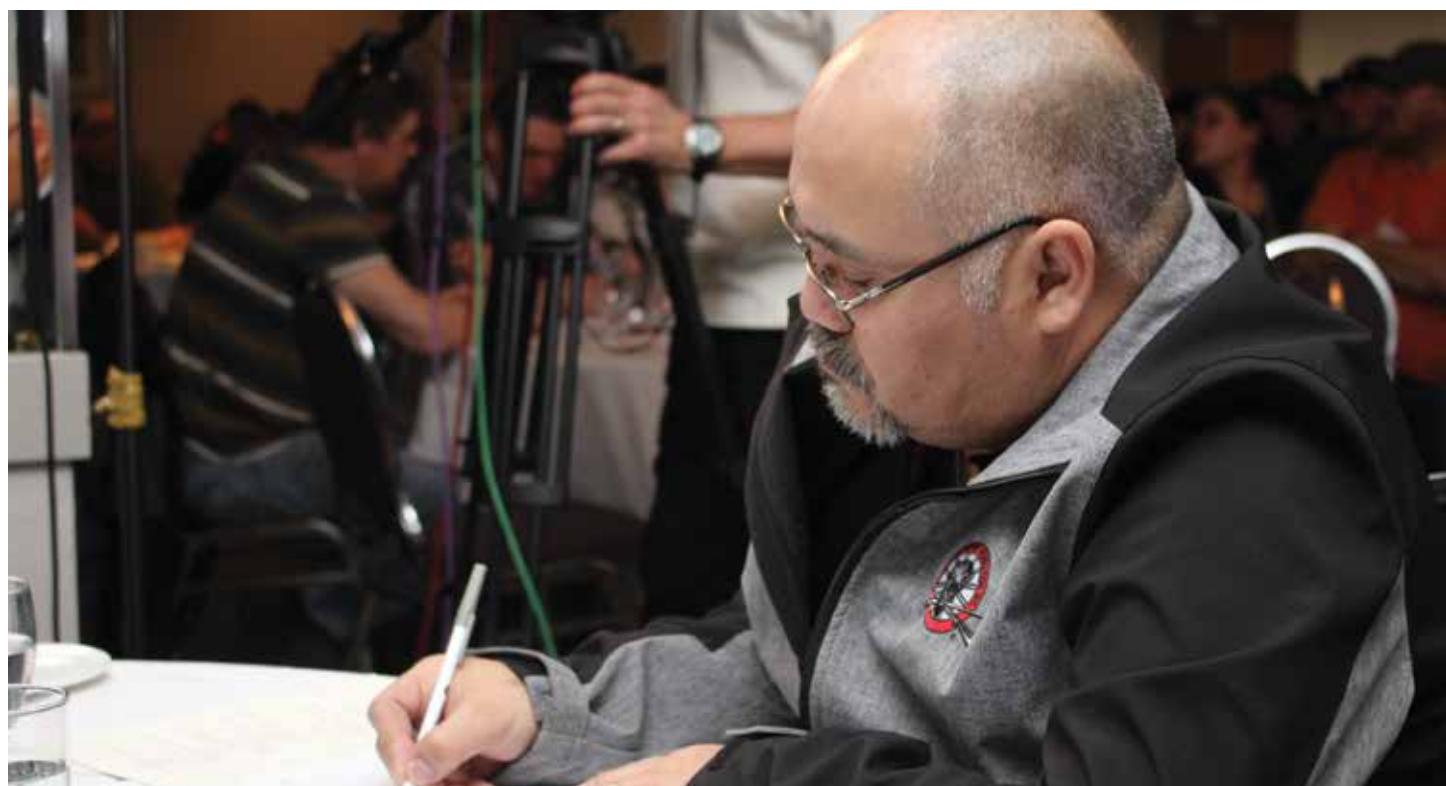


Our Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community has relied on our provincial fisheries since the early days of the Metis Nation. This valuable natural resource has traditionally provided our Community with sustenance and an economic livelihood and continues to serve these roles today. It is imperative that the species and habitats we rely on are protected to ensure the sustainability of these practices, while also ensuring a profitable future for the fishing industry—a balance of environmental and economic interests.

A number of issues in recent years have impacted our fishers and their relationship with the Manitoba fishing industry. The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) is working to keep our Community updated regarding developments within the industry and to ensure their rights and interests are protected. Below are a number of recent files we've been working on related to fisheries.

### COMMERCIAL FISHERS EMERGENCY MEETING

On May 8, 2019, the MMF, in coordination with the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO) Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO), held a Commercial Fishers Emergency Meeting, which consisted of presentations and breakout discussions dealing with the commercial fishing industry. Attendees shared their pressing concerns, including those regarding the Lake Winnipeg quota buy-back option and the new change to fishing mesh size regulations. There is general unease about the future of the industry and therefore a desire to work together to ensure industry sustainability. A report on this meeting is currently being finalized, which will serve as a valuable resource and guide moving forward.



## **TURTLE ISLAND COMMERCIAL FISHERS COOPERATIVE LTD.**

Based on recommendations from our fishers during meetings in 2018, the MMF committed \$100,000 to assist with the development of a province-wide fisheries cooperative. Shortly after, an Interim Board was elected to undertake the first steps to establish the Turtle Island Commercial Fishers Cooperative Ltd. (TICFC). The TICFC, which functions as an entity separate from the MMF, is now moving towards next steps, including electing a Permanent Board, enlisting co-op members, and working with potential buyers and other partners.

## **AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES INITIATIVE**

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) pose a serious threat to our water resources, fishing industry, and local economies. The MMF is committed and has continued to work on developing initiatives that will slow the spread of AIS, especially Zebra Mussels throughout Manitoba. Despite some setbacks, the MMF is moving forward on partnerships with Manitoba Sustainable Development and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to undertake an awareness program, as well as training sessions for our Citizens on watercraft inspection. We will ensure that our Citizens are fully aware of all related opportunities as they develop as this initiative develops.

## **REARING PONDS/FISH HATCHERIES**

Interest in investing in rearing pond and fish hatcheries has been raised during a number of meetings internally and with our Community. While the MMF had previously established rearing ponds near St. Laurent, these were unfortunately damaged by flooding. Due to a lack of funding, their ponds have yet to be restored; however, MMF Staff are currently researching opportunities, including funding, to restore and reestablish these rearing ponds. This work will not only help fish stocks on our lakes, but will provide training and employment opportunities for our Citizens.

## **CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR DAUPHIN LAKE, SASKATCHEWAN RIVER, AND LAKE WINNIPEGOSIS**

There has been a continued lack of proper consultation surrounding Manitoba Sustainable Development's conservation measures on Lake Winnipegosis, Dauphin Lake, and the Saskatchewan River near Grand Rapids. These measures include temporary spawning closures as well as year-round size-based closures. While the MMF is in support of measures which help to ensure the sustainability of our natural resources, it is imperative that our Community is consulted before these measures are put in place. With this in mind, we will defend our Harvesters who are charged due to these measures, provided they are harvesting in accordance to the Metis Laws of the Harvest. The MMF continues to advocate for proper consultation and sufficient notification regarding these closures to ensure that our Community is fully aware of any restrictions with adequate notice.

## **MANITOBA METIS LAKE WINNIPEG BASIN COMMUNITY-BASED MONITORING PROGRAM**

The MMF has been working with the Lake Winnipeg Foundation for the past year on a program funded through Environment Canada's Lake Winnipeg Basin Program, aimed at protecting water resources within the Lake Winnipeg Basin. The MMF has enlisted 21 volunteer Citizen Scientists who have been trained to take water samples throughout the summer and fall, which will be used to measure phosphorous concentrations throughout the Lake Winnipeg Basin and determine major sources of the potentially harmful nutrient. In addition, the MMF has met with representatives of the Centre for Earth Observation Science (CEOS) regarding their own work surrounding the Lake Winnipeg Basin. The program would provide further training and volunteer opportunities for our Citizens, including collecting fish and water samples and providing maintenance work

on meteorological stations. In addition, the MMF has met with representatives of the Centre for Earth Observation Science (CEOS) regarding their work around the Lake Winnipeg Basin.

## **REPAYMENT OF METIS FISHERS**

Following the provinces move to an open fisheries market in 2017, four fisheries (Waterhen Winter Fisheries Inc., Eddystone Fisheries Co-op Ltd.; Ashern Fisheries Co-op; and, Dawson Bay Fish Packers Ltd.) sold fish to private buyers Northern Walleye Inc. and Schafers Fisheries. The four sheds never received payment, being owed upwards of one million dollars collectively. Shortly after, President Chartrand announced that the MMF would repay Metis Commercial Fishers the outstanding monies owed to them. The MMF completed payment for these fishers in early 2019.

For further questions concerning the **Fisheries portfolio**, you may contact **Minister John Parenteau** or **Connor Staub, Harvesting Officer**, by phone at **(204) 586-8474 ext. 340**, or by email at **connor.staub@mmf.mb.ca**.





# French Language/Langue française

MMF Portfolio/Portefeuille de la FMM

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## MINISTER ∞ Jean Desrosiers/MINISTRE ∞ Jean Desrosiers



The new portfolio of French Language will undertake activities to improve services for French-speaking Metis Citizens. Across three decades of involvement with the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) and the Southeast Region, Minister Jean Desrosiers prioritized education and language resurgence as key goals in the advancement of Metis culture, rights and well-being. It was very clear that this work was close to Minister Desrosiers' heart and community.

It is with sadness that we learned of Minister Desrosiers' passing in May of this year. Minister Desrosiers had attained the great respect of his cabinet and President. He was a man who always defended the views of his Region and made its Citizens a priority. We will miss him and his conviction. May we all, in our own special way, send prayers to his family and true partner in life – his wife Edith.

Over the past year, the groundwork has been laid for this portfolio through a publication Agreement with *La Liberté*, Manitoba's French language newspaper; the establishment of two dedicated translator roles within the MMF's Communications department; the translation of the Framework on Advancing Reconciliation with the federal government; and collaboration on Louis Riel Day celebrations at the Saint Boniface Museum.

The French Language portfolio's re-establishment of in-house translation services for the MMF has allowed the dissemination of information in both Official Languages. The portfolio actively engages French-speaking Metis Citizens on their priorities and needs.

Le nouveau portefeuille de la Langue française entreprendra des activités dans le but d'améliorer les services offerts aux citoyens métis francophones. Au cours de ses trois décennies d'engagement auprès de la Fédération Métisse du Manitoba (FMM) et de la région du Sud-Est, le ministre Jean Desrosiers a fait de l'éducation et de la résurgence de la langue des objectifs clés pour l'avancement de la culture, des droits et du bien-être des Métis. Il est clair que ce travail lui tenait à cœur et que cette question préoccupait le plus sa communauté.

Malheureusement, il nous a quitté au mois de mai de cette année. Ce dernier avait mérité le grand respect de son Cabinet ainsi que celui du président et il s'agissait d'un homme qui avait toujours défendu le point de vue de sa région et qui avait fait de ses citoyens une priorité. Sa présence et son enthousiasme nous manqueront. Puissions-nous tous, à notre manière, envoyer des prières à sa famille et à son véritable partenaire, sa femme Edith.

Au cours des 12 derniers mois, le terrain de ce portefeuille a été préparé grâce à une entente de publication avec le journal francophone du Manitoba, *La Liberté*, à la création de deux postes de traducteurs spécialisés au sein du service des communications de la FMM, à la traduction de l'entente-cadre en vue de favoriser la réconciliation conclue avec le gouvernement fédéral et à la collaboration aux célébrations du jour de Louis Riel, lesquelles ont été tenues au Musée de Saint-Boniface.

Le rétablissement par ce portefeuille des services internes de traduction a permis la diffusion de l'information dans les deux langues officielles et de nouer le dialogue avec les citoyens métis francophones dans le but d'établir leurs priorités et leurs besoins.



# Metis Rights & Constitution

MMF Portfolio

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## MINISTER ∞ Judy Mayer



The Constitution, Metis Rights, Metis Nation Agenda and Governance ministerial portfolio provides the foundation for nearly all Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) departments and activities. The portfolio interacts and has a direct relationship with nearly all other ministerial portfolios.

This portfolio has been a critical player in ushering in the new Distinctions-Based, Nation-to-Nation, and Government-to-Government approach to our relationship with Canada.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT RESOLUTIONS

As the MMF continues to build upon our new relationship with Canada, our Constitution must evolve to represent the ever-changing political and legal landscape. The MMF recognizes the role a strong constitution plays in the building of our Manitoba Metis Government. Our Constitution is what all of our institutions rely upon to flourish and exist. Over time it will incorporate amendments that reflect the growth of our Metis Government.

This year, I have worked hard alongside other Ministers and staff to find areas of the MMF Constitution that need strengthening. Moving forward, I will continue to work closely with President Chartrand as well as my other colleagues.

This year we identified two sets of resolutions to bring forward. For this year's Annual General

Assembly, on behalf of our government, I am bringing forward two resolutions, while Minister Leah LaPlante is bringing forward one.

