



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT





**MANITOBA MÉTIS  
FEDERATION**



# **ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022**



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**ANNUAL  
GREETINGS**





## ANNUAL GREETINGS

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

Manitoba Métis Federation

On behalf of the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the National Government of the Red River Métis, I offer greetings to all Citizens and attendees of our Annual General Assembly (AGA)!

While we have honoured our rich democratic traditions throughout the health restrictions arising from the pandemic, we are still catching up from some of the challenges we faced. This is why you are seeing an unprecedented second AGA in a single calendar year.

I cannot stress enough the importance of our AGAs within our culture and our community. It is always our goal to ensure we have maximum participation and attendance, which is one of the reasons why our assemblies are the largest Indigenous gatherings in the country, with attendance as high as 3,000-plus Citizens.

This is the power of democracy and the power of the Red River Métis community. We are strong, we are determined, and we have never let our flame be extinguished. The threads of our community, like our sashes, are interwoven together, and we are a force to be reckoned with.

None of this work would be possible without the contributions of the leaders who came before us. Leaders at the Local and regional level, historic leaders like Louis Riel, Gabriel Dumont, and Cuthbert Grant, past presidents and beyond – our successes are owed to all who have stood and fought, refused to disappear, and advocated for our Nation.

Before we ever meet at the AGA, there is significant work going on to ensure we remain engaged with our grassroots leadership. That's why we hold meetings in each of our regions. We let them know about the business we expect to conduct at the assembly, discuss possible changes or improvements to our constitution, and hear suggestions and concerns.

It is only through consultation with our grassroots Citizens that we can arrive at our Assembly confident that Red River Métis Citizens are informed and prepared for the activity that takes place there. This speaks to the importance of our ongoing connection with our grassroots leadership – the leaders of our Locals.

#### **The value of grassroots leadership**

In many ways, our Nation owes its strongest debt of gratitude to our matriarchs and those individuals and families who kept the flame of our existence and our nationhood alive by persisting at the Local level, during a time when no one remembered or cared who we were. No one wanted to claim to be us. We had very few resources for our people.

Today, our Local executives are supported by regions and our Cabinet, where we work to advance our Red River Métis national and international agenda. These leaders are a fundamental part of our democracy.

They will never lose their importance to our government and their voices are the foundation on which we grow. We may not always agree with each other, and we may engage in vigorous debate on the subjects that matter to us. However, once a decision has been made and the Citizens have spoken, we move forward together – a united front against any who would try to attack us for their own gains.

#### **Unprecedented confidence in your elected officials**

2022 was an election year for your Métis government. What no one anticipated is the historic and unprecedented mass acclamation and re-election of all our elected officials. All incumbent members of MMF Cabinet have returned to their work, having been acclaimed in all seven regions.

The exception is John Parenteau of the Northwest Region, who opted not to run, paving the way for Peter Fleming to replace him by acclamation. We will miss John's strong presence within our government, but we know that the Northwest Region will continue to thrive in the capable hands of their leadership team, which now includes Peter Fleming.

I have always maintained that it is vital for our Citizens to be confident that their elected officials

have the necessary experience and demonstrated commitment to the well-being of our Nation. This is the legacy of our people, our transparent political system that stems back to the Buffalo Hunts in the 1800s, all the way through to 1967 and today.

I am deeply grateful to once again serve you, our Citizens, who have done me the honour of giving me the responsibility and trust to protect our Nation. I can assure you that the confidence you have shown in me will be honoured. I will work hard, as I always have, to address your needs and secure your rights. I will also make sure that no one can ever steal our identity, preserving the legacy of our heritage and culture for our Youth. You honour me, my wife Glorian, and our family with your faith. From my heart, I thank you for this privilege.

Know that I, as your President, along with your Cabinet, will continue to work tirelessly to advance our Nation, find our rightful place in Canada's confederation, and leave a legacy for our Youth.



### **Supporting the connection between Youth and Elders**

I can't speak about leaving a legacy without speaking about the importance of the relationship between Youth and Elders. In our history, our communities – our parishes – were structured with extended families living close to each other, meaning that Elders were always present and ready to teach and nurture our Youth. Elders taught skills like harvesting and crafting, and told stories that taught our children how to live in a good way. More than that, Elders taught Youth about the importance of culture, of responsibility, and accountability to the community.

Modern life has made it more challenging for some Elders and Youth to interact this frequently. That's why it is so important that we celebrate and honour this connection through the return of our annual Elder and Youth conference. Last held in 2019, this event sees Elders and Youth gather from across all regions to spend time together as a community, which always includes music, food, and dancing.

While it's a cultural cornerstone that our Elders, and indeed all seniors, are treated with deep respect and cared for by all, particularly our Nation's Youth, the respect is given not just because they are older. The respect is due to them because they have earned it by their life's work, ensuring that Youth have something to inherit – a cultural legacy, a storytelling tradition, and a deep-seated sense of who they are.

I believe it is because we still honour this important connection between Youth and Elders that we are experiencing such a strong cultural revival today. There are so many Red River Métis rediscovering their identity, reconnecting with their community and coming home. I know our Ancestors would be proud to see how far we've come, and how our traditions are still being honoured.

### **Coming together as a community**

Our children will always benefit from community events. Not only does it help them build on their pride in who they are, it allows them to see the cultural significance we put on sharing food, laughter, and music with our family, friends, and our neighbours. Events like the Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations in Selkirk and across all regions, the return of Métis Days at Ste. Madeleine, the annual pilgrimage to the Grotto and Shrine at St. Malo – where we donated a crucifix made from rare rosewood and blessed in the waters of the River Jordan, where Jesus himself was baptized – are all important cultural experiences for our children.

We also had several opportunities to travel together as a community – both our pilgrimage to see His Holiness in Rome and our delegation to Maskwacis saw our faithful come together and travel after a long absence from each other. It always speaks to my heart to see the way we travel together as a community, with everyone ready to help each other, and care for one another. It truly reflects our roots, travelling with the buffalo and working in cooperation to ensure everyone shared in the bounty, and all had what they needed. While we no longer travel with the great herds that once blanketed the Great Plains, the spirit of sharing, cooperation, laughter, and connection remain.

### **Going beyond borders**

Even though our roots are deeply planted in our Homeland, it's worth remembering that the name "Red River Métis" is not in reference to where we live, or even where we lived back in Louis Riel's time. Like the term "Manitoba Métis," which is a nod to our role in the formation of Manitoba, the name "Red River Métis" speaks to our history and our beginnings, not just our geographic location. Even though we know many of our Citizens still live in the Prairies, today we live everywhere in the world.

Our July 6, 2021, signing of our Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement with Canada affirmed that provincial boundaries were not a constraint for our Nation. This is only logical, as our Nation existed here prior to Canada's occupation of our Homeland.

In recent months, we have talked extensively about our government beyond the borders of Manitoba. You have also read about our plan to include these Citizens in the voting process, through mail-in ballots. These are not isolated activities. It has become clear that there are thousands upon thousands of people who are coming home to our Nation and obtaining their Citizenship with the only true and national government of the Red River Métis, the MMF.

That's why we have sent a Beyond Borders Task Force to locations outside of Manitoba, including British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, select parts of Ontario, and elsewhere, to meet with our Citizens and hear about their needs and concerns. This is an important first step to evolving programs and services that extend to all our relatives, no matter where they live.

Know that your Red River Métis Government is hard at work finding ways to support our families and ensure they have full knowledge of the role they play in advancing our Nation and understand – like you – that they are welcome.

### **Protecting our identity**

One of the most pressing issues we are facing today is the risk to our identity. People from outside our Nation are seeing our successes and our advancements. They see the benefits our Citizens are attaining – benefits that are ours by right – including education, housing, economic support, and everything from free medicine to hampers and wood for our Elders. They see our advancements and they want them for themselves, which is why they are now claiming to be Métis and expecting the same rights and benefits we worked so hard to gain.

Fighting to preserve our identity and help all Canadians understand that we are a distinct Indigenous people is a battle that has not yet ended. It's important that we all work together to keep our traditions and our culture alive and stop this identity theft.

### **Reconciliation and renewal with the Catholic Church**

In the past months, we have significantly advanced reconciliation and renewal with the Catholic Church. Like all Indigenous people in Canada, particularly those of us who experienced harm at the hands of individuals who hid their wrongdoings behind the Church, I was relieved to hear Pope Francis deliver a heartfelt apology. He made a moving statement: "I ask for God's forgiveness, and I want to say to you with all my heart: I am very sorry. And I join my brothers, the Canadian bishops, in asking your pardon. Clearly, the content of the faith cannot be transmitted in a way contrary to the faith itself: Jesus taught us to welcome, love, serve, and not judge; it is a frightening thing when, precisely in the name of the faith, counter-witness is rendered to the Gospel."

As part of our journey toward a renewed relationship with the Catholic Church, your Métis Government took a delegation on a pilgrimage to Rome to meet with the Holy Father on April 21. The delegates who attended his meeting on behalf of all Red River Métis had the honour of being the first Indigenous Canadians to meet with the Holy Father since he delivered his apology to us all, for the harms done.

I was tremendously proud of how our delegates represented our Nation with dignity, pride, heart, and faith. Our delegates took their responsibilities seriously. They represented the many voices of our people who could not be with us in person. Each spoke of their experiences, including the pain and harm caused by predators, evil doers who hid behind the institution and created lasting hurt within our hearts.

I personally spoke with His Holiness about our history and our relationship with the Catholic Church, including how we worked to protect religious freedoms in Canada and helped bring the Northwest into Canadian confederation. I also talked about the role priests and missionaries played in helping our Nation do this important work.

As is traditional in our culture, we also brought gifts, including a beaded cross by master artist Jennine Krauchi. This cross included a small pair of beaded slippers to help him remember that we are on a journey together, walking side by side. We also presented a larger black beaded cross by Prairie Owl Beads, along with a pair of authentic Métis slippers of the Red River with prairie flowers and a cross on the vamp, which is the top of the moccasin.

Even during this visit, we knew that it might be difficult for Pope Francis to make a trip to Winnipeg to visit Louis Riel's gravesite and pay tribute to the deep faith that had our great leader carry a cross into battle, instead of a gun. We also told Pope Francis at that time, that if he could not come to us, we would come to him.

That's why we sent a Red River Métis delegation to represent our Nation at Maskwacis during the Holy Father's time in Canada.

We were a significant presence in the inner circle during our meeting. We proudly wore our MMF sashes, stood united and helped each other while wiping away each other's tears as we listened to His Holiness deliver his impactful apology. Many members of our delegation were touched when Pope Francis acknowledged Winnipeg in his remarks at Maskwacis, which told us that he still kept us in his heart, in spite of his health challenges.

I personally carried a statue of Louis Riel to this encounter with His Holiness, so that our great leader might still have a symbolic role during this historic apology, and so that the statue might be blessed by the Holy Father.

While there are many who will need more time and healing before they accept this apology, it is clear that many of our Red River Métis Citizens have embraced the Holy Father's sincere words and heartfelt messages. I know that those who were at the event will carry their experiences back to their communities and share the feelings that the encounter left in their hearts.

Because of the deep respect we hold for our Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and survivors, your Red River Métis Government will always pay close attention to their concerns, including their worries over the shrinking presence of the Catholic Church in our communities. It is our duty and our privilege to hear their guidance, and our obligation to find ways to put their words and wishes into action.

### **Good things to come**

Today, we are recognized in Canada's constitution as one of the three Indigenous Peoples of Canada – a distinct and unique Nation. Never again will we see our villages burnt out to make room for cattle pastures, like we did in Ste. Madeleine. Never again will our people be chased out of the community that means everything to us, like we did in Rooster Town. Never again will our Veterans go unrecognized for their valour in defence of democracy in our Homeland or abroad. Never again will we be the forgotten people.

Your Cabinet and I will continue fighting to build on this strong legacy for the next generation of leaders. We will continue to advance ourselves, hitting milestones that include the settlement of our land claim and our modern-day treaty, along with the delivery of a Métis-specific healthcare strategy.

What was stolen from our Nation at the formation of Manitoba will come back to our children and our grandchildren, and all those in our Nation who are still struggling to recover from the intergenerational legacy of harm and poverty that was left to us.

We are Red River Métis – we are strong, and we are growing stronger. Always believe in yourself and remember that the MMF has your back.

Let's build our next steps together.



## **INFINITY WOMEN SECRETARIAT SPOKESWOMAN ANITA CAMPBELL**

Infinity Women Secretariat  
MMF Minister of Finance & Human Resources  
MMF Minister of Information and Technology (IT)

Welcome Elders, MMF Caucus, Red River Métis Women, Delegates, Youth and Special Guests. On behalf of the Infinity Women Secretariat, I am deeply honoured to extend greetings to the Manitoba Métis Federation's Annual General Assembly.

Your Red River Métis National Government continues to work hard to advance the agenda, goals, and aspirations of our Citizens, as the one and only Métis government in Canada. Infinity Women Secretariat (IWS) remains intensely proud to be a part of our collective journey of reconciliation, empowerment, investment, and self-government. Together, we inspire and support Red River Métis Citizens in advancing our rights, recognizing our unique history and heritage, and celebrating our culture and language.

The Red River Métis have always been a proud nation of people, ever reliant on the strength and resiliency of our women. IWS strives to bolster our communities by promoting and recognizing the vital contributions that our women make. We endeavour to continue building on these enduring attributes and capitalize on current and emerging opportunities to foster and promote a strong sense of belonging and unity for Red River Métis women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals. We will continue encouraging them to thrive, succeed, and lead by enhancing their social, cultural, economic, and political well-being.

As IWS celebrates its 10th year as a proud Affiliate of the MMF, we are pleased to acknowledge that we find ourselves gradually emerging from the pandemic and finding our 'new normal' way of life. Like your Red River Métis Government, IWS remains steadfastly committed to empowering and enriching future generations in an accountable, transparent, and inclusive manner.

I would like to take this opportunity to articulate my profound and most sincere gratitude to President David Chartrand, the Manitoba Métis Federation Cabinet, the amazing complement of staff and consultants, and all our Local Métis Leaders and Citizens, who continue to stand with us in uplifting Métis women and girls. Further, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the ever-growing IWS membership and the IWS Board of Directors and staff, for all that you do and all that you give back to each other, to your families, to your communities and to your Homeland.