### CITIZEN CARD REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

My first proposed resolution further formalizes the MMF Citizenship card process and makes clear that only those individuals who have obtained a valid Citizenship card may serve as an elected representative. Metis Governance and participation in self-government is a right that must be protected. We must ensure our self-government is for Manitoba Metis and by Manitoba Metis.

The second resolution that I am proposing is closely linked to the first, which is to make the necessary changes to the election bylaw and the local bylaw to require elected representatives at the Presidential, Regional, and Local Executive to have a valid Citizenship Card in order to serve as part of our Metis Government.

### METIS HARVESTING TRIBUNAL AND THE METIS HARVESTING APPEAL TRIBUNAL

I have also been working closely with Ministers Leah LaPlante and Julyda Lagimodiere on the proposed constitutional amendments for the establishment of the Metis Harvesting Tribunal and the Metis Harvesting Appeal Tribunal. These will be the institutions for dealing with infractions of the Metis Laws of the Harvest. This resolution

**As the MMF continues to build upon our new relationship with Canada, our Constitution must evolve to represent the ever-changing political and legal landscape.**



will be brought forward to this year's Annual General Assembly by Minister LaPlante who is responsible for Natural Resources and Citizenship.

After the Commission on the Metis Laws of the Hunt made its recommendations back in 2002, there was the call for Metis harvester identification cards, laws, management, and means for giving back to nature, such as the trust fund. We have been working on establishing and refining those recommendations. It was also said that we need our own policing and our own tribunals. These two tribunals will help us protect our right to Harvest. Historically our Ancestors had rules and customs, some unwritten and some committed to paper, along with ways to enforce those laws. With these tribunals we are continuing to follow the traditions of our Ancestors.

## PROTECTING OUR IDENTITY

Determining who can become a Citizen of the Metis Nation is crucial in protecting our culture and identity. Obtaining Citizenship cards require the applicant to prove their Citizenship in the Manitoba Metis Community through three steps: self-identification, genealogical connection, and community acceptance. Maintaining the integrity of our Citizenship is crucial to protecting our

identity as a Metis Nation and the rights that come with being a Citizen of the Metis Nation.

This past year the MMF has been protecting our right to define who we are and what our Metis Nation Homeland is. There are some who wrongly believe that the Metis Nation goes into eastern Ontario and Quebec. We say that these people are not only wrong but vandals who are destroying our history and our future. We must be vigilant in protecting our identity and the integrity of our Citizenship.

A critical step in determining Citizenship is to ensure the applicant's Ancestors are from the Metis Nation Homeland. This means that applicants must have roots that trace back to the Metis Homeland specifically demonstrating connection with the Manitoba Metis Community. The Metis Nation's Homeland stretches from British Columbia in the West, to Northwestern Ontario in the East.

Those who claim to be Metis Communities in Eastern Ontario, Quebec, Labrador, and Nova Scotia, for instance, did not go through the same hardships we did as the true Metis Nation. They cannot take our identity.

## HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE MANITOBA METIS PROTECTOR FUND

This past year there have been situations and court cases where the Human and Civil Rights of Metis people have been impacted. Unfortunately, many countries including Canada are seeing an increase of intolerance for minorities, including sexism and racism, right-wing ideologies, and extremists such as white supremacist organizations. In some cases, it is the decisions and behaviours of government officials that will need to be challenged as impacting our human and civil rights.

One decision from the Supreme Court of Canada in *R. v. Barton* concerned the disturbing murder of an Alberta Metis woman. It is fortunate that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO) was an intervenor at the Supreme Court of Canada. The top court's decision effectively sent the case back down to the lower courts for a retrial.

We must continue to look ahead and identify innovative ways to protect the human and civil rights of our people. Over the past year we have worked with volunteer students from Robson Hall, the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Law, to get their thoughts on the development of

the *Manitoba Metis Protector Fund*. Over the coming year, we will endeavor to develop the Manitoba Metis Protector Fund as an MMF institution to support the protection of our human rights, civil rights, and Indigenous rights. We anticipate receiving a combination of public and private funding, including individual and institutional donations, to support its operation. This Fund will be established through close partnerships with universities, social departments and support organizations, as well as with legal advocacy organizations and legal counsel.

## CLIMATE CHANGE'S EFFECT ON HARVESTING

The Metis Nation's management of traditional lands across our Homeland is an important part of protecting our Harvesting rights. It is becoming apparent that our traditional lands and rights as Metis Nation Citizens, including our right to Harvest, is under attack on two fronts due to our changing climate.

The first front reflects what our people have said many times: What is the use of having the right to harvest if there is nothing to harvest? Climate change is about more than climate. Entire ecosystems including seasons and habitats, as well as species health, lifecycles, and population numbers, will change. We will need to be proactive in regards to protecting and enhancing fish and wildlife. With ideas we have received from our community consultations, we will be developing plans for taking such steps.

On the second front, both federal and provincial governments will make decisions and implement plans about how to address climate change. These decisions will undoubtedly impact our harvesting rights. They will also attempt to encroach into our jurisdiction. This is already happening at the international arena with the United Nation's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as some countries are already

trying to rewrite it to give countries more authority to override Indigenous rights. On both fronts, we will be vigilant and proactive.

## PROVINCIAL BOUNDARIES EFFECT ON HARVESTING

Provincial boundaries and jurisdictions are an artificial obstruction to our right to Harvest. The Metis Nation's Homeland extends far past today's provincial boundaries. Moving forward, we will explore options with our other Métis National Council Governing Members, or their Regions, to the West and East of Manitoba. Our goal is to expand our right to Harvest further north outside the current zone as well as outside of provincial boundaries. We will use our traditional territorial boundaries, so that it truly represents our Nation's jurisdiction and our People's culture.

## IN CONCLUSION

Working with my colleagues, I will develop a strategic and coordinated approach as we continue to expand our Manitoba Metis Government. This portfolio that I have both the responsibility and the honour to hold, plays an important role in that progress of self-government. I have only touched upon some of the highlights in this report. For more information on the Ministry of Constitution, Metis Rights, Metis Nation Agenda & Governance, please feel free to contact me, Vice-President and Minister Judy Mayer at The Pas Regional Office.

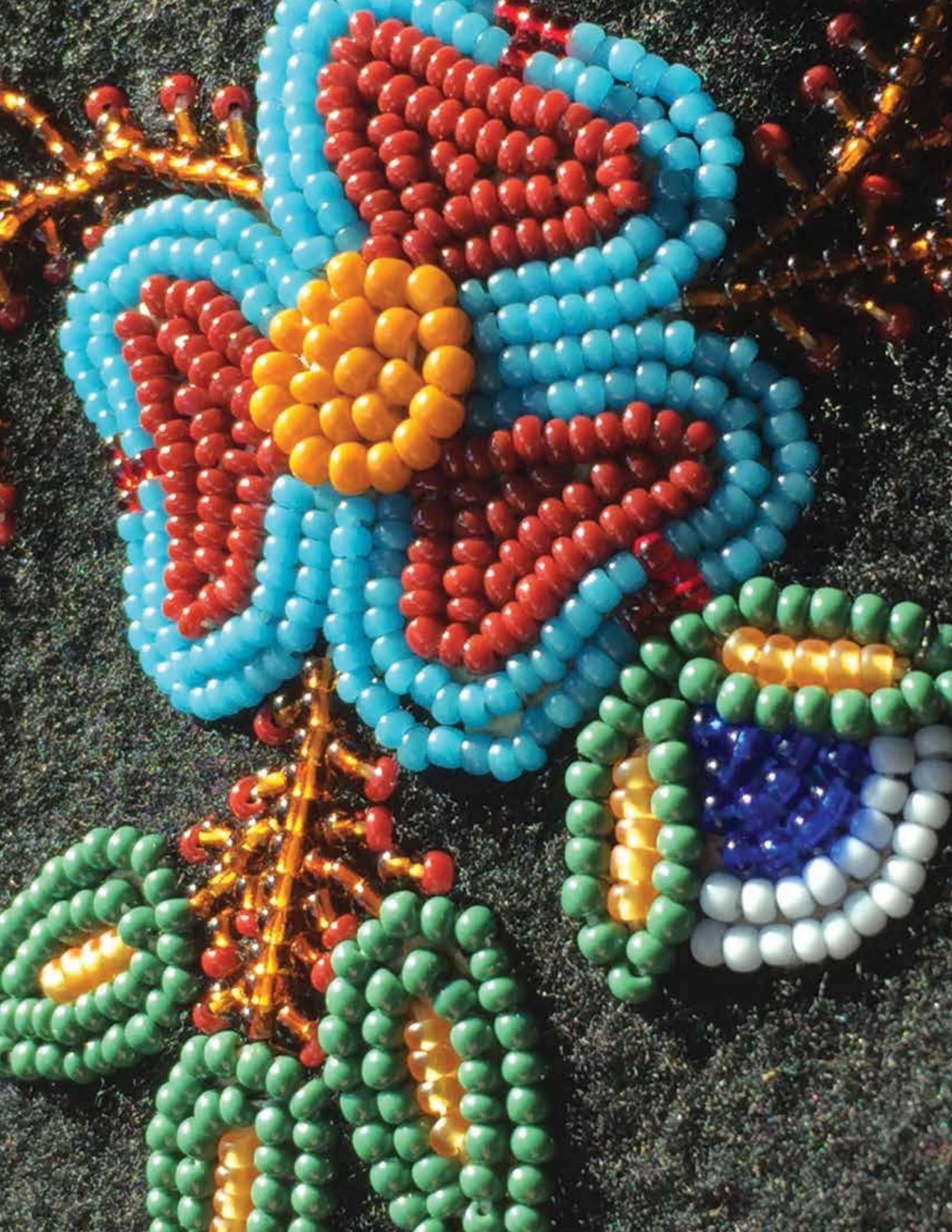
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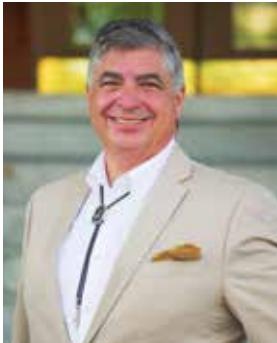




# Michif Language

## MMF Portfolio

### MINISTER ∞ Andrew Carrier



The 2018-2019 year has seen some excellent Michif initiatives happening throughout the province. The following initiatives are the result of the work of, and partnering with, Elders, speakers, language teachers, grassroots organizations, universities, the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) and the Louis Riel Institute (LRI).

#### **LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE – ILLUSTRATED SERIES OF MICHIF CHILDREN’S BOOKS**

The LRI is excited to be in the third year of the three-year project funded by the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund. We are creating a beautiful set of six illustrated Michif children’s books on Metis culture. The project has five out of the six stories written, each based on stories told to Norman Fleury by his grandparents. The full-colour pages will also feature language learning tips and illustrated vocabulary sidebars.

The illustrations by Nicole LeClair are expected to be completed by November. These books will have audio capacity with YouTube access so that they may be used to teach and learn the Michif language.

#### **UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA – MICHIF I LANGUAGE COURSE**

Laura Forsythe, the University of Manitoba (U of M) Metis Inclusion Coordinator, has worked tirelessly in a position funded by the MMF to develop a Michif I course which was approved as a pilot by the university. Over the past year, Laura brought on Heather Souter, a Michif Speaker, learner, and adult teacher who holds a Masters in Education and Indigenous Languages, who will develop and teach a spring session course. Leading up to the course, five community sessions were held once a month on Saturdays, with over 100 participants overall.

The pilot of Michif I saw 10 individuals complete the course in an intensive 39-hour course in June. The success has meant another Michif I class will run this fall at the U of M with 25 spots available. Free community-based classes will also continue throughout September and November 2019.

#### **BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION**

Verna DeMontigny taught Michif off-campus for the Brandon School Division, and taught classroom sessions for 3 kindergarten classrooms. She will continue teaching the Michif language in the coming 2019-2020 school year, including increased classroom sessions with kindergarten classes.

#### **PRAIRIES TO WOODLANDS INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION CIRCLE**

This grassroots group has been funded by the Indigenous Languages Initiative for two years running, to deliver the Master-Apprentice program.

The program includes skills training workshops, language working groups and master-apprentice pairs. At present, there are three southern Michif teams, two Saulteaux teams, and one Cree team. The master-apprentice style has proven to be one of the most successful ways to teach adults a language.

Heather Souter, the lead on this program, has 15 years’ experience in language revitalization, and has her Masters in Language Education. Verna DeMontigny, Elder, speaker, and language teacher, provides guidance to the participants and is also one of the master speakers paired up with an apprentice in the program.

The Prairies to Woodlands group was also granted two National Research Council grants for Indigenous language technology, to provide for the ability to teach with the latest equipment in language revitalization.

The development of the Prairie to Woodlands Language Revitalization Circle includes an online Michif course, its release date currently to be announced. Development will also include digitizing and expanding the Michif Dictionary: Turtle Mountain Chippewa Cree, in English-to-Michif and Michif-to-English, with grammatical information, recordings, and example sentences. It will be available online and as an app.