Please continue to take care, stay safe and be well. I look forward to connecting with you and spending time together over the next several days.

In Métis Sisterhood,

Anita Campbell





## **THE HONOURABLE HEATHER STEFANSON**

Premier of Manitoba

On behalf of all Manitobans, I would like to welcome and extend my best wishes to all those participating in the 2022 Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) Annual General Assembly.

Since its inception in 1967, the MMF has proudly provided democratic governance on behalf of Manitoba's Métis Nation. Rooted in the ancestral traditions of the Red River Métis, the MMF continues to advocate for the rights and interests of Manitoba's strong Métis community.

A productive working relationship with the MMF is critical to advancing reconciliation between the Manitoba Government and Indigenous people. As our government pursues meaningful reconciliation, we will continue to work closely with the MMF to ensure that the Red River Métis are always heard and supported.

This year's Annual General Assembly is an excellent opportunity to continue the MMF's governance and advocacy work, allowing the MMF to work with partner organizations to share ideas and plan for the future. It is also a time to celebrate everything that the MMF has accomplished over the decades it has spent as the voice of Manitoba's Métis community. I join my fellow Manitobans in thanking the MMF for their important work. I wish you all the best as you begin the 2022 MMF Annual General Assembly in a spirit of hope and optimism for the future of the Métis Nation in Manitoba.



## **BRIAN BOWMAN**

Mayor of Winnipeg

It is my pleasure to extend warmest wishes to everyone attending the Manitoba Métis Federation 2022 Annual General Assembly. This annual Assembly gathers thousands of Métis Citizens from across the province and is a wonderful opportunity to make and renew friendships, review accomplishments, celebrate successes, and set goals and direction for the coming years.

The Métis Nation played a key role in the history of our province and today the Métis continue to play an integral part in Manitoba's cultural life and economic prosperity. My own family has a proud Métis 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.

Sincerely,  
Mayor Brian Bowman,  
The City of Winnipeg



## **THE HONOURABLE TERRY DUGUID**

Premier of Manitoba

As the Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South, and on behalf of the federal Government of Canada, I want to extend my best wishes to the Manitoba Métis Federation during their 2022 Annual General Assembly.

As a lifelong Manitoban, I have seen firsthand the positive impact that the MMF has made in shaping the identity of our province. For over 50 years, the MMF has been a strong voice for the Métis people of Manitoba as they advocate for strengthening the Métis Nation and improving the lives of the Métis people everywhere.

I am proud to represent a riding that is home to a large number of Métis people, as well as a strong historical connection to the Métis Nation. Winnipeg South includes the Riel House and St. Norbert, where many generations of Métis people have lived and where Métis history continues to be preserved. The long and rich Métis presence in Winnipeg South, and indeed all of Manitoba, is one that needs to be celebrated, as it is directly responsible for the Métis culture that is still thriving today.

The Government of Canada is determined to recognize and honour the contributions and achievements of the Métis people, and to continue strengthening its relationship with the Métis Nation. In 2021, the federal Government signed the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement, which brought the MMF one step closer to its formal recognition as a Government under Canadian law. I am excited to watch the great work that the MMF will accomplish in the years to come.

It is thanks to the determined efforts of the MMF that the Métis Nation continues to grow and prosper here in Manitoba. I wish them the utmost success in the years to come, and a productive and enjoyable Annual General Assembly.

Terry Duguid

# **MINUTES OF THE 54<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



# MINUTES OF THE 54TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Assiniboine Downs

March 25-27, 2022

Minutes of the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly held March 25-27, 2022, at Assiniboia Downs, prepared by Christel Guenette, Raincoast Ventures Ltd. (via videoconference).

## DAY ONE – FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022

Minister Will Goodon, Minister of Housing and Property Management, welcomed delegates to the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) 54th Annual General Assembly (AGA) at 9:49 a.m.

### OPENING PRAYER

Elder Verna DeMontigny provided an Opening Prayer.

### AGENDA VARIED

The order of the agenda was varied throughout the AGA. Items are presented in these minutes in the order in which they were considered.

## APPOINTMENT OF ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY CO-CHAIRS

### MOTION 01 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

That Minister Will Goodon and Marc LeClair be appointed as the Co-Chairs for the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

### MOTION 02 03 22

**It was MOVED (Joan Church, Southwest Region) and SECONDED (Keith Ginther, Interlake Region)**

That the Agenda of the Manitoba Métis Federation 2022 Annual General Assembly scheduled March 25-27, 2022, be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## APPOINTMENT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Co-Chair Goodon reviewed the Resolutions Committee Appointment process and advised that resolutions could be submitted to the committee no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 26, 2022.

### MOTION 03 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Jack Park, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region)**

That the following appointments to the Resolutions Committee for the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly scheduled March 25-27, 2022, be accepted as presented:

- Janna Fowles-Joseph, Winnipeg Region
- Greg Balmer, Interlake Region
- Ken Lodge, Southeast Region
- Bertha Buote, Southwest Region
- Peter Fleming, Northwest Region
- Albert Linfitt, The Pas Region
- Nelson Pruden, Thompson Region.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Co-Chair Goodon congratulated Minister Anita Campbell, who was re-elected as Spokeswoman by acclamation during the Infinity Women's Secretariat (IWS) AGA the prior week. Delegates were also informed that the Opening Ceremonies would be held March 26, 2022 at 9:30 a.m., and that the youth delegation was participating in the full AGA as per a resolution from March 2021.

Co-Chair Goodon confirmed that quorum was established.

## MINUTES OF THE 2021 VIRTUAL ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*Related information: Draft Minutes of the Manitoba Métis Federation 53rd Annual General Assembly held March 27-28, 2022.*

During a review of the 53rd AGA Minutes held March 27-28, 2021, it was requested that:

- Motion 12 03 21 be amended to remove "Minister" from the Mover's name
- Motion 13 03 21 be amended to correct the spelling of the Mover's name: "Jeannette Brown Porter"
- Motion 22 03 21 be amended to correct the spelling of the Mover's name: "Jeannette Brown Porter".

### MOTION 04 03 22

**It was MOVED (Michelle Paul, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Barbara Bruce, Winnipeg Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly adopts the Minutes of the 53rd Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly held March 27-28, 2021, as amended.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## Constitutional Resolution Review

Genevieve Benoit, General Counsel, informed that hard copies of the 23 resolutions would be made available to delegates, and were available on the MMF and AGA websites.

- Resolution 1: To Register Articles of Amendment to Corporate Name Change
- Resolution 2: To Amend the MMF Constitution, Election By-Laws and Local By-Laws with Respect to Language Reflecting the Manitoba Métis Government
- Resolution 3: To Amend the MMF Constitution to Add Reference to the Red River Métis
- Resolution 4: To Amend the MMF Constitution with Respect to Terminating Citizens on an Indigenous Registry Outside of Canada
- Resolution 5: To Amend the MMF Constitution with Respect to Métis Harvester Identification Cards
- Resolution 6: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to Advance Polls
- Resolution 7: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to Mail-In Ballots
- Resolution 8: To Amend the MMF Constitution and Local By-Law with Respect to Secretary-Treasurer Position
- Resolution 9: To Amend the MMF Local By-Law with Respect to the Definition of an Active Local
- Resolution 10: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Definition of the Deputy Returning Officer
- Resolution 11: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Local Executive Definition
- Resolution 12: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Regional Returning Officer
- Resolution 13: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Definition of Polling Station
- Resolution 14: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Chief Electoral Officer Appointment
- Resolution 15: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Timing of Election and Rule for Calculation of Time
- Resolution 16: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the List of Electors
- Resolution 17: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to Additions to the Voters List on Election Day
- Resolution 18: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Qualification of Electors
- Resolution 19: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Appointment of Deputy Returning Officers
- Resolution 20: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Qualification of Candidates
- Resolution 21: To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with respect to Polling Locations
- Resolution 22: To Amend the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law to Include Gender Neutral Language
- Resolution 23: To Amend Article XVII of the MMF Constitution.

Co-Chair LeClair noted that the intent of the resolutions was to align the Constitution with the MSGRIA and incorporate language to reflect the evolution of self-government with the electoral system. The proposed changes did not change the power of the Assembly.

## MOTION 05 03 22

**It was MOVED (Keith Ginther, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Jerry Carrier, Southeast Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Agriculture Report as presented by Minister Beaudin.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## MOTION 06 03 22

**It was MOVED (Keith Ginther, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Candice Bercier, Thompson Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Meeting accepts the Culture and Heritage Report as presented by Minister Anderson.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## MOTION 07 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Central Registry Office Report as presented by Minister LaPlante.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## MOTION 08 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Candice Bercier, Thompson Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Meeting accepts the Early Learning and Child Care Report as presented by Minister Chartrand.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## MOTION 09 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Andrew Carrier, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Minister Alfred Anderson, Interlake Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Meeting accepts the Sixties Scoop Report as presented by Minister Thomas.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly scheduled March 25-27, 2022 adjourned on March 25, 2022, at 4:29 p.m. after agreeing to convene on March 26, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

## DAY TWO – SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2022

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly scheduled March 25-27, 2022, reconvened on March 26, 2021, at 9:37 a.m. An Opening Prayer was provided by Elder Verna DeMontigny. Co Chair LeClair noted that an Ukrainian flag was added on stage to signify that MMF stood with Ukraine.

### MMF CABINET INTRODUCTION

The MMF Cabinet was introduced as follows (listed in alphabetical order):

- Minister Alfred Anderson, Culture and Heritage
- Minister David Beaudin, Agriculture
- Minister Mona Buors, Métis Child and Family Services (CFS)
- Minister Anita Campbell, Finance and Human Resources
- Minister Andrew Carrier, Michif Languages and Residential Schools, Residential Schools, Riel House, Pemmican Publications, Métis Community Liaison Department of Strategy Planning and Policy Committee, French Languages
- Minister David Chartrand, Economic Development, Land Claims, Provincial HRD Committee, Strategic Planning and Policy Committee
- Minister Frances Chartrand, Minister of Health and ELCC
- Associate Minister Mildred Dorion, Environment and Mining
- Associate Minister Darrel Ferland, Economic Development
- Minister John Fleury, Métis Employment and Training
- Minister Richard Genaille, Sports and Youth
- Minister William Goodon, Housing and Property Management
- Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Justice
- Minister Leah LaPlante, Natural Resources and Citizenship
- Minister Joan Ledux, Provincial Education
- Minister Judy Mayer, Constitution, Métis Rights, Métis Nation Agenda and Governance
- Associate Minister Shawn Nault, Natural Resources
- Minister John Parenteau, Fisheries
- Minister Vincent Parenteau, Environment and Mining
- Minister Jack Park, Energy and Infrastructure
- Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard, Métis CFS
- Minister Denise Thomas, Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations, Sixties Scoop and Engagement and Consultation.

### STATE OF THE MÉTIS NATION IN MANITOBA ADDRESS

President David Chartrand expressed his thanks to Elder Verna DeMontigny for the prayer in Michif. It was important that culture and language remained alive. President Chartrand thanked dignitaries for their words, and recognized the relationship with Premier Stefanson, which was an improvement from the previous administration.

Construction on the heritage centre was set to commence this year and would be a beautiful location to showcase Métis in Manitoba and their achievements throughout history. It was important to reflect on the struggles that brought the Nation to where it was today and the strength it demonstrated throughout. The Red River Métis were the founders of the province and would defend their land and homes.

During the pandemic, Canada was informed that the Red River Métis were alone in the fight against COVID-19 and ensuring citizens received the vaccine. The position of Canada and the province in the past was that Métis did not fall within its jurisdiction. It was made clear that those days were over when the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Canada had a fiduciary relationship to the Métis and must include all opportunities, investments, and rights previously entitled to First Nations and Inuit.

With the Prime Minister's commitment regarding health legislation, the Red River Métis would receive its own health services to address chronic illnesses. In the meantime, the MMF rolled out its Métis Health vans, which travelled throughout the province to provide healthcare services. In addition, the Vaccine Committee ensured vaccines were available during the Assembly.

The MMF expected to finalize Treaty negotiations by summer 2022, to ensure that Red River Métis rights were protected by federal legislation. The signing of the MSGRIA provided the recognition from Canada, recognized the MMF as the government of the Red River Métis, and instituted the nation-to-nation relationship with all levels of government. In addition, borders of provincial jurisdictions no longer existed and enabled Red River Métis to receive citizenship regardless of where they resided.

To date, the MMF was the only Métis government to have signed a self-government agreement. This agreement fully recognized the Red River Métis' rights and enabled the ability to negotiate land claims and recover economic losses taken from the ancestors. Efforts by other Métis governments were tainted as pseudo Métis citizens infiltrated the Métis Nation through the creation of modern day historical communities. However, the red river cart, jigging, fiddling, and beading came from the Red River, not these other areas.

The MMF worked to control its own destiny and support its own businesses. For example, a second pharmacy was constructed in Dauphin. Income generated from the pharmacy was geared to improving programs and services for the Red River Métis. The MMF continued to work hard to ensure its citizens had access to affordable housing and assisted many in purchasing their first home. To date, 600 families bought a home, with 900 applications approved. Equity in these homes was used to send children to university or start their own businesses. In addition, the Housing Department was working to assist citizens in repairing their homes.

Together the Red River Métis were strong. Through the direction of the Assembly, the MMF left the MNC due to other Métis governments permitting pseudo Métis citizens. Despite MMF representatives' efforts in negotiating billions in funding, the MNC took the MMF to court.

In closing, President Chartrand informed that MMF was sending a delegation to visit Pope Francis at the Vatican. The delegation would ensure that Pope Francis understood that the Red River Métis were different. The Red River Métis understood the importance of religion during times of grief and celebration. It would be the request of the MMF delegation that Pope Francis come to Manitoba and bless the grave of Louis Riel, who built the province by virtue of his relationship with the church.

President Chartrand thanked the Cabinet for its hard work for the Red River Métis. It would continue the fight to ensure all citizens were protected and afforded the same rights as other Indigenous groups.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Order of the Sash

Co-Chair Goodon welcomed Ambassador Chartier to present the Order of the Sash to Michael Patrick Joseph Bellhumeur, a Métis veteran, and Grace Ledoux Zaldy, a Michif language champion.

### In Memorium

Minister LaPlante introduced tributes of those who had passed and had served the Métis government, including Robert Gaudry, Audreen Hourie, Lionel Allard. Families were presented with a Métis fiddle from President Chartrand.

President Chartrand paid tribute to Paul Delorme, who was the first Métis veteran honoured through the Métis Veteran's Legacy Program in 2019. Paul Delorme passed away March 24, 2022. A moment of silence was observed for those honoured during the Assembly.

### Announcements

President Chartrand recognized Donald Roulette, who served as MMF's Executive Director since March 8, 1994. Donald Roulette was instrumental in the purchase of MMF's first office building. President Chartrand presented Donald Roulette with a beaded vest. Following his resignation from the MMF, Wenda Wattyene would serve as the next Executive Director.

Minister Richard Genaille presented a cheque for \$50,000 to the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports and Recreation Council in support of the National Aboriginal Hockey Championship scheduled May 6-13, 2023.

### MOTION 10 03 22

**It was MOVED (Andrea Clark, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the State of the Métis Nation Address as presented by President Chartrand.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### AUDIT / FINANCE REPORT

*Related information: Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, March 31, 2021*

Minister Campbell introduced the Finance and Audit Committee, which was comprised of Ministers Campbell, LaPlante, and Park, and reviewed the process to present the audit to the Assembly. Copies of the audit were available at the Assembly, and on the AGA website.

Terryl Lahoy, Meyers Norris Penny (MNP), reviewed the MMF Inc. Non-Consolidated Financial Statements March 31, 2021, noting the financial statements were presented fairly and in accordance with Canada standards for not-for-profit organizations. Terry Lahoy advised that the audit was qualified as MMF's affiliates were not presented in these statements.

### MOTION 11 03 21

**It was MOVED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region) and SECONDED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Manitoba Metis Federation 2020-2021 financial audit as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### MOTION 12 03 21

**It was MOVED (Minister Anita Campbell, Infinity Women's Secretariat) and SECONDED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) 54th Annual General Assembly approves the reappointment of Meyers Norris Penny (MNP) to conduct the MMF Audit for 2021-2022.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### MOTION 13 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Alfred Anderson, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Minister Frances Chartrand, Northwest Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Energy, Infrastructure and Resource Management Report as presented by Minister Park.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### MOTION 14 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region) SECONDED (Minister Alfred Anderson, Interlake Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Engagement and Consultation report as presented by Minister Thomas.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly scheduled March 25-27, 2022 adjourned on March 26, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. after agreeing to convene on March 27, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.



## DAY THREE – SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly March 25-27, 2022, reconvened at 9:32 a.m.

#### MOTION 15 03 22

**It was MOVED (Peter Fleming, Northwest Region) and SECONDED (Brandy Braun, Southwest Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accept the following reports as found in the Manitoba Métis Federation Annual Report provided with meeting materials:

- Environment and Mining – Minister Mark Vincent Parenteau
- Fisheries – Minister John Parenteau
- Human Resources – Minister Anita Campbell
- Information Technology – Minister Anita Campbell
- Métis Community Liaison Department – Minister Andrew Carrier
- Métis Employment and Training – Minister John Fleury
- Métis Justice Institute – Minister Julyda Lagimodiere
- Michif Language – Minister Andrew Carrier
- Natural Resources – Minister Leah LaPlante
- Provincial Education – Minister Joan Ledoux

**CARRIED**

#### MOTION 16 03 22

**It was MOVED (Adrienne Carrier, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Health and Wellness Report as presented by Minister Chartrand.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### MOTION 17 03 22

**It was MOVED (Sydney Fleming, Southwest Region) and SECONDED (Minister Alfred Anderson, Interlake Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Economic Development Report as presented by President Chartrand.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### MOTION 18 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister David Beaudin, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Nelson Pruden, Thompson Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly accepts the Housing and Property Management Report as presented by Minister Goodon.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## RESOLUTIONS

**Resolution #1 – To Provide that the Package of Constitutional Amendment Resolutions Before the Assembly Become Effective at the Close of the March 25-27, 2022 MMF AGA (Procedural Resolution)**

#### RESOLUTION 01 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Associate Minister Shawn Nault, Southeast Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Constitutional Amendment Resolutions (the “22 Resolutions”) make up the package of resolutions which work together to revise the Manitoba Métis Federation (“MMF”) Constitution, Election By-Law, and Local By-Law, many of which are consequential in nature;

**AND WHEREAS** after taking into account the nature of the 22 Resolutions and the manner in which they are interdependent, it is in the best interest of the Assembly and the MMF to defer the coming into force of the Resolutions until the close of the March 25-27, 2022 MMF Annual General Assembly, so that they may all come into force at the same time as a complete package;

**AND WHEREAS** given these unique circumstances, it requires this Assembly to use its authority to approve this Procedural Resolution;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

1. The 22 Constitutional Amendment Resolutions be effective upon the close of the March 25 27, 2022 MMF Annual General Assembly.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolution #2 – To Amend the MMF Constitution, Election Bylaw and Local Bylaw with Respect to Language Reflecting the Manitoba Métis Government**

#### RESOLUTION 02 03 22

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** on July 6, 2021, the Manitoba Métis Federation (“MMF”) and Canada signed the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement (“MMSGRIA”) which immediately recognizes the MMF as the pre-existing democratic representative government of the Manitoba Métis which has the responsibility of providing responsible and accountable self-government to its Red River Métis Citizens;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMSGRIA recognizes that the Manitoba Métis have an existing constitution titled the Manitoba Métis Federation Constitution (“**Constitution**”);

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF was required to incorporate under The Corporations Act, CCSM c C225 in order to conduct financial and administrative affairs which necessarily required some of the language within its Constitution to be corporate in nature;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF anticipates a constitutionally-protected Treaty in the near future which will be ratified by the Manitoba Métis at an Extraordinary General Assembly and the Canadian Parliament by Federal Implementation Legislation;

**AND WHEREAS** language in the Constitution and by-laws is not reflective of the MMF's status as the Government of the Manitoba Métis and the MMF desires to include language that is consistent with its governmental nature;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11, 2022;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF CONSTITUTION, ELECTION BY-LAW, AND LOCAL BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

1. The current MMF Constitution and by-laws as ratified by the 51st Annual General Assembly on September 22, 2019, be repealed and replaced with the attached MMF Constitution, Election By-Law, and Local By-Law which reflect amongst other edits, those necessary for consistency and clarity, and includes the following changes:
  - (a) References to "Metis" are hereby deleted and substituted with "Métis";
  - (b) References to "Board" and "Board of Directors" are hereby deleted and substituted with "MMF Cabinet";
  - (c) References to "Regional Committee" are hereby deleted and substituted with "Regional Executive";
  - (d) References to "he/she", "his/her" or "him/her" be replaced with the gender neutral term "they", "their", or "them";
  - (e) References to "members", in most cases, be deleted and replaced with "Citizen";
  - (f) A new section be added titled "ARTICLE II INTERPRETATION" which shall express the change in some of the language contained in the MMF Constitution, Election By-Law, and Local By-Law;
  - (g) The numbering of each Article amended as appropriate; and
  - (h) Any other required changes for consistency and clarity.

**CARRIED**

*(Four delegates voted in opposition; three delegates abstained)*

**Resolution #3 – To Amend the MMF Constitution to Add Reference to the Red River Métis**

**RESOLUTION 03 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis was historically known as the Red River Métis;

**AND WHEREAS** the Red River Métis began being known as the Manitoba Métis after negotiating Canada's entry into the North-West and Manitoba's entry into Confederation;

**AND WHEREAS** the descendants of the Red River Métis today are located within what is now Manitoba as well as elsewhere inside and outside of Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis collectively holds the rights and freedoms referred to in sections 25 and 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, which are derived from those of the Red River Métis, including the inherent right of self-government;

**AND WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis has an existing constitution entitled the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. ("MMF") Constitution, consisting of By-Law No. 1, the Election By-Law, and the Local By-Law, which was first adopted in 1967 and subsequently amended from time to time, and was most recently ratified by the 51st Annual Assembly on September 22nd, 2019;

**AND WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis was historically known as the Red River Métis which established its own distinct identity, language, culture, institutions, Government, and way of life centered in the Red River Valley;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Constitution provides for the recognition of the Manitoba Métis and should also include references to the Red River Métis;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11, 2022;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF CONSTITUTION BE ENACTED:**

1. The **PREAMBLE** at the second paragraph which states:

"WHEREAS, the Manitoba Métis Community is a part of the Métis Nation; and"

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"WHEREAS, the Manitoba Métis Community or Manitoba Métis, also known as the Red River Métis, is an integral part of the Métis Nation; and"

2. **ARTICLE I OBJECTIVES OF THE CORPORATION** at paragraph 1 which states:

"1. To promote the history and culture of the Métis people and otherwise to promote the cultural pride of its Citizenship."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"1. To promote the history and culture of the Manitoba Métis, also known as the Red River Métis, and otherwise to promote the cultural pride of its Citizenship."

3. **ARTICLE I OBJECTIVES OF THE CORPORATION** at paragraph 5 which states:

"5. To provide responsible and accountable governance on behalf of the Manitoba Métis Community using the constitutional authorities delegated by its Citizens."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"5. To provide responsible and accountable governance on behalf of the Manitoba Métis, also known as the Red River Métis, using the constitutional authorities delegated by its Citizens."

**CARRIED**

*(One delegate voted in opposition)*

**Resolution #4 – To Amend the MMF Constitution with Respect to Terminating Citizens on an Indigenous Registry Outside of Canada**

**RESOLUTION 04 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis, also known as the Red River Métis, lived throughout our traditional territories north and south of the international border, and today many of our Citizens continue to live in the United States of America and elsewhere inside and outside of Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** fulfilling a 2012 Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") Annual General Assembly ("AGA") resolution, the 2014 AGA delegates refused to allow the Red River Métis to be defined by boundaries not Métis-made, nor of Métis-choosing, and which arbitrarily and artificially divide our Community, our Citizens, settlements, and traditional territories, and declared it was not necessary to be a resident of Manitoba to be a Manitoba Métis Citizen;

**AND WHEREAS** in June 2021 the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, also known as Bill C-15, was passed by the Canadian Parliament, confirming the Declaration's "application in Canadian law," parts of which state:

Article 33

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own identity or membership in accordance with their customs and traditions. [...].

Article 36

1. Indigenous peoples, in particular those divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.

**AND WHEREAS** the September 2019 MMF AGA resolution, The Manitoba Métis Self-Government Declaration, reaffirmed that "the MMF represents the Citizens of the Manitoba Métis 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"; **AND WHEREAS** the MMF Constitution provides that Manitoba Métis Citizens shall have their Citizenship terminated upon entry of their name in a Band List or in the Indian Register according to the provisions of the Indian Act;

**AND WHEREAS** there is no provision in the MMF Constitution providing for similar terminations for entry on an Indigenous government's list or register outside of Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** ARTICLE V TERMINATION OF CITIZENSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP requires revision to address the termination of Citizenship for those outside of Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11, 2022;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF CONSTITUTION BE ENACTED:**

Paragraph 1(c) of ARTICLE V **TERMINATION OF CITIZENSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP** which states:

"(c) The entry of the Citizen or Member's name in a Band list or in the Indian Register according to the provisions of the Indian Act, R.S.C., c.1-6, as amended."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"(c) The entry of the Citizen or Member's name in a Band list or in the Indian Register according to the provisions of the Indian Act, R.S.C., c. 1-5, as amended, or in a register or list of members maintained by an Indigenous government outside of Canada."

**CARRIED**

*(Six delegates voted in opposition; five delegates abstained)*

**Resolution #5 – To Amend the MMF Constitution with Respect to Métis Harvesters Identification Cards**

**RESOLUTION 05 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") Métis Harvesting Initiative comprises structures, policies, and procedures enabling and regulating the exercise of the Manitoba Métis collectively-held harvesting rights recognized in section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982;

**AND WHEREAS** the Métis Harvesting Initiative includes, among other things, the Métis Harvester Registration and Métis Harvester Identification Cards to properly identify Manitoba Métis rights-holders;

**AND WHEREAS** on June 10, 2017, the MMF Cabinet unanimously adopted the following resolution (the "June 10, 2017 Resolution"):

**Citizenship and Harvester Cards**

*WHEREAS: It is desired that all MMF Métis Harvester Identification Card Holders be in possession of the MMF Citizenship Card.*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: All applicants making an application for a MMF Métis Harvester Identification Card, and for card replacements, must be in possession of the MMF Citizenship Card, or must make concurrent application for both the Citizenship and Harvester Card.*

*AND WHEREAS the MMF Central Registry Office and the MMF Regional Offices have been operating the Métis Harvesting Initiative as directed by the June 10, 2017 Resolution;*

**AND WHEREAS** ARTICLE XVIII MÉTIS HARVESTING INITIATIVE requires revision to be consistent with the language of governance, the June 10, 2017 Resolution, and the MMF Constitution definitions of Citizen and Children Citizen;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11, 2022;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF CONSTITUTION BE ENACTED:**

**ARTICLE XVIII MÉTIS HARVESTING INITIATIVE** which states:

"3. Any person who is Métis, as defined in this Constitution, and a member of the Manitoba Métis Community, is entitled to register as a Métis Harvester, receive a Métis Harvester Identification Card, and participate in the Métis Harvesting Initiative and shall accept and be subject to all policies and procedures governing the Métis Harvesting Initiative as may be prescribed by resolution of the MMF Cabinet."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"3. Any person who is a Citizen or Child Citizen is entitled to register as a Métis Harvester, receive a Métis Harvester Identification Card, and participate in the Métis Harvesting Initiative and shall accept and be subject to all policies and procedures governing the Métis Harvesting Initiative as may be prescribed by a resolution of the MMF Cabinet."

**CARRIED**

*(Two delegates voted in opposition; two delegates abstained)*

**Resolution #6 – To Amend the MMF Election Bylaw with Respect to Advance Polls**

**RESOLUTION 06 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11, 2022;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

Paragraphs 1 and 2 of **ARTICLE XVII ADVANCE POLLS** which states:

**"ARTICLE XVII ADVANCE POLLS**

1. At least one Advance Poll shall be established in each Region.
2. Advance Polls shall be open for two consecutive days. On the first day, the Advance Poll shall be open between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. On the second day, the Advance Poll shall be open between 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m."