### **ST. LAURENT MICHIF-FRENCH WORKING GROUP**

The St. Laurent Michif-French working group meets weekly to create resources and lessons in Michif-French. In the past, they developed the first Michif-French

dictionary with help from a linguist to create the spelling system used. They are currently adding to the Michif-French dictionary, which they self-publish through their own fundraising projects.

The group is working with both the English and French schools and the Head Start program in St. Laurent, Manitoba, and have developed a curriculum and the resources required to teach eight units on cultural topics, as required. They also hold workshops in the community that combine cultural teachings like medicine picking, traditional cooking, and sewing, with language learning.

**The LRI is excited to be in the third year of the three-year project funded by the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund. We are creating a beautiful set of six illustrated Michif children's books on Metis culture.**



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# Provincial Education

MMF Portfolio

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**MINISTER ∞ Joan Ledoux**

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ David Beaudin**



## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

As an affiliate of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF), the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) is helping address the culture and education objectives within the MMF Strategic plan. The LRI will be reviewing its own strategic plan and has already started restructuring to accommodate for more provincial education initiatives.

## MMF'S DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN EDUCATION AWARD

This award is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions or achievements in education for the Metis people of Manitoba. Last year was the 10th Anniversary of the award, and the winner was Hilda Dysart. Hilda is from Thompson and has worked with Frontier School Division at Oscar Blackburn School for 35 years. Previously, she served on the Oscar Blackburn School Committee for 11 years. Hilda Dysart's community efforts are well known and very much appreciated.

The LRI presented its first Ally Award, which was awarded to Lawrie Barkwell for his continued commitment to the MMF. Lawrie was a deserving recipient of this award having made outstanding contributions to the preservation and promotion of Metis history and culture across the Metis Nation. Lawrie was awarded an honorary MMF Citizenship in 1990, and he authored milestone reports for the MMF prior to becoming an employee in 2003. He has dedicated nearly a lifetime of exemplary service to the Metis Community, and continues to volunteer at the LRI on a regular basis. Currently, Lawrie is mentoring a Metis scholar with whom he is sharing his knowledge.



## PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES (HIGHLIGHTS)

- ∞ Blueprint for Indigenous Education Steering Committee – The Blueprint for Indigenous Education was signed in December 2015. As a representative of the Implementation Committee, the LRI ensures Metis education will be highlighted and Metis students will benefit. The implementation plan has been under way for a year and a half.
- ∞ Aboriginal Circle of Educators (ACE) – The LRI has a representative on this council. Their annual meeting took place in February. Four Metis educators won an ACE award including Lawrie Barkwell (ally), Joel Boyce, Laura Forsythe, and Patsy Miller (posthumously).
- ∞ Child Care Qualifications and Training Committee (CCQTC) – The LRI has a representative on this committee, which oversees standards and reviews applications for training programs.
- ∞ Aboriginal Education Research Forum (AERF) – The MMF, through the LRI, has been an active partner in AERF by recruiting Metis presenters and entertainers, and providing guidance and direction to ensure a strong Metis voice. A representative from the LRI co-chaired the program committee. The conference was held on May 27th and 28th with presentations by Lawrie Barkwell, Norman Fleury, Laura Forsythe, Heather Souter, Elders Oliver Boulette, Ernie Samatte, and Verna DeMontigny.
- ∞ Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) Indigenous Education Working Group (IEWG) – Representatives from the Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations (TSN) department and the LRI ensure Metis content is included in all school programs, including the Residential Schools program, and the Indigenous Rights program. The LRI also developed a Metis Rights Tour, with the CMHR providing feedback during its development.
- ∞ Manitoba Aboriginal Language Strategy (MALS) – This committee meets quarterly to discuss language issues.

## NATIONAL COMMITTEES

- ∞ Library and Archives Canada – A representative from the Gabriel Dumont Institute and one from the Louis Riel Institute represent the Metis Nation. Both names were put forth by the Métis National Council (MNC) President Clément Chartier. One of the initiatives of Library and Archives Canada is the Digitization Call for Proposals, and the LRI and the MMF have both submitted separate (but connecting) proposals.



## **POST-SECONDARY ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

- ∞ University of Manitoba – President’s Advisory Council on Indigenous Issues
- ∞ University of Winnipeg – Indigenous Advisory Circle
- ∞ Red River College – RRC/MMF/LRI Working Group
- ∞ Red River College – RRC Education Strategic Council

## **FINANCIAL AID & AWARDS**

The MMF’s endowment fund is now over \$24 million. The LRI, in partnership with post-secondary institutions, administers the endowment through Louis Riel Bursaries. The LRI also provides direct information and assistance to individuals and groups looking for financial aid and award information on scholarships, bursaries and other sources of funding for post-secondary education. The following chart shows the endowment statistics for 2018-19. Both the University College of the North (UCN) and Assiniboine

Community College (ACC) contributed money to their funds and the MMF matched it. Although ACC did not have awards this year, they anticipate a substantial amount to be available for Metis students.

**The MMF’s endowment fund is now over \$24 million. The LRI, in partnership with post-secondary institutions, administers the endowment through Louis Riel Bursaries. The LRI also provides direct information and assistance to individuals and groups looking for financial aid and award information on scholarships, bursaries and other sources of funding for post-secondary education.**

Post-Secondary Institute	Number of Applicants	Number of Awards	Total Award Value
Assiniboine Community College	N/A	N/A	N/A
Brandon University	27	27	\$79,500
Red River College	39	34	\$34,000
University College of the North	9	6	\$14,653
University of Manitoba	268	165	\$354,475
University of St. Boniface	44	37	\$84,300
University of Winnipeg	108	75	\$176,500
	495	344	\$743,428



# Residential Schools

## MMF Portfolio

### MINISTER ∞ Andrew Carrier



The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Residential and Day School portfolio addresses issues surrounding the impact of having attended mission-run day schools on Metis students. Metis Survivors of the Residential and Day School system continue to call the MMF for information, advice and/or assistance, and to learn about what services are available from the MMF. In addition, many Survivors come in to tell their stories, so that "someone knows" what happened. All calls and meetings regarding residential schools and the Sixties Scoop inquiries are being referred and attended to by Georgina Liberty – TSN (Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations Department) Director.

The University of Manitoba is the site for the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions National Research Centre (NCR). Minister Carrier is a member on the NRC Governing Circle. Elder Norman Meade is the Metis representative for the Survivors' Circle.

In November 2014, the MMF signed a memorandum of understanding with Mr. Israel Ludwig, legal counsel for DD West LLP, for Survivors of residential schools to pursue legal action on an individual case-by-case basis. The MMF is aware that approximately 30 Metis School Survivors have decided to proceed with legal action.

In January 2017, the MMF Louis Riel Institute and the United Way partnered to bring *Forgotten: The Metis Residential School Experience* exhibit to the

United Way Winnipeg. The exhibit created by The Legacy of Hope Foundation documents and gives voice to the many Metis children who were forced to attend residential and day schools.

### MCLEAN SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR INDIAN DAY SCHOOLS

This McLean Settlement Agreement announcement has created confusion for our Metis Citizens as there are statements that imply this settlement includes Metis students – **IT DOES NOT.**

On March 12, 2019, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, Carolyn Bennett announced an out-of-court Settlement with class members in relation to Canada's establishment and funding of federal Indian Day Schools.

As part of the Settlement, Canada is providing compensation from harms associated with attending day schools. A baseline harm for claims has been established in which those who attended would receive a single payment reflecting the harm suffered, irrespective of the number of schools attended. The Settlement Agreement must be approved by the Federal Court before Survivor class members can begin making applications for compensation. The Settlement Agreement also proved a Legacy Fund that will be used to support commemoration projects, health and wellness projects, and language and cultural initiatives. This fund is also subject to approval from the Federal Court.

**The University of Manitoba is the site for the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions National Research Centre (NCR). Minister Carrier is a member on the NRC Governing Circle. Elder Norman Meade is the Metis representative for the Survivors' Circle.**

In April 2019, the TSN received two letters regarding the Indian Day School Class Action. One was a general letter to a potential claimant of the class action (the claimant letter) and the other was addressed to the leadership of an Indigenous organization or government (the leadership letter). Both letters provide a synopsis of the class action, the current status of the settlement agreement, and information on the Settlement Approval Hearing taking place in Winnipeg in May. While the two letters are similar in structure and content, there are concerning differences to the MMF.

The language and content of the two letters is similar, and in some cases identical. The letters are clearly meant and created for mass distribution;

however, there are some differences in the written content that makes each one distinguishable. The leadership letter states that “Canada” will provide compensation to eligible Survivor class members, but it does not define the eligible members of the class. The claimant letter defines members of the eligible class as “all individuals who attended an Indian Day School, including First Nations, Inuit, and Metis, without exception, are class members in the McLean action”. In order to be a class member, the individual must have attended an approved Indian Day School listed within the Settlement Agreement.

TSN continues to receive calls from Citizens who attended provincially funded and administered day schools,

which are not part of the Settlement Agreement. The Agreement only applies to schools that were federally funded and administered. Most Metis Citizens attended provincial schools in which the levels of abuse and trauma are identical to the federal schools named in the Settlement Agreement, yet these provincial schools remain excluded. There are concerns that many of our Metis Citizens call the MMF regarding the disconnect with the McLean Settlement Agreement for Indian Day Schools and the potential implications it has for Metis Citizens.







# Riel House

## MMF Portfolio

### MINISTER ∞ Andrew Carrier



The 2019 season has been busy, with activities including interpretive tours, school programming, and special events at the Riel House National Historic Site. At the time of this report, visitor numbers for the 2019 season look to be topping 2018 attendance. In May and June, Riel House Interpreters delivered programming to 19 schools with 732 participants, an increase of 100 over last year. Total numbers of public visitors for the season are not available at this time.

The new Coordinator, Janelle Poiron, previously with the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) for several summers, worked with our lead Interpreter and six other staff to run a very smooth program. Four Riel House Interpreters started their training at the beginning of May.

A new task for our staff this season was to plant and maintain the large garden and the kitchen garden. The Manitoba Master Gardeners helped to plan and prep the gardens, and mentored our staff. Parks Canada provided tools, seeds, and built a rabbit fence for the garden. This was an excellent learning experience for all.

The Thursday Night Soirées were coordinated by Patti Kusturok. New features this year were staff-led jigging and beading lessons. Beading has proven to be the most popular. Metis Locals were also offered a chance to fundraise by selling hot dogs at the events, which has been a win-win. The Soirées are now attracting 150–200 attendees each week. Each year the attendance has grown steadily.

LRI has added a portable dance floor, built by staff and volunteers with funding provided through Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP) last winter. LRI is also slowly adding to the historic clothing collection, but we are mostly still borrowing items from Parks Canada to top up our collection. Unfortunately, their collection is in poor repair and not being replaced.

Parks Canada is doing renovations on the roof, eaves and soffits at Riel House this fall. We hope a new fence will be installed this spring, as it is in very poor shape.

The Annual Metis Harvest Corn Roast took place August 24th, with over 400 guests attending.





# Sixties Scoop

## MMF Portfolio

### MINISTER ∞ Denise Thomas



#### OVERVIEW

The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Sixties Scoop portfolio addresses issues surrounding the impact of Metis children adopted into non-Indigenous families. The "Sixties Scoop" was a child welfare policy developed and implemented by the federal government that involved apprehending Indigenous children from their homes and communities and placing them into predominantly middle-class Euro-Canadian families nationally and internationally. From 1951 to 1991, the recognized time frame which we consider the "Sixties Scoop", Metis children were apprehended from their families by child-welfare services and placed with non-Indigenous families. Adoptees of the Sixties Scoop continue to call the MMF for information, advice and/or assistance to rediscover their identity and reconnect with their biological families.

All calls and meetings regarding Sixties Scoop inquiries are being referred and attended to by Georgina Liberty – TSN Director.

#### PROPOSED FIRST NATIONS & INUIT NATIONAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT – SIXTIES SCOOP

In June 2016, class action litigation was launched against Ontario with claimants stating they were the solitary representative for Sixties Scoop children in Canada; the lead counsel for this case was Toronto firm Koskie Minsky LLP. Upon receiving certification, Minister of then- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada Carolyn Bennett, announced an \$800-million financial settlement for children affected by the Sixties Scoop. This settlement is national in scope and

has resolved 18 related lawsuits across Canada (including the Manitoba Class Action lawsuit). The statement of claim (criteria that an individual must meet to be a claimant) did not include Metis within the national settlement but rather only identified First Nations and Inuit as claimants. In response, the MMF drafted a letter that was sent to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) addressing the concerns of Metis Survivors and the Manitoba Metis Community.