*Are hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

**"ARTICLE XVII ADVANCE POLLS**

1. At least one Advance Poll, with at least two days of polling, shall be established in each Region on such days, places, and times as determined by the Chief Electoral Officer.
2. Additional Advance Polls shall be held on such days, places, and times as determined by the Chief Electoral Officer."

**CARRIED**

*(One delegate voted in opposition; one delegate abstained)*

**Resolution #7 – To Amend the MMF Election Bylaw with Respect to Mail-In Ballots**

**RESOLUTION 07 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11, 2022;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**ARTICLE XXII VOTING BY MAIL** which states:



## **"ARTICLE XXII VOTING BY MAIL**

1. The Chief Electoral Officer may permit Citizens to vote by mail only in remote areas and only if no Polling Station is established in their Local on Election Day.
2. Those Electors wishing to vote by mail may only request ballots in writing, and such request shall be signed by the Elector.
3. No person shall be allowed to request a mail-in ballot for any other Elector.
4. When mail-in ballots have been forwarded to an Elector, the poll book will be marked as having voted by mail and the Elector may not vote in person at an Advance Poll or at a Polling Station on Election Day."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

## **"ARTICLE XXII VOTING BY MAIL**

1. The Chief Electoral Officer shall permit the following Electors to vote by mail:
  - (a) Electors who reside in remote areas in Manitoba, only if no Polling Station is established in their Local; and
  - (b) Electors who reside outside of Manitoba.
2. Those Electors eligible to vote by mail may only request ballots in writing, and such request shall be signed by the Elector.
3. Those Electors eligible to vote by mail may only request a mail in ballot within 21 days from the date the Election is called.
4. No person shall be allowed to request a mail-in ballot for any other Elector.
5. When mail-in ballots have been forwarded to an Elector, the poll book will be marked as having voted by mail and the Elector may not vote in person at an Advance Poll or at a Polling Station on Election Day.
6. Mail-in ballots must be received by the Chief Electoral Officer by the end of Election Day."

## **CARRIED**

*(Four delegates voted in opposition; seven delegates abstained)*

## **Resolution #8 – To Amend the MMF Constitution and Local By-Law with Respect to Secretary-Treasurer Position**

### **RESOLUTION 08 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Judyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") Constitution provides for each Local to be administered by a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, and a Secretary-Treasurer;

**AND WHEREAS** the duties of the Local Executive positions are set out in the MMF Local By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** various Locals have increased in the number of Citizens belonging to the Local;

**AND WHEREAS** various Locals have increased the activities of the Local;

**AND WHEREAS** as a result, the responsibilities of a Secretary-Treasurer for various Locals have increased;

**AND WHEREAS** certain Locals have expressed an interest in being able to have a Local Executive consisting of four positions namely Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary;

**AND WHEREAS** in those cases of Locals who wish to have four Executive positions, a more efficient division of labour will occur by separating the Secretary-Treasurer positions;

**AND WHEREAS** the creation of an optional four-member Local Executive will serve the best interests of the Manitoba Métis by, amongst other matters, allowing additional individuals to serve in elected office at the Local level and thereby meet the qualifications required of Candidates for elected office at the Regional and Presidential levels;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

## **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF CONSTITUTION AND LOCAL BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

1. **Article VI(b)(iii)** of the MMF Constitution which states:  
"Each Local shall be administered by a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, and a Secretary Treasurer."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"Each Local shall be administered by a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, and a Secretary Treasurer or, if approved by the Local, a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Treasurer, and a Secretary."

2. **Article IV 4.** of the Local By-Law which states:

"4. Local Executives

Each Local shall be represented by an Executive, which shall be a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer. In order to be eligible for election to a Local Executive position, a Local Member must first obtain a valid Citizenship card in accordance with Article IV 5(a) of the MMF Constitution.

The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary-Treasurer shall all be elected at the same time for a four year term beginning in 2006 and every four years thereafter. Any two of the three Local Executives shall be the signing Officers of the Local.  
Duties/Responsibilities of Local Executives:

### *Chairperson*

- Chief Executive Officer of the Local.
- Chairs Local meetings.
- Spokesperson on behalf of Local.
- Calls and ensures that meetings are held.
- Follows up on motions.
- Is ex-officio member of all Local committees.
- Performs other duties as directed by Local membership.

#### *Vice-Chairperson*

- Assumes all the responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

#### *Secretary-Treasurer*

- Keeps minutes of meetings and records and files such minutes as well as all correspondence and activities of the Local.
- Assumes all responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.
- Reads minutes of previous meetings and correspondence at all Local meetings.
- Responsible for all advertisement and notices regarding meetings, fund-raising notices and all other notices relating to the Local business.
- Maintains and is responsible for all Local financial records, (e.g. bookkeeping, ledger, deposits, income, bank statements, etc.).
- Presents financial statements to the membership at all Local meetings.
- Second signing Local authority."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is substituted:*

#### "4. Local Executives

Each Local shall be represented by an Executive, which shall be:

- (a) A Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary-Treasurer; or
- (b) If the division of the duties of the Secretary Treasurer into a Secretary and a Treasurer is approved by the Local, a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer.

In order to be eligible for election to a Local Executive position, a Local Member must first obtain a valid Citizenship card in accordance with Article IV 5(a) of the MMF Constitution.

The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary-Treasurer or if applicable, Treasurer and Secretary, shall all be elected at the same time for a four year term beginning in 2006 and every four years thereafter. Any two of the three or four Local Executives shall be the signing Officers of the Local.

In the case of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary-Treasurer the Duties/Responsibilities are:

#### *Chairperson*

- Chief Executive Officer of the Local.
- Chairs Local meetings.
- Spokesperson on behalf of Local.
- Calls and ensures that meetings are held.
- Follows up on motions.
- Is ex-officio member of all Local committees.
- Performs other duties as directed by Local membership.

#### *Vice-Chairperson*

- Assumes all the responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

#### *Secretary-Treasurer*

- Keeps minutes of meetings and records and files such minutes as well as all correspondence and activities of the Local.

- Assumes all responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- Reads minutes of previous meetings and correspondence at all Local meetings.
- Responsible for all advertisement and notices regarding meetings, fund-raising notices and all other notices relating to the Local business.
- Maintains and is responsible for all Local financial records, (e.g. bookkeeping, ledger, deposits, income, bank statements, etc.).
- Presents financial statements to the membership at all Local meetings.
- Second signing Local authority.

In the case of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary the Duties/Responsibilities are:

#### *Chairperson*

- Chief Executive Officer of the Local.
- Chairs Local meetings.
- Spokesperson on behalf of Local.
- Calls and ensures that meetings are held.
- Follows up on motions.
- Is ex-officio member of all Local committees.
- Performs other duties as directed by Local membership.

#### *Vice-Chairperson*

- Assumes all the responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

#### *Treasurer*

- Maintains and is responsible for all Local financial records, (e.g. bookkeeping, ledger, deposits, income, bank statements, etc.).
- Presents financial statements to the membership at all Local meetings. - Second signing Local authority.
- Assumes all responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

#### *Secretary*

- Keeps minutes of meetings and records and files such minutes as well as all correspondence and activities of the Local.
- Reads minutes of previous meetings and correspondence at all Local meetings.
- Responsible for all advertisement and notices regarding meetings, fund-raising notices and all other notices relating to the Local business."

#### **CARRIED**

*(Four delegates abstained)*

#### **Resolution #9 – To Amend the MMF Local By-Law with Respect to the Definition of an Active Local**

#### **RESOLUTION 09 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF LOCAL BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

An **ARTICLE VII** be added to the MMF Local By-Law which states:

**"ARTICLE VII**

1. Active Local

An "Active Local" shall mean a Local that has, for three consecutive years, met the following criteria:

- (a) provided notice of the dates and times of its meetings to Local Members in a manner prescribed by resolution or enactment of the MMF Cabinet;
- (b) provided its minutes of meetings to the corresponding MMF Regional Office and the MMF Home Office on a regular basis, and in any event, within three months of any meeting;
- (c) had at least one member attend the MMF Regional meetings to which the Local belongs; and
- (d) had at least one member attend the MMF AGA."

**CARRIED**

*(Six delegates voted in opposition; three delegates abstained)*

**Resolution #10 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Definition of the Deputy Returning Officer**

**RESOLUTION 10 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General

Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article II 5.** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

"5. "Deputy Returning Officer" – means a person appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer to manage and conduct voting procedures at polls that are established by the Chief Electoral Officer."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"5. "Deputy Returning Officer" – means a person appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer to:

- (a) manage and conduct voting procedures at a poll or polls that are established by the Chief Electoral Officer; and
- (b) provide such further and other support as may be required by the Chief Electoral Officer for that poll including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the placement of advertisements, materials, posters, or other like items as directed by the Chief Electoral Officer to inform Citizens of the Election and its details."

**CARRIED**

*(Two delegates abstained from the vote)*

**Resolution #11 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Local Executive Definition**

**RESOLUTION 11 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article II 12.** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

"12. "Local Executive" – means the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary-Treasurer of a Local of the MMF."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"12. "Local Executive" – means the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer of an MMF Local and includes a Secretary-Treasurer if one person holds both the Secretary and Treasurer positions."

**CARRIED**

*(Three delegates abstained from the vote)*

**Resolution #12 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Regional Returning Officer**

**RESOLUTION 12 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article II 20.** Of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

"20. "Scrutineer" – means a person appointed by a Candidate to represent their interest at a Polling Station and to act as their agent."

Be re-numbered to 21. and the following be added as Article II 20.:

"20. "Regional Returning Officer" – means a person who may be appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer to:

- (a) manage and conduct voting procedures at a poll or polls as directed by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (b) provide support to the Deputy Returning Officers in that Region; and
- (c) provide such further and other support as may be required for that Region by the Chief Electoral Officer including, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the placement of advertisements, materials, posters or other like items as directed by the Chief Electoral Officer to inform Citizens of the Election and its details."

**CARRIED**

*(Two delegates abstained from the vote)*

**Resolution #13 – To Amend the MMF Election Bylaw with Respect to the Definition of Polling Station**

**RESOLUTION 13 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

At **Article II** of the Election By-Law, a new definition be added at number 14. which states:

"14. "Polling Location" means a geographic area or Local designated by the MMF Cabinet, by resolution or law, for the establishment by the Chief Electoral Officer of a Polling Station. If the MMF Cabinet fails to establish polling locations by proper resolution, "Polling Location" shall mean an area designated by the Chief Electoral Officer, in advance of the calling of an Election, for the establishment of a Polling Station."

And the following paragraphs in Article II be renumbered, as appropriate.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolution #14 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Chief Electoral Officer Appointment**

**RESOLUTION 14 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;



**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article III 1. and Article III 3.(b)** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

- "1. The MMF Cabinet shall appoint a person to serve as Chief Electoral Officer for each Election. The person so appointed shall also have the responsibility to conduct any necessary by elections while their appointment remains in effect.
- ...
3. The duties and powers of the Chief Electoral Officer shall include but not be limited to:
  - (b) Appointing a Deputy Chief Electoral Officer and all Deputy Returning Officers and Poll Clerks."

*Are hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

- "1. The MMF Cabinet shall appoint a person to serve as the Chief Electoral Officer for a fixed term. The person so appointed shall also have the responsibility to conduct any necessary Elections or by-elections while their appointment remains in effect.
- ...
3. The duties and powers of the Chief Electoral Officer shall include but not be limited to:
  - (b) Appointing such Election officials as are necessary to conduct the business of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer including Regional Returning Officers, Deputy Returning Officers, and Poll Clerks."

**CARRIED**

*(One delegate abstained from the vote)*

**Resolution #15 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Timing of Election and Rule of Calculation of Time**

**RESOLUTION 15 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article IV** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

- "1. There shall be no more than 60 days between the date of the notice setting the date of the Election and Election Day. In order to calculate compliance with this provision, the first day counted shall be the day after the date of the notice setting the date of the Election and the last day counted shall be Election Day.
2. For the purpose of calculating a period of time as provided for anywhere in this By-Law, when anything is to be done within a time after, from or before a specified day, the period of time does not include that day."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

- "1. The MMF Cabinet shall call an Election by resolution passed by a majority vote of the MMF Cabinet Members.
2. The President, upon passage of the resolution, shall transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the Chief Electoral Officer within two days after the passing of the resolution by the MMF Cabinet.
3. The Chief Electoral Officer shall set the date for such Election or by-election within seven days after the receipt of the resolution calling the Election.
4. There shall be no more than 60 days between the date of the notice setting the date of the Election and Election Day. In order to calculate compliance with this provision, the first day counted shall be the day after the date of the notice setting the date of the Election and the last day counted shall be Election Day.
5. For the purpose of calculating a period of time as provided for anywhere in this By-Law, when anything is to be done within a time after, from, or before a specified day, the period of time does not include that day."

**CARRIED**

*(One delegate voted in opposition; two delegates abstained)*



**Resolution #16 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the List of Electors**

During discussion on the resolution, comments were offered regarding:

- Criteria to determine who is a citizen if their name is not on the Voters' List
- Responsibility of Locals to determine who are citizens of the Red River Métis
- Availability of an online portal located on CRO's website to determine an individual's eligibility to vote.

**RESOLUTION 16 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article V** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

**"ARTICLE V PREPARATION OF LIST OF ELECTORS**

1. MMF Head Office shall distribute the Preliminary List of Electors, for each Region, to each Regional Office within three days of the Chief Electoral Officer announcing the date of the Election.
2. Each Regional Office shall post the Preliminary List of Electors at the Regional Office and shall, within two days of receipt, send out a copy to each Local within the Region.
3. Citizens shall have 21 days from the date of the notice setting the date of the Election to apply for revision of the Preliminary List of Electors by adding or deleting a name/names.
4. The Chief Electoral Officer shall decide the procedure to be followed to allow for the revision of the Preliminary List of Electors by adding or deleting the names of Citizens.
5. The Chief Electoral Officer may accept proof of death of any Citizen from anyone who provides the Chief Electoral Officer with a valid Death Certificate or copy of a published obituary.

6. The Chief Electoral Officer shall only accept the submission of a name for addition to the Preliminary List of Electors, if the Citizen has completed a form approved by the Chief Electoral Officer requesting that the Citizen's name be added to the Preliminary List of Electors.
7. The Chief Electoral Officer shall revise the Preliminary List of Electors and shall distribute the List of Electors.
8. No names shall be added to the List of Electors by a Deputy Returning Officer or Poll Clerk on Election Day.
9. The Chief Electoral Officer may add the name of a Citizen to the List of Electors on Election Day after consulting with a Deputy Returning Officer only when there has been an obvious clerical mistake or omission and the Citizen to be added satisfies the Chief Electoral Officer that they are a Citizen.
10. In the event, that an individual has made application for Citizenship prior to the date on which the Chief Electoral Officer gives notice of the date of the Election, and that application is processed and the individual is approved by the MMF Central Registry Office prior to Election Day, the Chief Electoral Officer shall add the name of the new Citizen to the List of Electors on Election Day."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

**"ARTICLE V PREPARATION OF LIST OF ELECTORS**

1. The MMF Central Registry Office shall, within two days, at such times as requested by the Chief Electoral Officer, provide the Chief Electoral Officer with an alphabetical list or lists of Citizens divided by Region and Local.
2. Not later than the day the Election is set by the Chief Electoral Officer, the Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit by email, or other appropriate means, to the Deputy Returning Officer or other person appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer to receive the Preliminary List of Electors for each Local and to the Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer of the Local, as the case may be, the Preliminary List of Electors.
3. The persons to whom the list has been transmitted shall post the list, together with such other notices as the Chief Electoral Officer may require, within 24 hours of its transmission in at least two public places which are within the geographic boundary of the Local. The Chief Electoral Officer may publish, by electronic means, a Preliminary List of Electors to enable Citizens to determine if they are registered to vote and the Local at which they are entitled to cast their ballot.
4. Citizens shall have 21 days from the date of the notice setting the date of the Election to apply for revision of the Preliminary List of Electors by adding or deleting a name/names.
5. The Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer of the Local, as the case may be, shall review the list and shall cause to be communicated to the Chief Electoral Officer, by a certificate in proper form, the names of such persons as the Secretary knows are deceased or otherwise disqualified from voting, and the reason they are disqualified from voting within seven days of receipt of the Preliminary List of Electors.

6. The Chief Electoral Officer may accept proof of death of any Citizen from anyone who provides the Chief Electoral Officer with a valid Death Certificate or copy of a published obituary.
7. The names of those persons that are listed by the Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer of a Local, as the case may be, as deceased or for whom a proof of death has been provided shall be deleted by the Chief Electoral Officer from the List of Electors. The Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit the information received and the decision to remove the name from the List of Electors to the MMF Central Registry Office.
8. The persons otherwise disqualified may be contacted by the Chief Electoral Officer, or a person designated by the Chief Electoral Officer, to determine the eligibility of that person to vote. If the Chief Electoral Officer is able to determine that the person is not qualified to vote in the Election, the name of that person shall be deleted from the Preliminary List of Electors, but otherwise the name shall remain on the List of Electors and the person shall be entitled to vote. The Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit the information received and a decision to remove the name from the List of Electors to the MMF Central Registry Office.
9. The Chief Electoral Officer shall only accept the submission of a name for addition to the Preliminary List of Electors, if the Citizen has completed a form approved by the Chief Electoral Officer requesting that the Citizen's name be added to the Preliminary List of Electors.
10. The Chief Electoral Officer shall revise the Preliminary List of Electors and shall create and distribute the List of Electors as required by this By-Law.
11. One copy of the List of Electors eligible to vote in an Election may be provided to each Candidate for that Election or by election, provided the Candidate complies with such requirements as may be set by the Chief Electoral Officer. The List of Electors shall provide only the names of registered voters, the address of the registered voters as known to the MMF, and the Local at which each voter is entitled to cast a ballot. The Candidates shall not copy, memorialize, transmit, secure electronically, or otherwise keep or share the List of Electors and shall return the list so provided to the Chief Electoral Officer after the conclusion of any Election. In addition, each Scrutineer may, by complying with such requirements as may be set by the Chief Electoral Officer, obtain one copy of the List of Electors from the Deputy Returning Officer at the Polling Location, which list must remain at the Polling Location, and which must be returned to the Deputy Returning Officer when the Scrutineer leaves the polling place.
12. No names shall be added to the List of Electors by a Deputy Returning Officer or Poll Clerk on Election Day.
13. The Chief Electoral Officer may add the name of a Citizen to the List of Electors on Election Day after consulting with a Deputy Returning Officer only when there has been an obvious clerical mistake or omission and the Citizen to be added satisfies the Chief Electoral Officer that they are a Citizen.
14. In the event, that an individual has made application for Citizenship prior to the date on which the Chief Electoral

Officer gives notice of the date of the Election, and that application is processed and the individual is approved by the MMF Central Registry Office prior to Election Day, the Chief Electoral Officer shall add the name of the new Citizen to the List of Electors by Election Day."

**CARRIED**

*(Two delegates voted in opposition; two delegates abstained)*

**Resolution #17 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to Additions to the Voters List on Election Day**

**RESOLUTION 17 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article V 8.** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

"8. No names shall be added to the List of Electors by a Deputy Returning Officer or Poll Clerk on Election Day."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"8. No names shall be added to the List of Electors on Election Day by any person except the Chief Electoral Officer."

**CARRIED**

*(One delegate voted in opposition; two delegates abstained)*

**Resolution #18 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Qualifications of Electors**

**RESOLUTION 18 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article VI 1.** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

"1. A Citizen whose name appears on the List of Electors may vote in a MMF Election."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

"1. Only a Citizen whose name appears on the List of Electors may vote in a MMF Election."

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolution #19 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Appointment of the Deputy Returning Officers**

**RESOLUTION 19 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article VII** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

**"ARTICLE VII APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICERS**

1. The Chief Electoral Officer shall appoint a Deputy Returning Officer and a Poll Clerk for every Polling Station.
2. A person appointed as Deputy Returning Officer or Poll Clerk shall hold office from the time appointed until 30 days after the Election and all recounts and appeals have been completed.
3. If a vacancy occurs in those offices during the Election process, the Chief Electoral Officer shall appoint another person to fill the vacancy."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

**"ARTICLE VII APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION OFFICIALS**

1. The Chief Electoral Officer shall appoint a Deputy Returning Officer and a Poll Clerk for every Polling Station and may appoint such other officials, including a Regional Returning Officer, as are necessary to conduct the Election.
2. A person appointed as an election official shall hold office from the time appointed until 30 days after the Election and all recounts and appeals have been completed.
3. If a vacancy occurs in those offices during the Election process, the Chief Electoral Officer shall appoint another person to fill the vacancy."

**CARRIED**

*(One delegate abstained from the vote)*

**Resolution #20 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to the Qualification of Candidates**

**RESOLUTION 20 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article IX 4.a), 4.b), and 4.c)** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

- "a) In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of Regional Executive Officer, a Citizen must, during the previous 20 years, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, or Secretary-Treasurer of an active Local; or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc.
- b) In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of Regional Vice- President in a Region, a Citizen must, during the previous 20 years, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, or Secretary Treasurer of an active Local; or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc.
- c) In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of President, a Citizen must, during the previous 20 years, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, or Secretary-Treasurer of an active Local, or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc., and as well, have held office for at least three years as either a Regional Executive Officer or Regional Vice-President, or as Spokeswoman of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc."

*Are hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

- "a) In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of Regional Executive Officer, a Citizen must, during the previous 20 years, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary, or Treasurer of an active Local; or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc.
- b) In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of Regional Vice- President, a Citizen must, during the previous 20 years, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary, or Treasurer of an active Local; or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc.
- c) In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of President, a Citizen must, during the previous 20 years, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary, or Treasurer of an active Local, or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc., and as well, have held office for at least three years as either a Regional Executive Officer or Regional Vice-President, or as Spokeswoman of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc."

**CARRIED**

*(Six delegates voted in opposition; five delegates abstained)*

**Resolution #21 – To Amend the MMF Election By-Law with Respect to Polling Locations**

**RESOLUTION 21 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Judyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship, and Justice;

**AND WHEREAS** the committee also involved staff, legal counsel, and the MMF Chief Electoral Officer;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has received recommendations from the committee with respect to the appropriate amendments to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

**Article XVI 2. and 3.** of the MMF Election By-Law which states:

- "2. Elections shall be held at the Polling Stations established by the Chief Electoral Officer.
- 3. A Polling Station shall be established in such places as the Chief Electoral Officer may decide."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

- "2. Elections shall be held at the Polling Stations established by the Chief Electoral Officer.
- 3. The Chief Electoral Officer shall establish one or more Polling Stations within each Polling Location as are, in their opinion, necessary to afford reasonable access to voting by Citizens."

**CARRIED**

*(Two delegates voted in opposition; one delegate abstained)*

**Resolution #22 – To Amend the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law and Election By-Law to Include Gender Neutral Language**

**RESOLUTION 22 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Leah LaPlante, Southwest Region)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") established a committee to review the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law under the direction of the Ministers responsible for the Constitution, Natural Resources & Citizenship and Justice;



**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet passed a resolution providing Manitoba Métis Citizens with a gender neutral identification option with respect to MMF applications for Citizenship and Harvesting and the issuing of Citizenship and Harvester cards;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law contain many references to he/she and his/her which is inconsistent with the previously adopted approach of gender neutrality;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF is the recognized government of the Manitoba Métis Community and, as the governing body, it is the MMF's mandate to ensure good governance practices are adopted to protect both the collective Indigenous rights and individual human rights of Manitoba Métis Citizens;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF Cabinet has determined that it is appropriate that the language used in the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law be inclusive of individuals who do not identify with the genders currently being referenced in the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly ("AGA") March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF CONSTITUTION, LOCAL BY-LAW, AND ELECTION BY-LAW BE ENACTED:**

1. The MMF AGA directs that all necessary changes be made to the MMF Constitution, Local By-Law, and Election By-Law to reflect gender neutral language throughout.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolution #23 – To Amend Article XVII of the MMF Constitution**

**RESOLUTION 23 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Anita Campbell, Infinity Women's Secretariat)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") Constitution currently has provisions dealing with the ability of elected officers to serve as employees of the MMF;

**AND WHEREAS** the current provisions are not sufficiently clear and do not provide for the flexibility which would best serve the interests of the Manitoba Métis;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 11 & 12, 2021, and this resolution was subsequently provided to the virtual MMF Annual General Assembly March 27 & 28, 2021, in substantially the same form, for information purposes only;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MMF CONSTITUTION BE ENACTED:**

**Article XVII** of the MMF Constitution which states:

**"ARTICLE XVII MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Each MMF Cabinet Member shall be entitled to receive an amount by way of MMF Cabinet Member fees or any other form of remuneration, which amount shall be established by the MMF Cabinet on an annual basis.
2. No elected officer of the MMF may do work for the MMF, either as an employee or by contract, other than the fulfillment of the obligations of their position within the MMF.
3. For greater clarity, and not restricting the generality of the foregoing, no person who receives remuneration either by way of MMF Cabinet Member fees, nor as payment for the holding of any office within the MMF (i.e. President or Vice-President) shall be considered an employee of the MMF. No person elected to office shall by reason only of having failed to be re-elected to such office be entitled to any further or other notice, or to any severance pay or other employee benefit."

*Is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:*

**"ARTICLE XVII MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Each MMF Cabinet Member shall be entitled to receive an amount by way of MMF Cabinet Member fees or any other form of remuneration, which amount shall be established by the MMF Cabinet on an annual basis.
2. Those elected representatives who serve as President, Regional Administrators, Chief Administrative Officer, or any other employee position created by the MMF Cabinet, are entitled to serve as employees to fulfill the obligations of their position with the MMF.
3. Other than as provided for in (2) above, no MMF Cabinet Member elected as a Regional Executive or Spokeswoman of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc. may do work for the MMF, either as an employee or by contract.
4. The MMF may establish a compensation and benefits package for the President and all other MMF Cabinet Members to provide, in addition to MMF Cabinet Member fees or any other form of remuneration, an amount of remuneration to be paid following the person ceasing to be an MMF Cabinet Member whether by having failed to be re-elected or, deciding not to stand for Election.
5. Other than as provided for in (4) above, no person elected to office shall by reason only of having failed to be re-elected to such office be entitled to any further or other notice, or to any severance pay."

**CARRIED**

*(10 delegates voted in opposition; seven delegates abstained)*



**Resolution #24 – To Register Articles of Amendment Regarding a Corporate Name Change**

**RESOLUTION 01 03 22**

**It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, , The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Minister Andrew Carrier)**

**WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation was required to incorporate the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. (“MMF Inc.”) on December 28, 1967, under The Corporations Act, CCSM c C225 in order to conduct financial and administrative affairs;

**AND WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis Federation is required to operate under this legal entity, which must include “Inc.”, until such time as the Red River Métis government, the Manitoba Métis Federation, is given status as a legal entity through the Treaty and federal Implementation Legislation;

**AND WHEREAS** Louis Riel and the Métis Provisional Government demanded both English and French language rights be safe guarded in the legislation creating the Province of Manitoba;

**AND WHEREAS** the Manitoba Métis include Michif, English, French, and other language speaking Métis;

**AND WHEREAS** under The Corporations Act, the MMF Inc. can only have a registered name in English and French;

**AND WHEREAS** while the Manitoba Métis Federation awaits its Treaty and Implementation Legislation, it is appropriate to ensure that the MMF Inc. may be referred to in both English and French;

**AND WHEREAS** the MMF has previously used the spelling Manitoba Metis Federation;

**AND WHEREAS** a resolution in substantially the same form to this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of February 2 & 3, 2022;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVES THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION TO REGISTER ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT:**

The Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. register Articles of Amendment to reflect the name as the following in English and French which may be used both together or separately:

**Manitoba Métis Federation Inc.  
Fédération Métisse du Manitoba Inc.**

**CARRIED**

*(Two delegates abstained from the vote)*

**CONCLUDING REMARKS AND CLOSING PRAYER**

Elder Linda St. Cyr-Saric provided a Closing Prayer

**MOTION 19 03 21**

**It was MOVED (Andrew Carrier, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Chris LaForte, Southwest Region)**

That the Manitoba Métis Federation 54th Annual General Assembly scheduled March 25 27, 2022, be now concluded.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

# DEPARTMENTS & PORTFOLIOS



**AGRICULTURE**

## AGRICULTURE



**David Beaudin**  
Minister

The Manitoba Métis Federation's (MMF) Agriculture Portfolio is housed within the MMF's Energy, Infrastructure and Resource Management (EIRM) department. The Agriculture Portfolio was recently revitalized in 2020, with the appointment of the Minister of Agriculture David Beaudin.