#### THE METIS NATION AND CANADA TO RECONCILE THE SIXTIES SCOOP THROUGH NATION-TO-NATION NEGOTIATIONS

On February 26, 2018, MMF President David Chartrand met with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) Minister Carolyn Bennett to discuss reconciliation of the Sixties Scoop. Minister Bennett acknowledged that while the current settlement agreement may resolve the claims of Inuit and First Nations, it does not address or close the chapter for the Metis Nation. On May 23, 2018, the federal government issued a letter to the Métis National Council (MNC) to move negotiations forward on reconciliation. Working Nation-to-Nation, Canada and the Metis Nation will establish a twofold working group that will conduct joint research to inform future discussion, and to engage with knowledge holders, Survivors, communities, and leadership. This process will inform resolution in respect to the requirements of the Metis Nation for healing, wellness, education, language and culture, and commemoration to address the legacy of the Sixties Scoop.

**The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Sixties Scoop portfolio addresses issues surrounding the impact of Metis children adopted into non-Indigenous families.**

## METIS NATION SIXTIES SCOOP SYMPOSIUM

Held in October 2019, the MMF welcomed delegates from across the Metis Nation for a Sixties Scoop Symposium. Métis National Council (MNC) leaders joined Metis Survivors of the Sixties Scoop to share their knowledge and experiences towards reconciliation as Metis Citizens taken from their families during the Sixties Scoop era. The Symposium marked the first of a series of engagements, directed and guided by Survivors to shape the framework for reconciliation with Canada. In addition to the presentations and consultation sessions, the Symposium launched a registration database to connect Metis Survivors with the reconciliation process.

## METIS NATION SIXTIES SCOOP PORTAL

Briefly demonstrated at the Sixties Scoop Symposium, the Metis Nation Sixties Scoop Website Portal and national database was officially launched on December 18, 2018, and is the central hub for Sixties Scoop Survivors across the Metis Homeland. The portal includes information on the Metis Experience of the Sixties Scoop, background on the negotiation process for reconciliation, news, events, and frequently asked questions. To date, over 85 Manitoba Survivors have either contacted the MMF or have utilized the database to register. The TSN and IT Departments continue to work closely with the Métis National Council to ensure that the Portal is always up to date, secure and user friendly for our Citizens. Please visit the website at: [sixties.scoop.metisportals.ca](http://sixties.scoop.metisportals.ca).

## METIS NATION SIXTIES SCOOP ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

Two Engagement Sessions were held in Manitoba during the month of March 2019, the first in Swan River and the second in Winnipeg. Each session extended over three days, and Survivors – the children of the Metis Nation who were taken from their families and are returning home – had an opportunity to

share their life experiences and visions for reconciliation. It is from these Survivors' contributions that the foundation of what reconciliation will look like for our Metis Sixties Scoop Survivors will be derived. It takes courage to share painful experiences, and to revisit a dark era in our Nation's collective history where focused campaigns like "Adopt Indian and Metis" (AIM) took our children from our homes, our families, and our communities. The Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Government is committed to informing a Nation-to-Nation process that will lead to a recognized and proper reconciliation for Metis Nation Sixties Scoop Survivors that is defined by the Survivors. Engagement sessions took place across the Metis Nation Homeland until the end of April 2019.

## METIS NATION MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE GUIDE

The Sixties Scoop can be triggering for some Survivors who recount their experiences. As such, it was determined by the Sixties Scoop Working Group that a manual should be developed that includes health lines and crisis lines should Survivors need them. The resource guide is still in its draft format, and contains information on mental health, the importance of mental health support, what a crisis is, and how to cope with stress. The manual also contains links and contact information for accessing programs/services within each province, as well as provincial crisis/distress lines. While the manual was developed for the use of Survivors, it was also drafted to aid and assist all Metis Citizens.

## CONTACTING AND FINDING OUR METIS SURVIVORS

As the Sixties Scoop portfolio becomes more prominent, the MMF has had a significant increase in Survivors contacting both Home and Regional offices for information. The TSN department continues to meet with Survivors who contact the MMF with inquiries relating to the Sixties Scoop. It also gathers information for our Survivors to answer their queries, provide assistance with the website portal, assists walk-ins who want to have their stories recorded, schedules sit down, one-on-one meetings, and updates or obtains their MMF Citizenship.





# Sports & Youth

MMF Portfolio

## MINISTER ∞ Richard Genaille



We have been very busy building and implementing additional youth programming to include cultural experiences and training through partnerships with Metis Employment & Training and funding under the Urban Programming for Indigenous People Program. This year as well saw the implementation of Regional Youth Advisory Committees and furthering youth programming in culture, arts, sports and recreation.

### MMF ANNUAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

*Celebrating Our Strengths – Securing Our Future*

Various workshops from Friday, September 21 through Sunday, September 23, 2018. The workshops for this year were chosen based on feedback from the youth conference evaluation survey completed after last year's youth conference as well as feedback from the UPIP survey. A total of 153 youth attended the youth conference.

### COMMUNITY PRIDE (COMMUNITY SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM)

Six regions hosted community beautification projects that included training, job readiness and work experience from July 3, 2018 to August 31, 2018 for a total of 9 weeks with a total of 28 youth employed.

### TIM HORTONS CAMP

In September 2018 and March 2019 Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) worked in partnership with Tim Hortons camp to send 100 Metis youth ages 10-15 from across the province to participate in a 4-day camp in the Whiteshell area. During the camp the youth participated in a variety of activities such as shelter building skills, archery, and creating their own dream catchers; leadership workshop (perspective talking) campfire, and talent show. Future camp dates are set for October 2019 and March 2020.



## **GOLDEYES METIS DAY AT SHAW PARK**

MMF hosted Metis Day at Shaw Park June 10, 2018, with approximately 100 youth and their families participating. Activities included a BBQ at Home Office followed by traditional entertainment at Shaw Park prior to the Goldeyes baseball game.

## **SUMMER DAY CAMP (IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MET)**

Summer day camps ran from July 3rd, 2018, to August 31st, 2018, the camps covered cultural, historical and educational workshops and field trips, with 10 Metis youth age 6–12 participating per week.

## **CANADA DAY CELEBRATION AT LOWER FORT GARRY**

Celebration with Metis entertainment, activities and food at Lower Fort Garry July 1st, 2018. The Metis Flag was flown for the first time at Lower Fort Garry.

## **MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL YOUTH CONFERENCE**

MMF sponsored 10 youth to attend the conference July 18 & 19, 2018, that included discussions & workshops on governance, the National Youth Policy and updates from the youth committees and councils across the Metis Homeland.

## **BACK TO BATOCHE**

A total of 30 youth attended the Back to Batoche Festival from July 20 – 22, 2018, participating in cultural activities, volunteering with Elders and attending Mass and the procession to the church.

## **PROVINCIAL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PYAC)**

The PYAC have held regular meetings and the PYAC Terms of Reference was presented to and approved by the MMF Caucus at the July 14 & 15, 2018 meeting.

## **REGIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEES (RYACs)**

Regional Youth Advisory Committees are being established in each region, RYAC members will work closely and collaboratively with their peers to encourage a democratic experience and cultivate leadership skills for future leaders. This also provides a youth voice representative of our Metis Locals and communities and supports youth involvement with the Locals. Each RYAC will connect with youth in their region to further encourage youth participation and provide recommendations on youth issues through their PYAC representative to the MMF Minister of Sports & Youth.

## **SPORTS CAMPS**

Hockey and golf camps were hosted in July and August 2018 with a total of 110 youth participating.



## INDIVIDUAL SPONSORSHIPS

Individual sponsorships is a program that allows families to claim a maximum amount of up to \$350 towards their children's sports and recreational activities such as sports, swimming, dance, and music. Please contact your regional office for further information on how to apply.

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

Co-funded Indigenous Day celebrations in Selkirk Park, Selkirk, MB

## MOBILIZING METIS YOUTH CONFERENCE

The March 30th & 31st, 2019, conference included workshops and presentations on mobilizing Metis Youth, analysis of the emerging workforce, the challenges that lie ahead, and the opportunities opening up, exploring trends, disruptions and potential realities. A total of 90 youth attended.

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# Louis Riel Capital Corporation

MMF Affiliate

**MINISTER ∞ President David Chartrand  
ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ Darrel Ferland**

## *LRCC Board of Directors*

<b>Chair</b> Leah LaPlante	<b>Director</b> Anita Campbell
<b>Vice Chair</b> Jack Park	<b>Director</b> Gerald Baron
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b> James Bruce	<b>CEO</b> Paul Paradis



## **THE CAPITAL CORPORATION**

The Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) is now in its 27th year of operations. The formation of the LRCC was an initiative of the Manitoba Metis Federation's (MMF) Tripartite Self-Government department. The LRCC continues to deploy valuable loan and grant (equity) funding to support and foster the Manitoba Metis business community, and Metis Citizens seeking to start up or buy an existing business. On average the LRCC will provide both loan and/or grant capital totaling more than \$3 million to 75 +/- new business projects each year. The LRCC, along with the Metis Economic Development Fund (MEDF) co-hosted a Metis Business Conference at the Fort Garry Hotel on March 7th. Major sponsors included Metis N4 Construction Inc. and the Métis National Council Secretariat Inc. Feedback regarding the event was extremely positive, with highlights such as keynote speakers MMF President David Chartrand and David

Usher and a B2B "speed-dating" session connecting Metis businesses with each other, as well as service providers. New as of February 2019 is the MMF's First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP) which provides a forgivable grant to assist Metis Citizens in the purchase of their first home. Substantial interest has been taken in the program since its inception. The first FTHPP information seminar, held on May 28th at the MMF Home Office, was sold out within 24 hours. A second FTHPP seminar is being held concurrently with the Manitoba Metis Federation AGA.



**The LRCC continues to deploy valuable loan and grant (equity) funding to support and foster the Manitoba Metis business community, and Metis Citizens seeking to start up or buy an existing business.**

**In March 2019, the LRCC was the benefactor of a \$200K Economic-Development contribution from the Manitoba Metis Federation. This additional capital injection is being deployed by LRCC to the benefit of our Metis business clients.**

## THE LRCC LOAN PROGRAM

In March 2019, the LRCC was the benefactor of a \$200K Economic-Development contribution from the Manitoba Metis Federation. This additional capital injection is being deployed by LRCC to the benefit of our Metis business clients. LRCC is a developmental lender. We will inherently take on more risk than banks and credit unions when providing loan capital to our Metis businesses. As a result, many of our clients would not otherwise have the ability to access the capital they need to start up, purchase, or expand their business. LRCC's loan program can provide our Metis business clients with as little as \$5,000 or up to a maximum of \$250,000. Loans can be amortized to a maximum of 10 years based on the life expectancy of the assets being financed. Loan interest rates are fixed for the entire term and will range from a low of 5.00% to a maximum of 14.25%. The actual interest rate that a client will pay is based on the risk assessed by the adjudication team and/or the strength of the security being provided. For example, to receive the minimum rate, the loan would need to be substantially secured by tangible assets such as mortgage security. Our interest rates are very competitive with fixed rates offered by other financial institutions.

Visit our website: [www.lrcc.mb.ca](http://www.lrcc.mb.ca) for more information on how to access our programs and services.

## THE LRCC BUSINESS EQUITY CONTRIBUTION FUND (GRANT)

The LRCC continues to deliver the Business Equity Contribution Fund (BECF) commonly known as the Business Grant Program. The intent of the business grant is to provide our Metis clients with the additional capital (equity) that the financial institutions (banks, credit unions, etc.) require in order to obtain a business loan. LRCC has been delivering the BECF since the spring of 2013 and to date we have paid out over \$8,500,000 helping support the creation, expansion or purchase of over 205 Metis-owned

businesses. The BECF is adjudicated on a needs basis. The client must demonstrate that the grant is needed in order to obtain a commercial loan from a financial institution. A further condition for a Metis client to obtain a grant is that they must contribute some of their own cash into the project. The minimum required client equity contribution is 10% of the total project cost. For example, if the client's total project cost or business acquisition is \$150,000, then the client would need to contribute a minimum of \$15,000 of their own cash in order to access the BECF. We are pleased to report that LRCC will have an additional \$1.3 million in grant/equity funding in the current

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fiscal year beginning April 1, 2019. These business grants are non-repayable and have assisted Metis people to start up, purchase, or expand their businesses. The maximum grant is \$99,999. In order to access the maximum grant, the project size would need to be in the range of \$300,000. The average estimated grant contribution would be \$47,000. The grant/equity program on average contributes 33% of the projects cost. When applying to LRCC for a business grant or a loan, please allow sufficient time for our staff to work with you to complete the due diligence and adjudication process as it can take 4 – 6 weeks depending on the client's preparedness. We encourage all of our Metis Citizens to contact the LRCC to see how they might qualify to take advantage of this valuable program.

The full details of the LRCC loan and grant program including the application can be found on the LRCC website at: [www.lrcc.mb.ca](http://www.lrcc.mb.ca).