The 2021-2022 fiscal year achieved positive progress towards revitalization of the portfolio and prioritized development of the portfolio centered on:

- Support for Métis agricultural producers
- Support for all Citizens towards achieving Métis food sovereignty
- Addressing the driving economic and social barriers causing food insecurity
- Supporting the sustainable management of lands and waters being threatened by a changing climate.
- In October 2021, hiring a full-time Agriculture Coordinator
- Continuing to expand database of Red River Métis agricultural producers.

### Bison

Since May 2020, the MMF's Energy, Infrastructure, and Resource Management department have partnered with Iron Head Bison Ranch to care for the MMF-owned bison herd. Iron Head Bison Ranch is a 100 per cent Métis-owned business located in Richer, MB.

The MMF bison herd consists of 15 bison, including 11 cows (female), and four calves.

The 2021-2022 year has seen progress towards strengthening this vital partnership including the updating of a partnership agreement, submission of a funding application, pursuing additional funding streams, and the purchase of their bison products.

We will continue to maintain the bison herd, so that we may continue to harvest the animals for food as well as cultural and educational purposes, while helping to sustain a resource heavily relied on by our Ancestors.

### Bison Meat

In February 2022, The MMF's EIRM department received funding through the 2021 Second Harvest Emergency Food Security Fund.

Funds were utilized to purchase bison meat exclusively from Métis bison ranchers and resulted in each MMF Region being provided with 425 lbs of bison ground meat for distribution by the region to Elders and Citizens in need. A total of 3000 lbs of bison meat was made available.



In December 2021, the MMF butchered two of our bison bulls, producing approximately 1,000 lbs of meat. This meat was inspected, certified, and distributed to our Métis Elders throughout the MMF Regions.

### Agricultural Crown Lands

Red River Métis farmers and ranchers have a long history of utilizing Crown lands to support their families and local communities. Farming and ranching represent both a modern livelihood and a traditional economic foundation of the Red River Métis, and it is currently under significant stress. Recent amendments to the Agricultural Crown Lands Leases and Permits Regulation, and the Crown Lands Dispositions Act, have resulted in severe hardship for numerous Métis Crown Lands Leaseholders. As a result,

- The MMF have been connecting with our Métis farmers and ranchers to better understand the impacts associated with the amendments to the Crown land leasing program.
- In June 2021, EIRM held a community meeting to hear directly from Métis farmers and ranchers impacted.
- The MMF offered interim financial support through the MMF COVID-19 Business Support Program.
- The MMF has committed legal support to defend our Métis farmers and ranchers adversely affected.

### Riel House Garden

Beginning in 2021, EIRM took on the responsibility of managing the Riel House vegetable garden in partnership with Parks Canada. The EIRM department employed Métis Youth to care for the garden including a focus on planting heirloom varieties, maintaining, and harvesting the produce to distribute among Citizens in need. In 2022, the goal is to distribute 500 lbs of produce to Elders and Citizens in-need.

For questions concerning the Agriculture Portfolio, please contact Dustin Hoft- Agriculture Coordinator by phone at (431) 373-4398, or by email at [dustin.hoft@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:dustin.hoft@mmf.mb.ca)



**CENTRAL  
REGISTRY  
OFFICE**

## CENTRAL REGISTRY OFFICE



**Leah LaPlante**

*Minister*

### The Hub Database

#### Current Status

The Central Registry Office has been working to develop a robust database system that improves the process of citizenship applications and protects the information provided to apply for citizenship and Harvester Cards. We are pleased to announce that this database was implemented in January 2022 and has proven to be successful in enhancing our ability to process applications. Some of the highlights include more efficient technology and the development of a comprehensive training guideline manual. Staff are able to utilize these to be successful in their roles and provide improved customer service to applicants. We continue to work on improving these processes to ensure a more streamlined approach in order better serve our Métis Citizens.

#### Upcoming

The Central Registry Office continues to work with partners for the development and upgrades to the new Hub database to further expand and improve on current processes. This includes providing more comprehensive reporting, processing timelines, ordering, and migrating harvester data.

#### Online Applications

#### Current Status

The Central Registry Office is pleased to announce the launch of online applications. This will provide some much-needed assistance for applicants across Canada to apply for citizenship cards regardless of where they live. Some of the features we have been able to develop and deploy include:

- Online payment system
- Application guidelines that will help applicants go through our application system online
- Troubleshooting guidelines for any challenges applicants may experience.
- Email confirmations to advise the applicant that their application was received.

We encourage everyone to check out the new application form and to please contact the Central Registry Office if you have any questions.

#### Upcoming

The Central Registry Office is working on the development of expanding the online applications to include renewals, change of address, transfers, etc. to make it streamlined and accessible to all Métis Citizens.

#### Online Harvester Survey

#### Current Status

The Central Registry Office has launched a new online survey option for harvesters to complete prior to requesting harvester CTF and tags. This has proven to be very successful and the CRO has already seen many benefits from harvesters providing this crucial information that helps us to manage and protect our harvester rights within the Red River Homeland. Some of the highlights for this improved system.

- The CRO received 5,145 surveys for the 2020/21 harvesting year, which has increased immensely from the 3,443 of paper surveys received for the 2019/20 harvesting year.
- The comprehensive data that our harvesters provide has allowed the CRO to provide more enhanced reporting, which gives our Red River Métis Government the most up to date data that is crucial for our government to protect our harvesting rights.

We would like to remind harvesters that the annual harvesting survey is mandatory to complete in order to receive a new CTF sticker and big game tags. Harvesters are encouraged to utilize the online survey for the upcoming harvesting season, or a paper copy can be obtained from the MMF Regional Offices.

#### Upcoming

The Central Registry Office has diligently worked on an online harvester tag and licensing system that will give harvesters the convenience of ordering their CTF and tag requests online. We are excited to announce the online system being deployed in June 2022, and can be found on the MMF website.

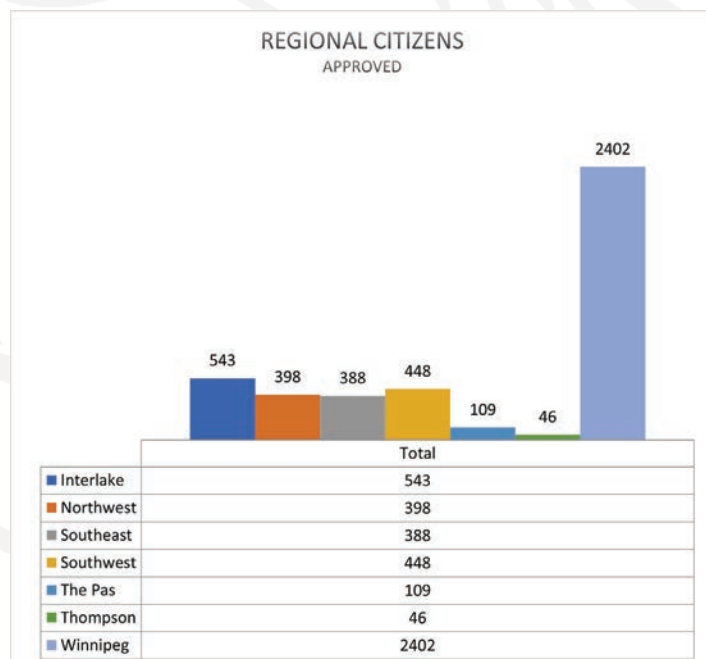
#### Elections

As the MMF election was set to occur in 2022, the CRO worked with the Chief Electoral Office to implement a more streamlined approach for Citizens to verify their names on our voters list, along with information on where their polling location will be. To address this, the CRO developed an online election verification form. This provides an easy way for Citizens to verify their information to ensure they are registered to vote in an MMF election. Please visit the MMF Election website at <http://mmfelections.ca> for more information.

We encourage all Citizens to utilize this form and if you have any questions, or if you are unable to locate yourself on that list, please contact your Regional Office for assistance.

## Métis Genealogical Institute

The Central Registry Office has been working with the St. Boniface Historical Society to develop and implement the Métis Genealogical Institute. As we are receiving an increased number of requests for genealogies, we are working together to expand our partnership to improve on these services and provide this assistance to applicants. Currently, the CRO is developing a database system and will continue to work with St. Boniface Historical Society on information-sharing for historical documents. Please watch for further information and announcements.



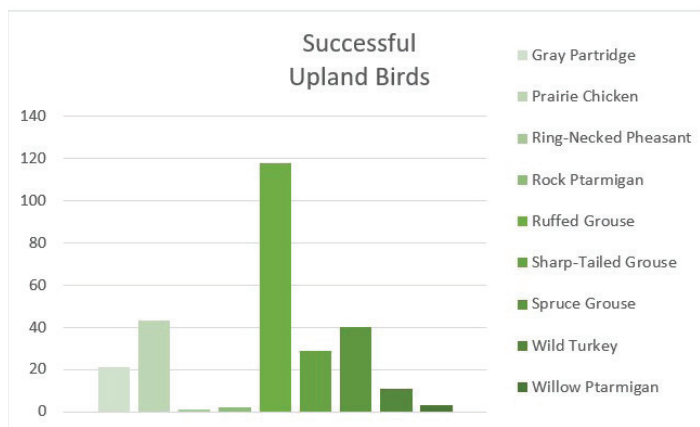
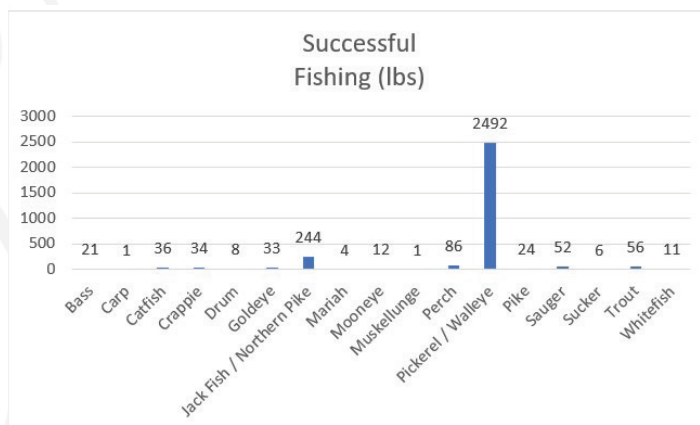
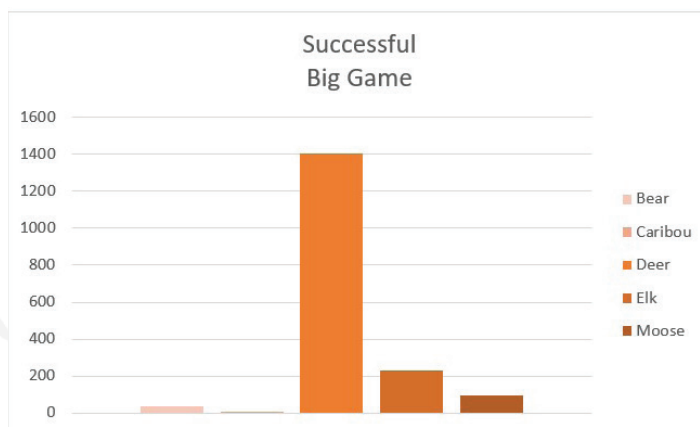
## 2021-22 Citizen Application Stats

- Approved New Applications: 4,334
- Approved New Male Citizens: 2,081
- Approved New Female Citizens: 2,245
- Approved New Non-Binary Citizens: 8
- Approved New Youth: 1,182
- Approved New Adults: 3,152
- Approved New Harvesters: 2,561
- Total Approved Citizens: 43,134
- Total Approved Harvesters: 23,918

## Harvester Survey

With the introduction of the online harvester surveys this past year, we received 5,145 surveys back for the 2020/21 harvesting season. With the new survey design, we are also able to capture and report on new information, including GHA activity, which months are most active, and a more accurate representation of animals harvested.

The following graphs show animals harvested during the 2020/21 season:







1-800-665-8474 citizenship@mmf.mb.ca

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Building towards the future.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**



## COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Department is thrilled to submit our first Annual Report for the 2021-22 fiscal year and share the important work we do behind the scenes for your Red River Métis Government. The Department is responsible for keeping our Citizens, partners, and the public at large informed about the important work being done by the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), as well as highlighting achievements of Citizens. We manage the MMF's online presence and support all other MMF departments, affiliates, and Regions with timely and effective communications. The Communications Department manages Citizen-facing content using tools such as social media, the MMF website, email campaigns, radio scripts, our *Le Metis* newsletter, and other print materials, as well as advertising campaigns such as billboards, newspaper ads, and radio spots. We also communicate directly with Citizens by managing the reception switchboard and the Communications inbox at [communications@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:communications@mmf.mb.ca).

This Department has grown in leaps and bounds over the last fiscal year. Communications added new staff members due to the increase in demand for the growing team to enhance and diversify our skill sets. We launched a brand-new, streamlined website at [mmf.mb.ca](http://mmf.mb.ca) in October 2021, which we've continued to upgrade since. We've added thousands of new Citizen subscribers to our biweekly newsletter *Le Metis*, offered as a print insert in *Grassroots News* as well as sent digitally to thousands of Citizens, and increased our output of feature articles with our new *Citizen Spotlight* page on the website.

We've transformed our social media platforms – Facebook (@Manitoba Métis Federation), Instagram (@manitobametisfederation), and Twitter (MBMetis\_MMF) – by launching numerous campaigns and offering dynamic content.

Our top content included:

- The Early Learning and Child Care Department's Home Child Care Program,
- Raising the Ukrainian flag at the MMF Home Office,
- Bison meat distribution for Elders,
- Louis Riel Day celebrations, and
- A live-streamed press conference on Harvesting rights.

Communications supports MMF-hosted and affiliated events by providing photography, videography, livestreams, social media coverage, and written coverage on our website or newsletter.

Events have taken Communications staff across the province, from The Pas, Flin Flon, and Thompson, to Grand Marais and Selkirk, to Dauphin, and more. In the past year, key events the Communications team has supported included:

- MMF Annual General Assembly
- Infinity Women Secretariat Annual General Assembly
- Regional Meetings
- Ribbon cutting and groundbreaking events for Housing, Early Learning Child Care, and other projects
- Métis Nation flag-raising ceremony at Investors Group Field
- Heartbeat of a Nation: Métis Women 250 Years exhibition opening at the Winnipeg Art Gallery
- City Hall flag raising event
- St. Eustache Métis Local Celebrate Indigenous Resilience Thirty-Eight Fundraiser
- Elder and Youth Tea on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Virtual Louis Riel Commemoration Ceremony
- Selkirk's Holiday Alley
- Tree lighting ceremony at Portage and Main
- Christmas at Portage and Main

As we look back on an exciting year of event coverage, social media, advertising campaigns, and successful projects, the Communications team also looks forward to unprecedented growth over the next few years.

If you have a question for the Communications team, or would like to suggest an idea for us to feature on our platforms, email [communications@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:communications@mmf.mb.ca).



## APRIL 2021 - MARCH 2022

7,704 NEW FOLLOWERS

33,747 PEOPLE VISITED THE LINKS ON OUR POSTS

35,551 PEOPLE SHARED/RETWEETED OUR CONTENT

97,991 PEOPLE LOOKED AT OUR FACEBOOK PHOTOS

908,687 PEOPLE SAW THE MMF'S FACEBOOK POSTS

# CONSTITUTION, RIGHTS & GOVERNANCE

## CONSTITUTION, RIGHTS & GOVERNANCE



**Judy Mayer**  
Minister

In addition to being the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) Vice President of The Pas Region, I hold a number of Ministerial Portfolios. These are: Constitution; Métis Rights; Métis Nation Agenda; and Governance. Within the Governance portfolio I am also the Minister responsible for Elections. My newest portfolio is the Red River Métis Beyond Borders initiative.

These portfolios provide the foundation for nearly all MMF departments and activities. My portfolios interact and have a direct relationship with nearly all other ministerial portfolios. These are exciting times as we continue to move forward and strengthen our responsible and accountable governance for our Red River Métis Citizens.

### Métis Rights

In my role with Métis Rights I have a responsibility to work with my colleagues to ensure our Section 35 Constitutional Rights are promoted, protected, and respected. I anticipate working closely with our MMF Minister responsible for harvesting and our MMF Minister responsible for justice, and others towards this end.

We are the Red River Métis: we are an Indigenous People and a Distinct Nation. The Red River Settlement (now Winnipeg) is the Birthplace of our Nation and the Heart of our Homeland. The MMF is the National Government of the Red River Métis.

We have the right to define ourselves, have our own identity, protect our Citizens and our families no matter where they live, and to have our own governance structures. These are international rights that are recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and is being incorporated into Canadian Law.

### Governance Committee

As the responsible Minister and Chair of the Governance Committee, I lead much of the work necessary to initiate discussion, develop solutions, and draft necessary policies and resolutions to address governance issues. Also, along with my colleagues, I bring forward MMF Annual General Assembly (AGA) Resolutions which include amendments to our MMF Constitution.

Recent topics we are addressing include those of the Locals and Regions such as clarifying relationships within our governance structures and identifying and developing laws and policies required for the implementation of our 2021 Canada – MMF Self-

Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement (SGRIA) as well as the upcoming Self-Government Treaty that is being negotiated based.

Other work includes the MMF Elder Policy; Local Executive Code of Ethics; Local Executive Code of Conduct; and a proposed Cabinet policy resolution concerning Local By-Laws called the Resolution of the Cabinet of the Manitoba Métis Federation Regarding Notice Required by Locals to Conduct Business.

In summary, this proposed Cabinet policy resolution concerns the notices required by Locals to conduct business and is focused on two main items: Local meetings and elections, and Local expenditures.

I am providing this proposed Cabinet policy – as well as those the Elder Policy, Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct – for your consideration. If you have any questions, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### Constitution

At the recent 2021 AGA (which took place in 2022 due to pandemic restrictions) there were a number of constitutional amendments including one that now allows for mail-in ballots from our MMF Citizens who live outside the provincial boundaries of Manitoba. We also made amendments to move our constitution away from corporate language and make it more consistent with that of a government.

### Elections

The recent election was a success on many levels. I congratulate all those involved in the success, in particular the Chief Electoral Officer and his team.

There remains work to be done on some issues, which has already begun. Firstly, we increased our outreach in the electoral process to a much greater number of Citizens. We assembled and trained election workers in every region and have all of our supplies for any necessary work upcoming.

The Assembly has previously passed Constitutional amendments that clarified the voting status and made administration of the most significant challenge for the 2018 election moot.

We developed two technologies that will have a considerable long-term impact on our elections and our capacity to serve all Citizens and give them access to their information.

We were elected by acclamation, which seems to demonstrate universal support for the existing Government, in all positions in the Cabinet.

Cabinet passed the necessary resolution to call the election on May 3, 2022. We were able to issue the Notice of Election (often referred to as the “writ”) the same day. The CEO set the nomination period to end on May 13, 2022, with one week to follow for challenges.

All candidates, except one, were approved within one day of filing their nomination papers. The other candidate, otherwise qualified, had names that did not qualify for that election. Our final review

showed he had less than 20 names (the required amount) provided to the CEO's office before the deadline. As a result, the CEO did not accept his nomination.

On May 21, 2022, the Chief Electoral Officer declared all the nominated persons elected by acclamation. That was genuinely historical, mainly because there was extensive advertising before and after the issuance of the Notice of Election. We had four notable successes. We are much improved in our ongoing readiness for an election. Our capacity is more stable than prior elections despite a rapidly increasing and increasingly geographically diverse citizenship.

Secondly, we were very successful at addressing changes to the Electors List. The new amendments have helped with that, making it much easier to convert to additional services.

There are now two new technologies that are being tested. One will allow for a more relaxed approach to where people vote by introducing a new poll book process. Most importantly, we have developed the technology, in conjunction with the Constitutional amendments, that allows us to ensure that every Citizen has access to determine their voting status without the apparent need for public access.

We were able to manage the significant increase in "mail-in" ballots. Even without expanding technology, we can handle the extraordinary citizenship expansion driven by "Beyond Borders."

### **Red River Métis Beyond Borders Initiative**

In 2007 the United Nations declared that Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own membership in accordance with their own traditions, and have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation with their own members across borders. Last year, in June of 2021, Canada passed Bill C-15, with which "[...] the Declaration is affirmed as a source for the interpretation of Canadian law."

The 2014 MMF AGA gave direction that our families and our community must not be separated or divided by these arbitrary and artificial borders that are not of our choosing, meaning that individuals who are Red River Métis are not required to be a resident of Manitoba to have Manitoba Métis Citizenship. This is the essence of our Beyond Borders initiative.

The MMF created the Beyond Borders Task Force, which has been travelling across the Northwest this summer, visiting cities such as Calgary, Vancouver, Saskatoon, Yorkton, and more. They will continue to host Beyond Border consultations until early fall.

The purpose and specific objectives of the Task Force include:

- Providing a description on who the Red River Métis, also known as the Manitoba Métis, are as a People and Nation;
- Providing an overview on the MMF – the exclusive National Government of the Red River Métis;
- Updating on the MMF activities right now and in future for our Governance "Beyond Borders" (including voting + constitution amendments, etc.); and
- Sharing and receiving ideas on the continued implementation of the Red River Métis National Governance Beyond Borders including the development of non-resident and cross border policies, programs, and services, etc.

In the sessions there has been a mixture of presentations with question-and-answer periods for Citizens to express their perspectives on their needs and how they fit within the MMF Governance structure. We anticipate a "What We Heard" report will be shared with you soon.

### **Métis Nation Agenda**

The Métis Nation Agenda is a portfolio whose content and title need to be reviewed. Its activities were originally informed by our past relationship with the Métis National Council. It will be reframed to be consistent with our Red River Métis Beyond Borders initiative.

### **Cabinet Declaration**

At a recent MMF Cabinet retreat your elected leadership discussed, and at times debated, a number of important issues and opportunities as we implement our governance mandate.

Some of the matters discussed included our Red River Métis Identity and identity theft by outsiders, and our next steps. There were also briefings on our Beyond Borders Task Force, our current MMF corporate transition to s.35 governance, taxation, and branding, as well as many other topics such as our properties and developments across Manitoba. In addition, an update was provided about our ongoing negotiations for our Land Claim and Modern-Day Treaty.

A resolution was developed and passed by Cabinet titled The National Government of the Red River Métis Declaration. This Declaration states that the MMF has the legally recognized mandate to represent all Red River Métis in respect to our collective rights and interests. The MMF Cabinet will be bringing this Declaration to the AGA for consideration. As an integral part of the Red River Métis Government structure and process, we anticipate the AGA will support the President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement this Declaration.

### **In Summary**

This is only a brief summary of the work being undertaken in my portfolios. It is clear that our Nation is advancing our agenda and making great strides in finding our rightful place in Canada's confederation. I hope you are as excited as I am about this important work. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns on any of these matters please contact me at your leisure. Thank you.







**CULTURE  
& HERITAGE**

## CULTURE & HERITAGE



**Alfred Anderson**

*Minister*

The 2021-2022 fiscal year was filled with many challenges as the world navigated the second year of a global pandemic. Luckily, we as Red River Métis Citizens are resilient and know that community is our biggest strength. Minister Alfred Anderson and the Culture and Heritage Department kept busy finding ways to strengthen our pride and bring the community together safely. The department focused on creating tools that can be used in the education and growth of Red River Métis culture, heritage, and pride.

### Events

Unfortunately, the department had to cancel many planned events during the year due to public gathering restrictions. Fortunately, we were able to gather for two events, the Louis Riel Commemoration Day, and Louis Riel Day.

Louis Riel Commemoration Day was held via a live broadcast at the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) home office, due to inclement weather on November 16, 2021. Following the ceremony, attendees were invited to join delegates at Louis Riel's burial site at the St. Boniface Museum.

This year, the department partnered with the Louis Riel Institute and the St. Boniface Museum to celebrate Louis Riel Day on February 21, 2022, which included the creation of a virtual quiz and treasure hunt that led participants to the Museum. The event featured Métis performers, bannock, and cultural giveaways.

The focus for the next fiscal year will be bringing cultural events back to our community in person. We also hope to develop an events calendar and historic sites booklet to allow Citizens and those interested in learning about Red River Métis culture and heritage an opportunity to explore independently.

### Founding Manitoba

Often, the history of Manitoba is retold excluding the history of Red River Métis or in a way that villainizes us. By the time of the 150th anniversary of Manitoba joining Confederation, this version of history continued to prevail. The department created a brochure, highlighting the Red River Métis' role in bringing the province into Confederation, and is also in the process of creating a mini documentary focussing on the same topic. This project was made possible through funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage.

### Michif Language

Over the last fiscal year, the department began to take small steps in the preservation and celebration of the Michif language. Michif, with few remaining speakers, is on the brink of extinction. The department continues to undertake work to ensure its continuation down generational lines as a vital element of Métis culture and heritage. The department received funding over the next two years through the Indigenous Languages Branch of the Department of Canadian Heritage to ensure the preservation and celebration of the language. Planning projects has begun and next fiscal year the projects will include community consultations and upgrading our Michif language features on social media.

### Métis Music Van (MMV)

As we navigated through the second year of the pandemic, the MMV's popularity grew even stronger. Minister Anderson has always had the mission of not just instilling pride amongst Red River Métis Citizens, but also putting a smile on their faces. The MMV has achieved both and continues to bring joy wherever it travels. Minister Anderson has taken the MMV across the Interlake, Southeast, and Winnipeg regions, celebrating Red River Métis Citizens by attending graduations and birthday parties, while promoting our culture and music. His work has been recognized by local media outlets and has been awarded a Selkirk Biz Award and a Promoting Aboriginal Student Success (P.A.S.S) Crystal Community Award in Community Leadership.

Over the next fiscal year, Minister Anderson hopes to expand the MMV's reach into more regions throughout our homeland.

Minister Anderson and the department are eager to continue the work of protecting and promoting Red River Métis Culture and Heritage this upcoming fiscal year and seeing many new projects become a reality. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the Provincial Culture and Heritage Coordinator, Sierra Hill, via email [sierra.hill@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:sierra.hill@mmf.mb.ca) or via telephone 204-586-8474. Meeqwetch.

# **EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE**



## EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE



**Frances Chartrand**  
Minister

The Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Department mandates that all Métis children should be entitled to affordable and accessible ELCC programs and services. Our Métis Government commits to continue to build and grow a strong presence of child care centres within the Red River Métis Homeland with builds underway and eight operational child care centre facilities: Michif Children's Place, Li Chi Shevru, Duck Bay – Partnership with Abinoje Head Start, Keewatinowi Awasisak Opi-Ki-Wak (KAO) Child Care Centre, Elbert Chartrand Child Care Centre, and Li Pchi Pwayson School Age Child Care Centre. We celebrated three Little Stars PLAYhouse grand openings of new licensed home child care programs, with an additional 12 Métis Citizens currently in the licensing process.

Providing culturally competent and trained early childhood educators in healthy, equitable, and supportive work environments is the goal of your Métis Government. We partnered with Louis Riel Vocational College (LRVC), Assiniboine Community College, and other reputable educational institution providers to meet the ongoing need for Child Care Assistants, and Early Childhood Educators II and III. ELCC partnered with Métis Employment and Training (MET) to assist students with living allowance and program-related subsidies. We are committed to building strong relationships with our partners.

Our Métis culture and language are the foundation of our children's identity. As Métis people, the rights to self-determination include the right to control the design, delivery, and administration of an ELCC system that reflects our unique needs, priorities, and aspirations. These actions will be met through ongoing child-direct



programming, parenting, and community support. We celebrated our first successful summer of the Early Learning & Child Care Mobile family program. We look forward to bringing back this program next year.

Additional support programs are critical to our Métis families, including transportation, hot lunch, subsidy, childminding, and parenting programs. Our department will increase our fleet of vans and buses with properly equipped tethered car and booster seats. We are pleased to provide safe transportation to and from school, and enhance educational outreach and field trips.