## MMF FIRST TIME HOME PURCHASE PROGRAM

Launched in February 2019 through a \$5,000,000 contribution from the Manitoba Metis Federation, the First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP) is designed to assist our Metis Citizens with the equity necessary to fund the 5% down payment (up to \$15,000) and closing costs (up to \$2,500) required to obtain a default insured mortgage through a bank or credit union and purchase their first home. The grant is non-repayable provided the Metis Citizen(s) meet(s) program guidelines, such as the requirement to live in the home for 10 years. The FTHPP has been designed as a needs-based program focused on helping individuals and families who do not possess the ability to save for their down payment and closing costs on their own. Limits such

as a maximum total combined income of \$85,000 and maximum combined liquid assets of \$25,000 have been set to ensure this focus is upheld. The LRCC also provides valuable advice related to the home purchase process and referrals to professionals such as mortgage lenders, real estate professionals, insurance agents and lawyers. When applying to the FTHPP, please allow sufficient time for our staff to work with you to complete the due diligence process as it can typically take up to 5 business days to work towards an approval.

Full details of the FTHPP can be found online at [www.lrcc.mb.ca](http://www.lrcc.mb.ca).

## LRCC'S PROPERTY INVESTMENTS

The LRCC, through its asset holding company, 5785066 Manitoba Ltd., owns and manages the large parking lot in front of the MMF Home Office at 150 Henry Avenue, Winnipeg. This parking lot can accommodate up to 185 vehicles, and 100% of the stalls are leased monthly with signed parking agreements. Public paid parking will be available overnight between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. and all day on weekends.

Our investment corporation also owns and manages a large 5" x 9" electronic message board sign at 505 Main Street in Dauphin, Manitoba. The sign offers economical marketing opportunities for business and community groups to promote themselves for a minimal fee. The message and graphics are displayed for 6 – 10 seconds, cycle every 60 – 90 seconds, and are seen 720 times each day, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Approximately 10,000 vehicles pass the sign daily. The message or advertisement is guaranteed to reach a significant number of people. For advertising opportunities, contact Richard Bankert in Dauphin at (204) 648-4952.

## LOUIS RIEL CAPITAL INVESTMENTS INC.

Louis Riel Capital Investments Inc. (LRCII) is a separately incorporated company owned and operated by LRCC. LRCII now provides small personal loans up to \$15,000 to full-time employees and caucus members of the MMF and their affiliates. These loans are designed to provide short-term funds for personal use (maximum 42 months) to employees or caucus members. In most cases, no collateral is taken, however if the loan exceeds \$7,500 some collateral may be required. The loan will become due and payable in full should the employee leave the employ of the MMF or the affiliate. The interest rate is 19.5%, which is less than most Visa or MasterCards. It is easy to apply, and funds can usually be obtained within three business days. For employees and caucus members of the MMF and their affiliates looking to utilize this program, please contact the LRCC office and ask for **Shaun** or **Tyler** at (204) 589-0772.

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – 5785066 MANITOBA LTD., A DIVISION OF LRCC

The LRCCs property management company continues to manage five commercial buildings of the MMF's, MEDO Developments, and two Regional Offices. A full property management report can be seen under Minister Will Goodon's portfolio report (Housing and Commercial Properties).

**Loans can be amortized to a maximum of 10 years based on the life expectancy of the assets being financed. Loan interest rates are fixed for the entire term and will range from a low of 5.00% to a maximum of 14.25%.**



# Louis Riel Institute

MMF Affiliate

**MINISTER ∞ Joan Ledoux**

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ David Beaudin**



## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

As an affiliate of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF), the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) is helping to address the culture and its own strategic plan and has already started restructuring to accommodate additional provincial education initiatives. LRI's vision, mission, and mandate are as follows:

**Vision:** The Louis Riel Institute serves to empower the Metis Nation of Manitoba, which is made up of skilled and proud Metis Citizens, families and communities.

**Mission:** The Louis Riel Institute promotes, builds capacity and supports the heritage and history of the Metis in Manitoba through efficient, effective, culturally sensitive programs and activities.

**Mandate:** The Louis Riel Institute is the legislatively mandated authority responsible for Metis education and culture in Manitoba.



**Executive Director**  
Sharon Parenteau

**Associate Director**  
Janel Leiterman



**LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE**  
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behind the Standing Tall camp was similar to the Standing Tall program that runs throughout the school year, where activities are planned based on life skills, Metis culture and history. The Standing Tall staff mentored youth mentors (summer students) and the youth mentors then mentored the junior campers. The junior campers participated in a number of activities such as berry picking, fishing, and medicine picking. Youth also attended tours that included: Lower Fort Garry, Ross House, Seven Oaks House, and Riel House National Historic Site.

## ADULT LEARNING CENTRE (ALC)

The ALC program is a non-traditional high school for adults, that offers unique course selections such as Metis Studies and Metis Art. The centre is learner-focused and the overall mandate is to create an academic environment that is safe, comfortable, and supportive. Technology is an important aspect of learning and is integrated into all of the courses, and the ALC provides access to a fully equipped computer lab.

Upon completion of the 2018/2019 school year, the ALC had 21 students successfully graduate from the program. Based on the year-end statistics, the ALC has surpassed previous graduation rates, finishing the 2018/2019 year with the second-highest number of credit completions (174), the highest average course completion rate (nearing 80%), the highest number of graduates (25), and the highest number of graduates to attend the graduation ceremony (22).

## LOUIS RIEL VOCATIONAL COLLEGE (LRVC)

The LRVC continues to offer a number of courses that include the Health Care Aide and Health Care Aide Challenge programs, along with Early Childhood Education 2 (ECE2). In addition, the LRVC offers a number of one- and two-day training sessions and workshops. The Mobile Literacy and Essential Skills project continues to progress, and

the LRVC, in partnership with Essential Skills Development Canada (ESDC), has moved forward with the first cohort for the project. With the Mobile Classroom completed at the end of June, the classroom travelled to Sagkeeng on July 2, 2019, to provide services and education to 35 participants.

The LRVC continued to develop its partnership with the Commonwealth College, anticipating that the first joint delivery will be scheduled for September 2019.

At the end of the 2018/2019 school year, the LRVC saw 57 students successfully graduate. The graduation ceremony was held in partnership with the ALC, and during the event, North Star Motors presented two \$500 scholarships to LRVC graduates.

The LRVC continues to grow and offer more course options every year. At the end of August, the ECE2 students will return to class and the Health Care Aide

program will not end until the end of October. A new Health Care Aide program is scheduled to begin the first week of November 2019.

## LITTLE METIS FAMILY FUN EVENTS

The Little Metis Family Fun Events are an excellent way to introduce and celebrate Manitoba's proud Metis history and culture by utilizing a delivery method with an engaging hands-on approach. The process begins with LRI staff arriving at the school or centre and setting up eight cultural and educational centres; organizing volunteers to run each centre; welcoming families with a Metis passport to take to each centre; and finishing the evening with a dance demonstration and a book draw. Some of the activities include Metis Jeopardy, Red River construction, Manitoba map maze, jigging, and playing the spoons. Any organization can request this event for their hall or gym and LRI provides all supplies, games, activities and book prizes.

## LITTLE METIS SING WITH ME

Little Metis Sing With Me is a parent/child early years program that incorporates Metis culture and essential skills through the use of music, rhymes, songs, books, and activities. The Michif language is also introduced at a basic level through the books and rhymes. The program continues to run in St. Malo after eight years, and is now offered in Selkirk and various family centres throughout Winnipeg. Little Metis Sing With Me training took place in June, with 13 participants coming from various places throughout Manitoba and Canada to take part. Of those, three participants came from the Northwest Region where they will be using the program in their new Early Learning Child Care (ELCC) program.

## RIEL HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORICAL SITE (RHNHS)

LRI continues to deliver programming at Riel House for students and the general public. On-site activities include adult and child-focused house tours and

Manitoba Metis Federation

## First Time Home Purchase Program

Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) is proud to offer the Manitoba Metis Federation First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP) to eligible Metis citizens in Manitoba. The FTHPP is designed to help Metis citizens overcome the challenge of trying to save sufficient funds that financial institutions require for a down payment to purchase their first home.

### Funding Amount:

The FTHPP will contribute funds as follows:

5% of the home purchase price up to a maximum of \$15,000.00 towards the down payment.

1.5% up to a maximum of \$2,500.00 towards closing costs (legal, land transfer, home inspection, etc.)

Please refer to the FTHPP Purchase Program Guidelines for full eligibility criteria.



### Louis Riel Capital Corporation

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educational activities such as bannock-making, beading, and sash weaving. Four Riel House Interpreters started their training at the beginning of May. The Riel House Coordinator, Janelle Poiron, has worked for LRI for several summers and has taken on the role of supervising and coordinating at RHNHS for the 2019 season. May and June were busy with 19 school groups (16 English and 3 French) visiting Riel House with a total of 732 students. In July, three high school students were hired as our junior interpreters.

A new task this season was planting and maintaining the large garden and the kitchen garden. The Manitoba Master Gardeners helped plan and get the gardens ready. The students were then responsible for maintaining the garden, which included many hours of weeding, planting, and watering.

The Thursday Night Soirées began with Patti Kusturok as coordinator, and now has record numbers in attendance. A new addition to the Soirées is a beading table, where the LRI provides beginner kits and staff along with Bead Group members to demonstrate and teach anyone interested in learning the techniques of Metis beadwork. LRI continues to support Metis Locals by providing opportunities to fundraise at the events through initiatives such as bake sales, crafts and hot dog sales. LRI has welcomed the Kineow Local, Bison Local, and Infinity Women Secretariat during the 2019 season. During the event, LRI staff sell chips and drinks with the funds going towards supplies for programs at Riel House. The addition of food at the Soirées has proven successful for fundraising and popular with attendees. The Annual Metis Harvest Corn Roast takes place in August.

## FORT WHYTE DAY CAMP

LRI supports and administers registration and transportation for students to and from Fort Whyte. This year LRI was given two weeks of camp with 14 spots total. Unfortunately, FortWhyte Alive contacted LRI at the end of June with notification that funding for this program was cut. Therefore LRI's camp was cut back to only one week at the beginning of July.

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ASSINIBOIA (LAA)

LRI continues to promote the Grade 11 Interactive Learning Resource about the first government of Manitoba, which was made up of Metis people who led Manitoba into Confederation, and was spearheaded by Louis Riel. This educational tool is an important resource.

## METIS HISTORIC TOURS

LRI has been offering two historical tours, one to Riel House and other sites in St. Boniface, and the other to St. François Xavier and the Seven Oaks Monument. Additional tours are constantly being added.

## METIS RIGHTS AND SITES APP

LRI, with support from the MMF, has been working in partnership with the Canadian Museum of Human Rights (CMHR) to develop a rights and sites app. The app will highlight 40 sites in the historic "Postage Stamp Province" and feature LRI's historic tours.

## CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS

LRI staff and members of the Cultural Presenters Circle carry out Metis speaking engagements and educational activities throughout Winnipeg and the surrounding regions. LRI continues to receive many requests from school divisions outside of the city, which are fulfilled whenever possible.

LRI is currently building the capacity to expand its reach and has trained community members as presenters in Metis History and Culture, including the Metis Youth Council who have begun their training this past winter. LRI also

maintains a vast compilation of presenters made up of gifted Metis artisans and musicians who are brought in periodically.

## FLOWER BEADWORK CIRCLE

The Flower Beadwork Circle group has been running for almost four years and has branched out to offer Capote making, moccasin and mukluk making, and a hide-tanning workshop. The group hosts participants who range from beginner to expert beaders, and teaches any beginners the skills they require. The Flower Beadwork Circle meets at the MMF every Wednesday evening from 5 – 8 pm and runs from September to June. This year, the Flower Beadwork Circle took part in the Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund Gala by assisting in setting up the cabin, organizing the volunteers, and sending volunteers in period clothing to welcome guests. LRI and the Flower Beadwork Circle organized and attended the Metis beading and sash weaving tent for Ste. Madeleine Metis Days in Ste. Madeleine, Manitoba. The Flower Beadwork Circle also appears regularly at the St. Boniface Museum with LRI on Louis Riel Day.

## LRI RESOURCES

LRI publishes many books on Metis culture and history written for various age groups from preschool to adult. In addition, LRI also offers Metis Educational

Resource Kits for teaching tools. Publication for LRI also includes the production of historical travelling exhibits covering different aspects of Metis culture, which are circulated to different events around Manitoba. LRI continues to lend out activity kits on various Metis topics, including historical dress-up clothes. These exhibits are used extensively for events such as Louis Riel Day celebrations and can go as far as The Pas for such events. LRI continues to house a large collection of cultural holdings which are to be used for future exhibitions.

## MICHIF LANGUAGE INITIATIVES

LRI is currently moving toward the third year of the three-year project funded by the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund. Through this initiative, LRI is creating a set of six Illustrated Michif Children's books on Metis culture. The project has five out of the six stories written, each based on stories told about the "old days", in the Michif language, by Elder and Speaker Norman Fleury. The illustrator, Nicole LeClair, is scheduled to complete the colour illustrations by November 2019 and the full-colour pages will also feature vocabulary picture glossaries. In addition, these books will have audio capacity with YouTube access.







# Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund

MMF Affiliate

## MINISTER ∞ Denise Thomas



**Chair**  
Denise Thomas

**Board Members**  
John Fleury  
Andrew Carrier

The Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund Inc. (MMHF) is the registered charitable organization of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF). Registered in 1988, the MMHF officially became a registered Canadian Charity operating as the charitable arm of the MMF, supporting qualified third-party organizations and donees in their goals to support the Manitoba Metis Community.

The MMHF's mission is to support the Citizens of the Manitoba Metis Community by raising charitable funds in order to enhance their lives. The MMHF is guided by its purposes, which are the pillars upon which the MMHF carries out its activities, as stated in the organization's governing documents:

∞ To relieve poverty by providing basic amenities and counselling assistance to economically disadvantaged Metis people and families

- ∞ To advance education by providing – independently and/or in conjunction with other qualified donees – scholarships, skills and vocational training, and other academic programs and educational materials, for the benefit of economically disadvantaged Metis people
- ∞ To educate the public on the history, customs, traditions and language of the Metis people
- ∞ To benefit the community by providing education, counselling, wellness programs, and support services to Indigenous people
- ∞ To gift funds to qualified donees as defined in subsection 149.1(1) of the Income Tax Act





## 2019 MMHF EMBRACING OUR BEGINNINGS GALA EVENT

Sunday, May 12th, 2019, the MMHF, in partnership with the MMF, successfully hosted their third annual fundraising gala, "Embracing Our Beginnings". The gala was in support of the St. Boniface Hospital Foundation, and held at the Fort Garry Hotel in Winnipeg, MB. It was hosted by MMHF Board Chair Minister Denise Thomas and Honorary Chair Mr. H. Sanford Riley.

All funds raised on behalf of the St. Boniface Hospital Foundation will stay in Manitoba to help support young people through the Youth BIOLab program. With one in five youth in Manitoba identifying as Indigenous, the funds raised will support their success in science-related courses and help build capacity in health-related professions. The monies raised will ensure that children have a chance to explore a future in science and medicine.

The theme for the evening, "Embracing our Beginnings" was chosen to pay tribute to Mothers and all caregivers, who are the backbone of our existence. Each year the MMHF Gala is held on May 12th, which is Manitoba Day, a very significant day for all Manitobans. It was an exceptional event designed to provide guests with the opportunity to experience Metis culture and explore Metis history through a unique evening filled with Metis tradition. As attendees walked through the doors into the main lobby, they were met by volunteers dressed in traditional Metis





clothing – some carrying baskets, and others playing familiar Metis fiddle music. The reception featured a traditional Metis cabin where guests were able to have their photos taken, as well as Metis dancing and fiddle music.

The co-emcees for the evening, Nicole Dubé from CTV and Metis Elder Oliver Boulette welcomed guests and gave background information on how the RBC Youth BIOLab Jeunesse provides unique learning opportunities to students around Manitoba. With support from the MMHF, it can now offer even more assistance to our Manitoba youth, helping them develop meaningful connections to science that will engage them in learning about health research and medicine.

Entertainment throughout the evening was provided by young fiddlers, as well as by Clint and Riley Dutiaume in the Metis cabin. Ms. Sonia Eidse – an up and coming Metis singer-songwriter – entertained the audience in the Grand Ballroom over dinner. Elder George Fleury provided a blessing in Michif before everyone sat down for an amazing meal featuring a traditional Metis-inspired menu, with elk sirloin au jus, fingerling potatoes, roasted root vegetables and bread pudding with pear ice-cream for dessert.

Individuals attending the gala were encouraged to take part in both the Silent Auction and the Rainbow Auction throughout the evening. These auctions

would not have been possible without the generous donations of our supporting companies and organizations.

A live auction took place later in the evening. Led by Rachel Atherton, the auction featured spectacular prizes: a custom tailor-made shawl with Metis floral beadwork by world-renowned Metis designer Jennine Krauchi; a party for 40 including a live band, tapas, and drinks at the Nonsuch Brewing Company; a Calm Air package including return airfare for two anywhere that Calm Air flies, accommodations for two nights and luggage; and a 2012 Dodge Journey SE.

Steve Jones, Director of the RBC Youth BIOLab, and the driving force connecting youthful minds to scientific discovery, provided a presentation on the establishment of the school outreach program. The RBC Youth BIOLab is North America's only state-of-the-art student lab located inside a world-class medical research institute. It was established in 2004, and in the following years, attendance grew exponentially, with more than 4,000 students going through the Lab in 2011-12 and its popularity expanding to other school divisions simultaneously. Since 2011, the RBC Youth BIOLab has hosted over 25,000 students from across Manitoba. A total of 60,000 students have been hosted since the Louis Riel School Division Program first began to engage schools, teachers, and students in receiving an authentic science experience.

The Keynote Speaker for the evening was Dr. Sara Goulet, a Metis Family Doctor, who grew up in the Red River Valley. Like her father who is a bush pilot, she travels all over Northern Manitoba and the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut, providing health care services since graduating from family medicine residency in 2007. Dr. Goulet provides leadership and support to fly-in doctors at Ongomiizwin Health Services, and she also provides medical services at the Health Sciences Centre at Winnipeg in the Clinical Assessment Unit (CAU) and Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU).

Dr. Goulet is proud to act as the Associate Dean of Admissions for the Max Rady College of Medicine, where she hopes to continue to foster diversity in the college and explore ways to increase the number of Indigenous students who can access medical school. Dr. Goulet spoke about the Power of Metis Roots, and connecting Metis and Western Knowledge in Medicine.

The “Embracing our Beginnings Gala” was a huge success. Thanks to the many individuals, organizations, sponsors, volunteers, and the wonderful guests, the MMHF was able to raise \$75,000 to support the St. Boniface Hospital Foundation.

Plans for the 2020 MMHF Gala are under way for May 12, which will be an even bigger success as we celebrate Manitoba 150! A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be announced on the MMF and MMHF websites in the fall of 2019. Further information will be available at the MMHF Booth at the MMF 2019 Annual General Assembly.

Visit the **MMHF** website at [www.manitobametisheritagefund.com](http://www.manitobametisheritagefund.com).



# Metis Economic Development Fund

MMF Affiliate

## MINISTER ☞ President David Chartrand



### MEDF Board

**Chair**  
Bob Penwarden

**Vice-Chair**  
Wayne Rivers

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Arnold Asham

**Board Member**  
Mike Bettens

**Board Member**  
Sean McCormick



The Metis Economic Development Fund (MEDF) is celebrating its 7th year “Helping Metis Business Succeed” since launching the Funds program and activities. MEDF is an affiliate of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) executing primarily its investment program as an economic arm of our Metis government. The Fund’s activities are governed by providing equity for Metis entrepreneurs; promoting and encouraging trade and commerce for Metis entrepreneurs and business; facilitating and promoting the Metis business community; and maintaining a liaison between the Metis business community and government agencies and representatives at municipal, provincial and federal levels.

MEDF supports our entrepreneurs by investing capital, creating equity partnerships, and/or providing debt financing to qualifying businesses. MEDF concentrates on entrepreneurs and businesses that are in growth, expansion, or acquisition phases. The Fund may also invest in start-up ventures when the viability of the business outweighs the increased investment risk.

Over this past year, MEDF invested in HUB Technology Solutions, a company that provides a host of technology-based services for small and medium-sized businesses. Management is currently in the process of closing MEDF’s next investment opportunity, which will bring the total number of businesses within the MEDF investment portfolio to eight.

Our investment portfolio includes companies such as: HD-Petroleum, Security Glass, Covert Logistics, Nonsuch Brewing Co., Salisbury House, and HUB Technology Solutions. Visit [www.medf.ca](http://www.medf.ca) to learn more and view the video testimonials found within the “Success Stories” tab.

Businesses seeking MEDF investment support must:

- ☞ Be owned and controlled by individuals who reside in Manitoba with Metis ancestry proven through genealogy
- ☞ Have an experienced, well-balanced management team
- ☞ Submit a comprehensive business plan outlining the product and service offering, have a well-defined market with growth potential and a clearly defined exit strategy
- ☞ Be economically viable and able to provide a positive return on investment to the Metis entrepreneur, communities, and the Fund. (Non-profit businesses will not be considered.)

MEDF investment is available up to \$500,000 with an anticipated holding period between 3 to 7 years (in some cases up to 10 years) and a maximum ownership of 35% of the fair value of the corporation. A variety of financing instruments may be utilized and tailored to meet

**MEDF investment is available up to \$500,000 with an anticipated holding period between 3 to 7 years (in some cases up to 10 years) and a maximum ownership of 35% of the fair value of the corporation.**

the specific needs of each opportunity. The Funds investment and ownership is formalized through the following financial instrument(s): common and/or preferred shares, convertible preferred shares, convertible debentures, subordinate debt, and/or others as agreed to by MEDF.

Join the MEDF Metis Business community by connecting with one of our social media groups at [www.medf.ca](http://www.medf.ca) and network with other entrepreneurs in the Manitoba market.

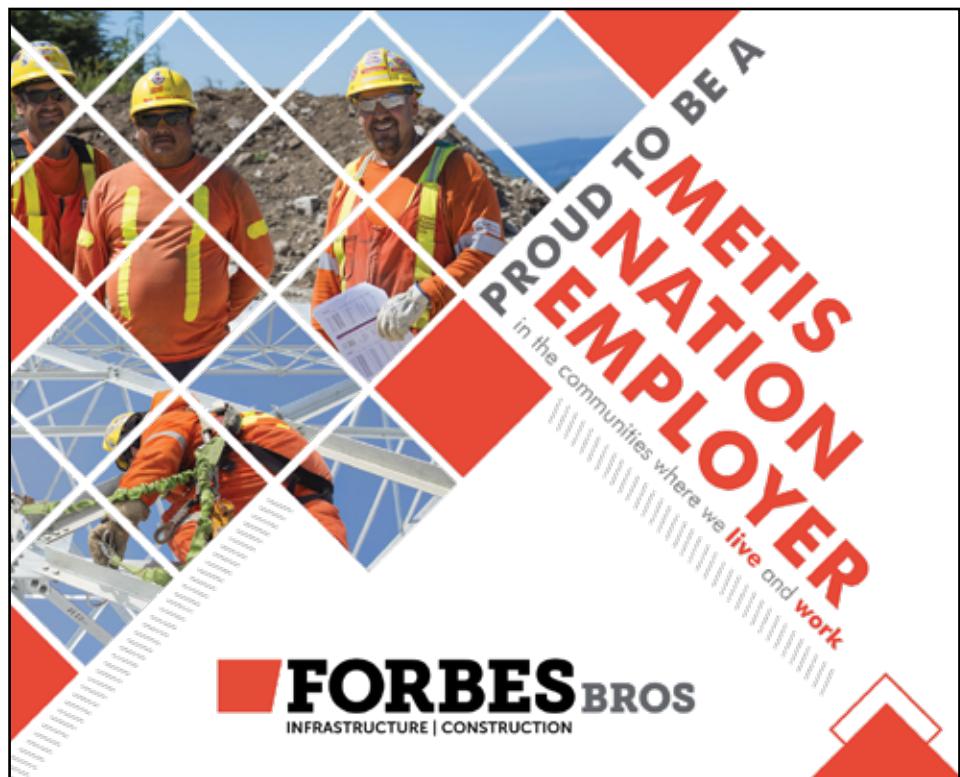
All specific MEDF inquiries should be directed as follows:

**Metis Economic Development Fund**

150 Henry Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0J7

Fax: 204-589-0791

Email: [info@medf.ca](mailto:info@medf.ca)  
Phone: 204-589-0772 ext. 248  
Toll Free: (800) 387-6004



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# Metis Economic Development Organization

MMF Affiliate

**MINISTER ∞ President David Chartrand  
ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ Darrel Ferland**

## *MEDO Board*

President David Chartrand

Minister Leah LaPlante

Minister Denise Thomas

Minister Julyda Lagimodiere

Minister Judy Mayer

Minister Frances Chartrand

Minister Alfred Anderson

Minister Andrew Carrier

Minister Anita Campbell



## *Metis Economic Development Team*

**General Manager      Office Coordinator**  
Shanlee Scott      Brigitte Klem

**Pharmacy Manager      Pharmacist**  
January Bolante      Samantha Moreau

**Contact Pharmacy Technician**  
Amanda Holunga

### **MEDO**

The Metis Economic Development Organization (MEDO) is a business investment and management firm that works under the auspices of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) to make key business investment decisions based on generating profit and building capacity for the long-term sustainability of the Metis within Manitoba. MEDO is dedicated to pursuing greater financial self-sustainability for MMF by investing in for-profit ventures. MEDO provides support to other Metis business owners and entrepreneurs through access to programs and services, business partnerships, and potential sources of equity for business development.

### **ESGS INC.**

ESGS Inc. was created by MEDO to provide clients with the business development and procurement expertise required to provide sustained financial growth. ESGS Inc. is positioned to secure great pricing on high-quality products and

services for clients. Our focus is building strategic Metis alignment into all client relationships. We have continued to expand the procurement division by increasing our vendor list and growing our customer base within the MMF family and with outside businesses. We have seen a 765% increase in sales the first quarter of 2019/2020 as compared to the first quarter of 2018/2019.

### **MEDOCARE PHARMACY**

MEDOCare Pharmacy is a division of ESGS Inc. The Pharmacy is located at the MMF Home Office building, 150 Henry Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba. MEDOCare Pharmacy provides innovative services and strategies tailored to the Metis Community to provide Comprehensive, Accessible, Responsive, Exceptional (CARE) pharmacy services. MEDOCare aims to raise the bar of pharmaceutical care. With its specialized knowledge and extensive health care networking and resources, its unique focus is to service the needs of the Metis Community and



**This program is a Manitoba Metis Federation initiative which pays for Pharmacare eligible prescriptions drugs for Metis Citizens that are 65 years of age and older with a net income of \$25,000 or less.**

available to all Manitobans. MEDOCare offers highly personalized services to clients. Our mission is to provide high-quality health care and excellent service to help achieve the best outcomes for clients. At the core of the business are the values of professionalism, personalized customer care, and integrity.

MEDOCare Pharmacy offers free delivery throughout the province. In Winnipeg, prescription drugs are delivered by a medical service delivery company. Outside of the city, Express Post is used.

MEDOCare has created a new Prescription Drug Program (PDP) for Metis Citizens throughout the province. This program is a Manitoba Metis Federation initiative which pays for Pharmacare eligible prescriptions drugs for Metis Citizens that are 65 years of age and older with a net income of \$25,000 or less. As of June 2019, just under 500 Citizens were utilizing the Program. Many Citizens have expressed how grateful they are for the assistance they receive in ensuring their prescription drug requirements are met. Identified below are the numbers of Metis Seniors who are participating in the Metis Senior Drug Program within this year.

In August 2019, Samantha Moreau joined our team as a Pharmacist. Samantha is a proud Metis Citizen and a member of the St. Norbert local. She is licensed to administer drugs and vaccines by injection, prescribe a drug for smoking cessation, and to prescribe a drug for self-limiting conditions. We are confident that Samantha will be an asset in providing services that will enhance the health and well-being of our Citizens.

## MEDO DEVELOPMENTS

MEDO Developments Ltd. is a construction management and land development firm working with the public and private sector to create large-scale opportunities for redevelopment and construction in the Manitoba marketplace. MEDO Developments properties include 150 Henry Ave., (the Manitoba Metis Federation Home Office), MEDO Square; 70, 80, 90 and 100 Sutherland Ave., and 340 McLaren St. in Ottawa, ON (rented by the Métis National

Prescription Drug Use Program (PDP) Use by Region <i>(as of June 2019)</i>	
<i>Metis Senior Drug Program</i>	
Region	# of PDP Clients Utilizing MEDOCare
Winnipeg	199
Interlake	57
Northwest	101
The Pas	20
Thompson	2
Southeast	57
Southwest	62
<i>Total</i>	<i>498</i>



Council). The buildings remain under the Housing and Property Management portfolio under Minister Will Goodon. A property management company under the direction of LRCC is responsible for the daily management of all the MEDO properties. MEDO Developments works with communities and local people to bring a “community focus” to development projects. MMF is currently finalizing a new acquisition of property on Lagimodiere Boulevard, in the City of Winnipeg, which is 75,000 square feet with 88 parking stalls. This acquisition will meet the ongoing needs of programs and services that benefit the Metis Citizens of Manitoba.

## MEDO GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

MEDO Developments Limited acquired the land where the former Manipogo Golf Course is located in the Metis village of St. Laurent, Manitoba. The 154 acres of land is a new business venture with the intent to develop an economic strategy for investment. The closing date for the acquisition was July 3, 2019. A new corporation, MEDO Golf & Country Club was formed for the business operations. A new club house is being constructed, which will include a sports club, conference centre, and restaurant.

## METIS GENERATION FUND

Administered by the Metis Economic Development Organization (MEDO), the Metis Generation Fund (MGF) provides equity for Metis businesses to increase their participation in Manitoba's resource sectors and major infrastructure projects. As a result of strong partnerships with Metis businesses, the fund maximizes opportunities and benefits for Metis people.

### MEDO Group of Companies

24–150 Henry Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7  
Telephone: **204-942-7535**  
Website: [www.themedo.ca](http://www.themedo.ca)  
Email: [info@themedo.ca](mailto:info@themedo.ca)

### ESGS Inc.

150 Henry Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7  
Telephone: **204-942-7535**  
Website: [www.esgs.ca](http://www.esgs.ca)  
Email: [orders@esgs.ca](mailto:orders@esgs.ca)

### MEDOCare Pharmacy

150 Henry Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7  
Telephone: **204-942-7220**  
Toll Free: **(877) 635-5931**





# Metis Child & Family Services

MMF Affiliate

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**MINISTER ∞ Mona Buors**

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER ∞ JoAnne Remillard**



It has been more than a year since I was assigned to Metis Child and Family Services (CFS), along with my Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard. It is a portfolio that I take very seriously and hold dearly to heart.

It is important to believe in yourself, your family, and the Metis Nation. It is with this philosophy that the Metis Government provides services to Metis Citizens. Some of those services are geared to support our children. We all want to see Metis youth participate in our culture, and grow into respectful, thoughtful, and energized young adults. Toward that end, our Elders provide advice, guidance, and wisdom. It is the knowledge that we have family support through our grandparents, parents, aunties, uncles, cousins and community that strengthens us. Our Metis CFS System provides strength to our Nation, and the quality of services that our Metis CFS System provides is among the best in this country.



It was a very proud day when we took control back through devolution and the development of Metis CFS. However, we must remain vigilant and never take our achievements for granted. It is with great dedication that we work to protect the future of the Metis children, just as our forebears did. It is the Metis children who will carry the fire of our beliefs into the digital age and beyond.

I thank the staff and boards of our Authority and its two agencies, for their dedication to improving the services offered to our children, youth and families, and their efforts to keep families together and safe. They deliver services with passion and compassion. We are particularly grateful for their work locating extended family so more children can stay connected to their descendants and community. The innovation and quality of our Metis CFS programs have earned us national accolades.



Let us continue to move forward with pride in our past. We bring a never-ending ambition for improvement so we can do the best work possible for our children, youth and families. It is in this spirit that I present to you my report for Child and Family Services.

# **ABOUT OUR METIS CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AUTHORITY AND ITS AGENCIES**

The Metis CFS Authority is a non-profit organization responsible for the administration and provision of child and family services by the agencies under its jurisdiction. The Authority is a proud affiliate of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF), which is our governing body. The MMF appoints a Board of Directors who is responsible for overseeing the management of fiscal resources, to approve the development of policies, and to support the Authority in the monitoring of compliance to service standards.

The services currently mandated by the Authority include the Metis Child, Family and Community Services Agency, the Michif Child and Family Services Agency, and the Parkland Region Designated Intake Agency (DIA). The Authority also

hosts the Office of the CFS Standing Committee and, with the three other Authorities, jointly manages the Child and Family All Nations Coordinated Response Network (ANCR) in providing intake services for Winnipeg.

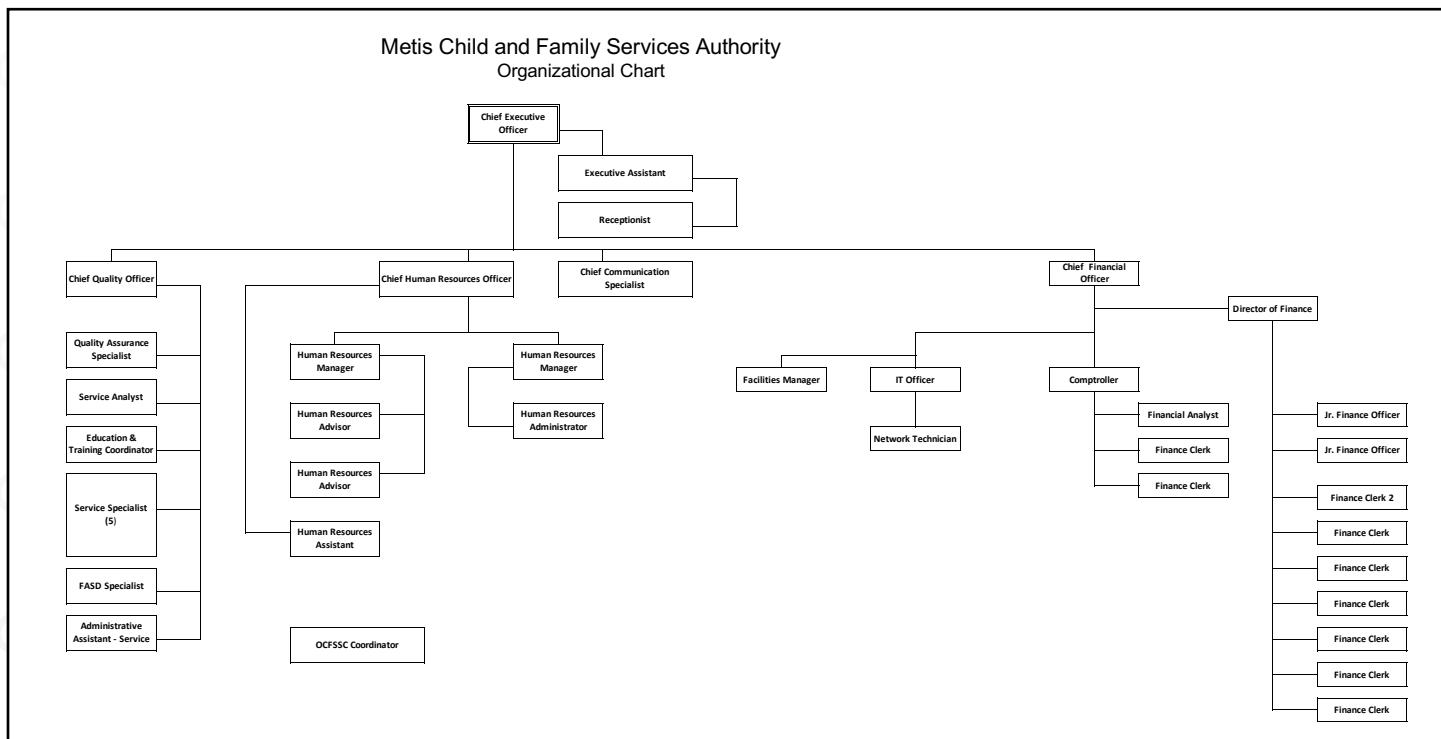
The Metis CFS Authority, whose principle office is located at the MMF Winnipeg Home Office, provides services in accordance with the Child and Family Services Authorities Act, The Child and Family Services Act and the Adoptions Act. The Metis Authority is responsible for:

- ∞ Administering and providing for the delivery of child and family services to all persons who request Metis/Inuit services whether or not they themselves are Metis or Inuit;
  - ∞ Monitoring the quality of services delivered by our mandated agencies, and ensuring that these agencies provide services and follow practices and procedures in accordance with legislation and provincial standards;

- ∞ Reviewing matters with respect to concerns from the community and agency service recipients, as well as any issues reported in the media. The Metis Authority investigates these matters and advises the Metis CFS Minister as well as Manitoba's Department of Families (who coordinates this function on behalf of their Minister of Families).

Housed at the Authority, our service, finance, human resources, information technology, and facilities management all provide centralized services to the two agencies. The Authority also has an HR satellite office in Dauphin to serve staff in the Michif Agency's enormous geographic area.

The amalgamation of our finance and human resources teams made it possible to achieve greater uniformity and consistency in our practices and procedures. Particularly, this amalgamation enhanced the ability for staff to be cross trained in the various functions of our operations. The result is having a talented, experienced team who are knowledgeable in many of our core functions and ready to move into new roles, if required.



Finance staff performs thousands of financial transactions each year, representing \$65 million of activity flowing in and out of our Metis CFS System. These include: payments to caregivers to meet the needs of our children in our care; payroll for more than 400 staff; expense claim reimbursements to staff and caregivers; and invoices to the province for billable services provided on behalf of children, youth and families.

To protect the integrity of data and files, the information technology department strives to maintain the highest standards of internet and email security. Virus and malware protection is updated multiple times daily. This fiscal year, a leading cyber security firm was hired to do a security audit on our system, which was successful. Recommendations made were implemented to further improve security. In six months, our firewall blocked 95 viruses, 12,947 emails from known “bad” recipients, 103,655 spam emails, and 128,556 direct attacks. Only 36% of scanned inbound traffic is allowed through our firewalls.

The facilities manager is responsible for lease negotiations as well as advising

Authority and agency management of any and all maintenance, health, safety, and building issues, managing all of the 17 Metis CFS System offices and facilities across the province.

The role of the Authority Service Team is that of ensuring quality services by its agencies. The core functions of the Authority Service Team are to ensure compliance and quality services as follows:

- ∞ *The review and investigation of community inquiries*
- ∞ *File and service audits*
- ∞ *Special service and investigative reports*
- ∞ *Program development*
- ∞ *Critical incident reviews*
- ∞ *Compliance with provincial standards*
- ∞ *Transfers of guardianship*
- ∞ *System-wide service training*
- ∞ *Requests for changes of authority*
- ∞ *Foster home appeals and variances*

- ∞ *Tuition waivers*
- ∞ *Interprovincial agreements*
- ∞ *Adoption approvals*
- ∞ *Special foster rates*
- ∞ *Birth alerts and notices of live births*
- ∞ *Agreements with young adults*

## KEY ACTIVITIES

In the summer of 2018, the MMF appointed a new CFS Minister, Mona Buors, and a new Associate Minister, JoAnne Remillard. Heather Stefanson stepped into the role of the Provincial Minister of Families.

Considerable time and resources were spent in the last half of the fiscal year conducting a review and implementation of improvement strategies such as foster home reviews, sign-off on case and safety plans by the children and youth themselves, and preparing Children’s Rights, U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, and U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples pamphlets.



This year, the Metis CFS Authority completed a full review of the Designated Intake Agency (DIA) in the Parkland Region under the Michif Child and Family Services Agency. The review looked at compliance with provincial standards for Intake Agencies and how the DIA was operating overall. Ten recommendations were made to improve the services to children and families. Currently, there are two service reviews in the process of being completed – **one is a review of all foster care management files, and the other is ensuring that all children in alternative care homes licensed by our agencies are interviewed about their care and experiences in their foster homes.**

We have created a template for questions when meeting with children and youth for safety discussions and child and youth rights. Just as important was the creation of **Apprehension Pamphlets**. Apprehension is always a last resort. We understood how stressful this intervention is for families. It is essential for us to provide parents with detailed information on the legal processes and what they can expect from our services and our commitment to them and their child/children.

## OUR GOALS

Our main goal over the coming years will be to continue a service shift away from protection and toward prevention, preservation, and the reunification of families.

We will advocate on behalf of our agencies to address their challenges, which include:

- ∞ Working with MMF to ensure fiscal stability in our agencies with the introduction of Block Funding by the province;
- ∞ Working with agencies to create resources to help families break the cycle and heal from their own trauma of racism, the '60s Scoop, and residential and day school experiences, which have left them in pain, struggling with addictions, poverty, family violence, and generational childhood trauma;

- ∞ Addressing the strains upon the Metis Agency management for the operation and case management oversight of an organization with approximately double the cases of a large agency, as defined by the provincial CFS Funding Module;
- ∞ Addressing the strains upon the Michif Agency for managing an enormous geographic area where extensive travel is necessary and where resources and specialized services are far less readily available.

## ABOUT OUR AGENCIES

The Metis Child and Family and Community Services Agency has three Winnipeg offices and one in Beausejour. They service the greater Winnipeg area to Headingley, the Interlake Region, and the Southeast Region of Manitoba to the Ontario and United States borders.

The Michif Child and Family and Community Services Agency has offices in Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Dauphin, Swan River, the Pas, and Thompson. They also operate the Parkland Designated Intake Agency on behalf of all four authorities.

Both agencies are mandated to provide services to Metis and Inuit families as well as any families who choose to receive services through them. A disparity in programming and services exists between our two agencies, as previously noted. The Michif Agency is challenged to provide the same level of programming as our Metis Agency because the Michif Agency has many smaller communities of children, youth and families spread across great distances that reach from the United States border to the Hudson's Bay.

## SERVICES PROVIDED BY OUR AGENCIES

**Circle of Life** provides one-on-one and group supports to our children and youth in care. They help develop better communication, conflict resolution skills, and resiliency, as well as positive, healthy relationships. Children and youth are

guided in discovering their culture and heritage.

**Skills for Life** provides one-on-one and group supports to youth ages between the ages of 15 and 21 to prepare them for adulthood. Metis Education and Training (MET) provides financial support for our staff to prepare and present job readiness programming.

**Little Bears** provides biweekly programming to children between the ages of 7 and 14. They are given a meal and an activity related to Metis history and culture.

**Cultural Craft Nights** are provided weekly at the McGregor Street location in Winnipeg where children and youth make cultural crafts, learn lessons of the sash, and share a meal.

**Metis Spirit and Michif Spirit Programs** are a unique funding partnership between the agencies and the MMF. The Spirit Workers engage with youth between the ages of 18 and 25 who are on extensions of care or no longer in care. The workers provide ongoing support, advocacy, and connections to community resources, anti-homelessness resources, education, employment, and job readiness.

The **Metis Spirit Helper Committee** has completed a "Cultural Bundle", which will be a new tool used in case planning and ensuring that children in the care of Metis Agency are aware of and involved within their culture.

**Live-In Family Enhancement (LIFE) Program** has received national government and media attention. Families live with a trained LIFE Foster Parent who acts as a role model and supports, advocates, guides, and mentors the parent in order to coach them towards increasing parenting and life skills. While this program has been primarily created and developed by our Metis Agency, Michif Agency is actively involved in replicating these services throughout its jurisdiction. **We need more Metis families and individuals to become LIFE families.**

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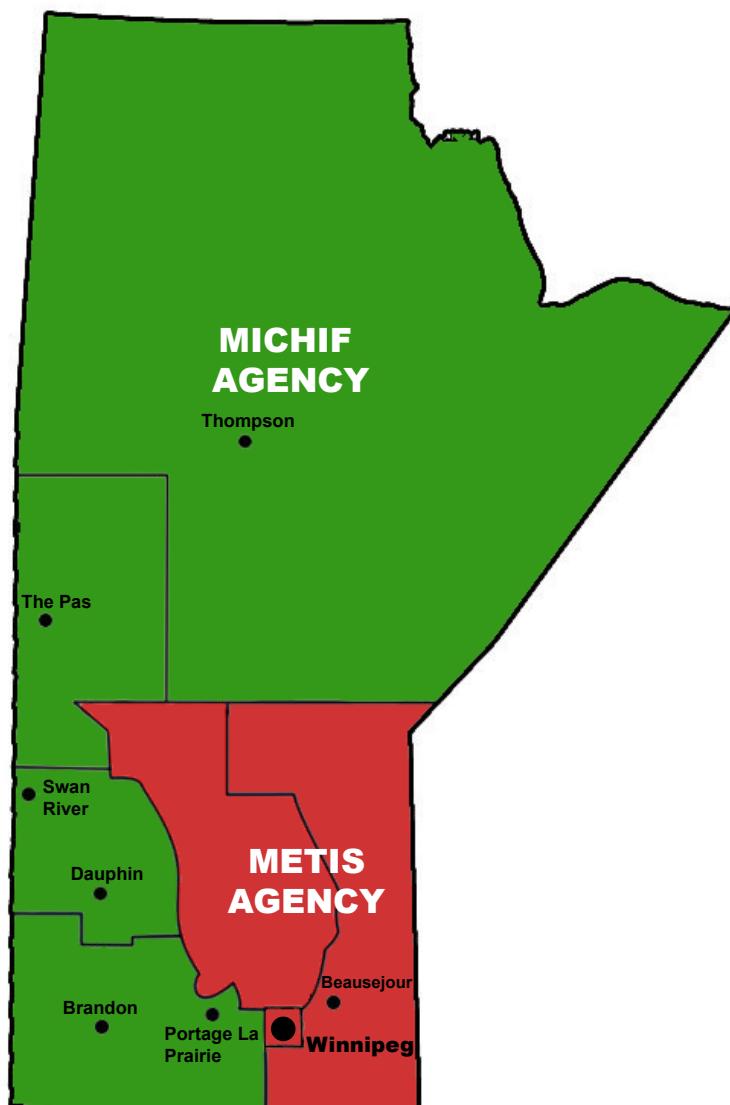
parent in order to coach them towards increasing parenting and life skills. While this program has been primarily created and developed by our Metis Agency, Michif Agency is actively involved in replicating these services throughout its jurisdiction. **We need more Metis families and individuals to become LIFE families.**

**Metis Connect** was established at the Metis Agency in October 2018. The role of the Metis Connect workers is to coach and mentor Metis Agency workers in searching for, engaging with, and involving family and community as partners in planning and decision making for their children. From October 2018 to March 31, 2019, 50 families (81 children) were referred to the Metis Connect Project.

**Gladys Cook and Eagles Nest** are our short-term group care resources for youth between the ages of 12 and 15. The staff build relationships with youth to give them a feeling of stability and commitment. Youth Care Workers offer cultural and recreational opportunities. There is also a great focus on allowing the youth to help guide their own care plan. The focus is to help them develop life skills such as shopping, cooking, meal planning, cleaning, and budgeting to assist them toward greater success as they move into adulthood.

Our Michif Agency operates emergency and short-term care shelters for children from birth to 18 years of age who require a safe, protective environment while their families receive support services from the agency. Our Michif shelters (Four Winds, Northern Lights, Sunrise House, and Little Moccasins Lodge) are located in the Dauphin and Swan River regions.

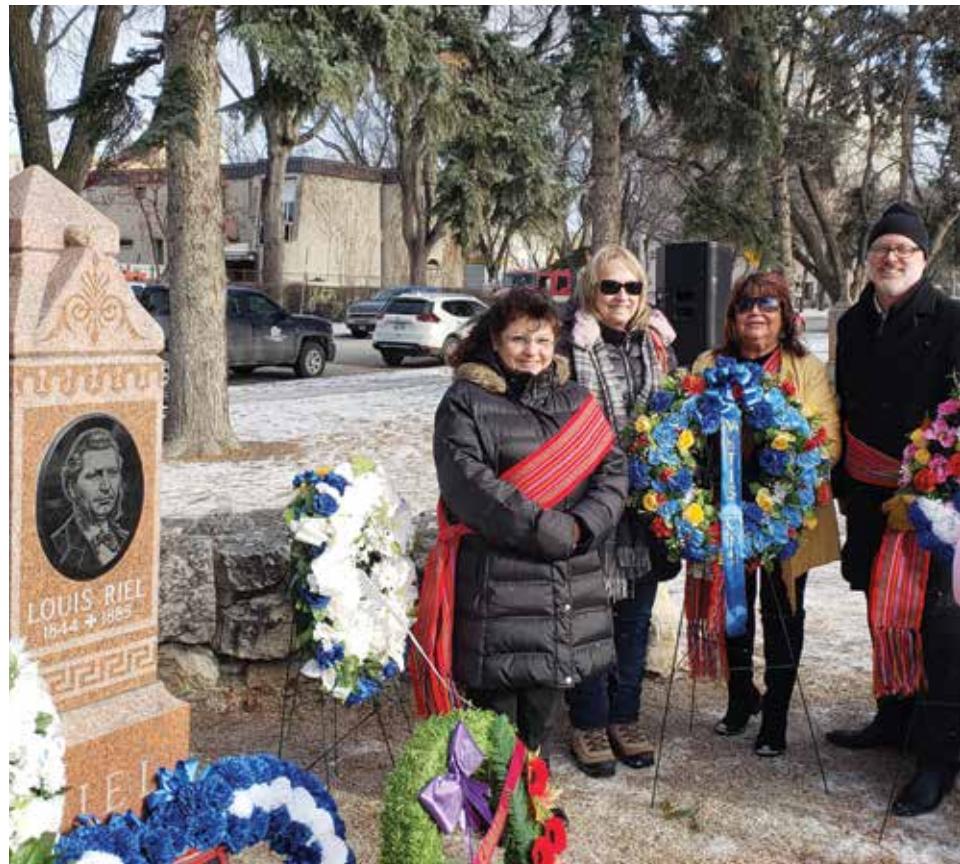
**Rosedale Adolescent Interdependent Living Services (RAILS)** is a 7-unit/9-bed interdependent living program that supports youth between the ages of 16 and 21 to live on their own. Staff on site 24 hours a day support and mentor them to prepare them for successful independence as they leave our Metis child welfare system. The Michif Agency is currently developing apartment dwellings for a similar service program for youth in the Portage la Prairie area.



**Butterfly Program** is a 12–20 week program where the family works alongside support staff and an attachment therapist. The focus of this service is to build and strengthen a family's relationship with their children. It is primarily offered to families who are in the LIFE program or working toward reunification.

**Family Support Program** had some great partnerships this year. Cuddles for Kids donated teddy bears that we can give to the kids. A generous donor provides Blue Bomber tickets to families. An anonymous donation of luggage was received. (This allows us to have kids' belongings in luggage rather than garbage bags when they come into care, move, or are reunified.)

**Transportation** ensures that children in care are able to get to therapy appointments, medical appointments, camps, school, and visit with their families. The majority of drivers are volunteers. More than 2,700 drives took place last fiscal year.



## A SOUND APPROACH

CN and Aboriginal communities across Canada continue to build meaningful, lasting, and beneficial relationships through mutual respect and understanding.



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