In partnership with universities and our Health & Wellness Department, we will embark on the first Early Learning and Child Care Métis Longitudinal Study. Our study will follow our children's lives and the outcomes of culture and language on them during their early years. We will be able to see the effect it has on their identity, confidence, and personal development. Data collection, program reach, feasibility studies, and provincial scans will continue as ongoing components of the Early Learning and Child Care portfolio.

Our COVID-19 community outreach continues with the delivery of our My Little Métis Box. The box is designed for Métis children between zero to six years of age. The components of the box focuses on education of Métis culture, and is filled with books to enhance literacy, refine gross motor skills, and strengthen numeracy skills. ELCC is set to reach over 1,500 young Métis Citizens per quarter globally. Early Learning and Child Care also provided our Culture Kits to over 200 licensed child care centres, licensed child care home centres, and Aboriginal Head Starts across Manitoba. The kits celebrated Louis Riel Day and I Love to Read Month, honouring our Elders, authors, and publishers. The Culture Kits were a way to keep children engaged while sharing our rich Métis culture and language during a tough financial time due to the pandemic.

As we celebrate our past accomplishments, we are excited for another successful year ahead! Thank you for the guidance of our Elders and the support and recommendations from the MMF Regions and Locals. Your Red River Métis Government is committed to accessible and affordable Early Learning and Child Care for all Métis children and families throughout the province. For more information about Early Learning and Child Care programs or services, please email us at [elcc@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:elcc@mmf.mb.ca).

**ENERGY  
& INFRASTRUCTURE**

## ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE



**Jack Park**  
*Minister*

The Energy and Infrastructure portfolio was created by the National Government of the Red River Métis to address the development and management of energy and infrastructure projects across our National Homeland. This includes energy projects such as generating stations, transmission lines and pipelines, solar, wind, and nuclear power as well as infrastructure projects such as roads, bridges, dams, and outlet channels.

### Enbridge – Line 3 Replacement Project (L3RP)

Line 3, built in the 1960s, is part of the Enbridge crude oil pipeline system known as the Mainline System. The L3RP is the largest project in Enbridge history and replaces 1,765 km of existing pipe – from Hardisty, AB to Superior, WI, with the Canadian portion ending in Gretna, MB – with modern materials. Construction on the project is complete across the 9 spreads, and Line 3 came online in December 2019. With the pipe installed, your Red River Métis Government is now focused on ensuring Enbridge adheres to the Métis-specific mitigation and accommodation measures that were agreed to in 2018.

The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), through a joint venture with MN4CI and Steel River Group, completed the contract for the decommissioning of the pipeline. The MMF is continuing to work towards a stewardship of the land approach for the operations and maintenance phase of the replacement pipeline. Part of that work includes having Red River Métis monitors out on the project, and the MMF is working with both N4 and Enbridge's contractors to ensure that we have these "eyes and ears" out on the project, working to ensure appropriate environmental and safety compliance.

Your Red River Métis Government is also working with Enbridge to revise their Indigenous Operational Engagement plan and will continue to work with Enbridge and the Canada Energy Regulator (CER) to ensure the engagement strategy appropriately considers the needs of the Red River Métis. The MMF is also working with Enbridge to revise their current Indigenous policy to better reflect the rights, claims, and interests of the Red River Métis.

### 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 Canada Energy Regulator (formerly the National Energy Board or NEB), and 16 Indigenous members from across Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba – four of whom are from the Métis Nation (1-MNA, 2-MNS, 1-MMF).

Through the IAMC, Canada provided funding for two Red River Métis monitors (Tayler Fleming and Jade Dewar) from the MMF to accompany CER inspectors during their scheduled inspections of L3RP. These inspections were focused on compliance measures specific to environmental and safety conditions along the project right of way. With pandemic restrictions in place, the CER hosted several virtual inspections and tabletop exercises to review the compliance activities and ensure Enbridge was fulfilling its obligations.

The MMF's representative (Marci Riel) is the former Indigenous Co-Chair of the committee and continues to take a lead role in the IAMC and the various subcommittees to ensure the MMF and the Red River Métis are appropriately represented with a focus on Indigenous monitoring and meaningful engagement.

### Canada Energy Regulator – Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC)

Through the new Canada Energy Regulator Act, the CER is now responsible for federal Crown consultation on projects that fall within their jurisdiction. The Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC) fulfils a key requirement of the CER Act to establish an advisory committee to enhance the involvement of the Indigenous Peoples of Canada and Indigenous organizations in the CER's regulated infrastructure.

The IAC serves as part of the overall governance of the CER as its overarching role is to advise the Board of Directors on how the CER can build a renewed relationship with the Indigenous Peoples of Canada. The IAC plays a key advisory role to the Board on how best to enhance the involvement of Indigenous Nations with respect to the CER regulated infrastructure. The IAC advises on the integration of Indigenous perspectives throughout the lifecycle of projects and assists with the CER's strategy related to integrating Indigenous rights, interests, and values into the CER's work and process.

The IAC is a committee of nine representatives and is led by a Chair and Vice Chair selected by the IAC. The Red River Métis representative at the IAC is Marci Riel.

### Impact Assessment Legislation

Your Red River Métis Government is working with Canada on a proposed system for consultation and engagement activities that are 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 aims to secure free, prior, and informed consent through processes based on mutual respect and dialogue.

### **Manitoba Minnesota Transmission Project (MMTP)**

Manitoba Hydro's MMTP includes construction of a 500-kilovolt AC transmission line in southeastern Manitoba and upgrades to the associated stations at Dorsey, Riel, and Glenboro. Construction on Manitoba Hydro's Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project (MMTP) went into service in 2020.

The MMF is currently reviewing Manitoba Hydro's Crown Land Offset Management Plan (CLOMP) to ensure it fully considers the "value" of the land that is being lost due to the size of the right-of-way. Through this process, the MMF will be working with Manitoba Hydro and other Indigenous Nations to ensure that the land being taken up by the transmission line is purchased and returned to Crown land elsewhere in Manitoba.

Flowing from a licensing condition specific to this project, the MMF is also undertaking a cultural and terrestrial study on Crown land and the cumulative impacts of transmission projects in southern Manitoba. This study will lead to a protocol between the MMF and Canada specific to cultural and heritage resources.

The MMF regularly participates in ongoing flora and fauna surveys along the MMTP line at various study locations. Christian Goulet is the MMF Energy and Infrastructure Coordinator and has been participating in the assessment of land parcels proposed by Manitoba Hydro to offset lands lost to the project.

### **St. Vital Transmission Complex**

The project includes construction of two 230-kV 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 existing right of way 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 and construction began in the summer of 2019. The expected completion date is set for fall 2022.

### **Birtle Transmission Project**

Manitoba Hydro recently built a 230-kV transmission line from the Birtle Station, south of the community of Birtle, to the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border. Construction on this project ended in December and the line went into service in January 2020.

The MMF undertook a Métis Land Use and Occupancy Study to assess the impacts of the project on Red River Métis people and 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.

The Birtle project is among the projects that are the focus of the legal claim against Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro. The MMF continues to push Canada on this project, as it crosses a provincial border but was not subject to a federal assessment, nor is it regulated by the Canada Energy Regulator. Despite these issues, the MMF 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 MMF will continue working with Canada and the federal regulator to ensure the protection of areas of interest to the Métis Nation.

### **Kettle Hills Generating Station**

Your Red River Métis Government met with Manitoba Hydro recently to discuss an interim license that will be required for the Crown corporation to continue operating the Kettle Hills Generating Station. The interim license is meant to bridge a gap until their long-term license is issued similar to the process that was undertaken for the Lake Winnipeg Regulations and the Churchill Diversion Project. The MMF will continue to work with Manitoba Hydro and the province to ensure the concerns raised by our Citizens and Harvesters specific to impacts of the project do not continue to go un-addressed.

### **BP 6/7 and PACE project**

Manitoba Hydro has replaced a damaged transmission line near Portage la Prairie (PLP) along with improvements at the Portage la Prairie station. The MMF conducted an analysis of traditional knowledge, land use, and occupancy information available in the data catalogue and hosted a community consultation meeting to discuss impacts of the construction of the line and the work. Manitoba Hydro provided funding for a Métis Community Assessment Specialist, Keith Kowall, who was able to connect directly with Citizens and Harvesters that were likely to be impacted by the work being undertaken by Manitoba Hydro. This work has continued with Dustin Hoft, the MMF's Agriculture Coordinator, with the objective of collecting information specific to the impacts of the project on our Red River Métis farmers and ranchers. The information collected was provided to Manitoba Hydro in a series of reports drafted by your Red River Métis Government with the intention of guiding their construction practices and mitigation measures.

### **Project 6 – All Season Road**

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

This project is currently on hold as Manitoba Transport & Infrastructure is required to file a revised Environmental Impact Statement in line with the new impact assessment legislation. Recently the project's Final Environmental Impact Statement deadline has been extended to August 28, 2026. The MMF has received funding from Canada to participate in the federal assessment process. More information on this project will be shared as soon as the proponent files their project information.



## **Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Project**

Manitoba Transport & Infrastructure (MTI) 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. Your Red River Métis Government has worked diligently to ensure the appropriate regulatory bodies are aware of the potential impacts of the project and to be sure Métis concerns are fully considered, mitigated where possible, and accommodated where mitigation is not possible.

The MMF recently completed a Métis traditional knowledge, land use, and occupancy study 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. Unfortunately, Manitoba refuses to provide the MMF with sufficient funding to meaningfully participate and further, it refuses to recognize the MMF as the legal Government of the Red River Métis. The MMF will continue to push Manitoba to meaningfully consult with the Métis Government as the representative of Citizens and Harvesters across the National Homeland.

This Project is subject to multiple regulatory reviews by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency), Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Transport Canada, as well as Manitoba's department of Conservation and Climate. The MMF is working with all applicable federal departments to ensure the components of the project that fall under their mandate are prioritized.

The MMF has undertaken a number of studies to assess both the impacts of the project on our rights, claims, and interests, as well as to develop an alternate plan that will ensure the flooding issue is addressed without the long-term impacts of the channel project as proposed by Manitoba. The MMF has hired a number of experts in the field to review the material, recommend a more appropriate plan for construction, and to then assess the costs associated with doing so.

Your Red River Métis Government has conveyed concerns about the project as well as the consultation and engagement processes to the appropriate federal and provincial Ministers. The MMF will continue 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.

## **Pointe Du Bois Renewable Energy Project (PBREP)**

The station was built in 1910 and needs upgrading to restore its full electrical production. Manitoba Hydro is proposing a plan to retrofit 8 of the 16 generator units located in the Pointe du Bois generating station. As a result of the upgrades the old transmission lines between Point du Bois and the Lee River transformer station must be replaced and the right-of-way widened from 30 to 60 metres. The widening is due to the higher voltage of the lines.

Hydro also proposed a new section of line running from the Lee River transformer station down to the Seven Sisters generating station. Hydro has begun consultation with the MMF on impacts to Harvester rights and has requested feedback on route selection and related concerns for the project.

The MMF has participated in aerial surveys of the proposed routes, plant and animal studies, ground tours, and a consultation round table with First Nations. Your Red River Métis Government is working with Hydro to identify routes of concern based on observations of the area, feedback from Métis Harvester surveys, and plant and wildlife survey data.

## **Whiteshell Reactor WR-1 – Decommissioning Project**

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) has begun decommissioning the Pinawa site and is applying for a license from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) on their proposed decommissioning plan to remove radioactive waste to Chalk River Ontario and bury the decommissioned WR-1 reactor in concrete grout on the site.

With funding from the CNSC and CNL, your Red River Métis Government has undertaken a technical review of the project, held two community consultation meetings on the plan, and proposed monitoring activity, performed 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.

Your Red River Métis Government appeared on your behalf in the regulatory hearings for the environmental licensing of both the current state of the nuclear reactor and its planned decommissioning. As a result of that intervention, the MMF had a Métis Environmental Monitor on site for a variety of monitoring tasks over the past two years, including water sampling at the discharge lagoon, monitoring well water sampling, overland water outflow testing, and edible plant, fungus, and game testing in the area.

The MMF and CNL have finalized an agreement for a Métis-specific monitoring program to ensure the MMF has a Métis monitor onsite when CNL conducts testing. The MMF Energy and Infrastructure Coordinator is working with CNL to develop a testing program based on Red River Métis land use and harvesting in the area, which includes traditional foods, medicines, fish, and game.

The MMF and MN4CI are currently reviewing CNL's procurement and prequalification process to determine the best options for economic development opportunities. CNL has encountered some project delays and is awaiting a response from the federal regulator regarding their licensing application.

## **OCN New Solid Waste Facility**

A 43-hectare solid waste facility is planned for an area south of OCN. Impacts to Métis access to Crown as well as hunting and trapping grounds have been identified. The Energy, Infrastructure, and Resource Management Department (EIRM) is responding with concerns, a procurement proposal, a requirement for a Traditional Land Use Study, as well as a request for donation to the Elders' wood gathering program.

## **St. Andrews Lock and Dam Project**

The Government of Canada is resurfacing the bridge and adding wheelchair accessibility to the bridge walkway at the site of the St. Andrews Lock and Dam. The project uncovered 150-year-old human remains and has engaged an archeological firm for



shovel testing and artifact logging. To date they have uncovered thousands of artifacts from the soils of this historically Red River Métis settlement area. Your Red River Métis Government has hired a Red River Métis archeologist to work onsite for the duration of the construction phase and to assist with cataloguing these artifacts for repatriation to our Nation.

### **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 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 by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) as the Red River Métis have been identified as being highly affected by the project. The MMF was granted funding to participate in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Assessment (EA) review of the project and to hold community consultation meetings across the Homeland.

The MMF has undertaken a traditional knowledge, land use, and occupancy study as well as a technical review of the project scope, and has submitted comments and recommendations to both Canada and Manitoba. Discussions are ongoing with regard to the development of appropriate and meaningful mitigation measures to be included in the environmental assessment filings. Alamos Gold Inc. has recently been granted a one-year extension for their Environmental Impact Statement.

### **Neepawa Bike Park**

EIRM is working to partner with the town of Neepawa to help make their new mountain bike park attraction even greener. Through the MMF's two million trees program, the MMF will help the town select native species that are desirable and successful for the region.

### **Efficiency Manitoba**

Efficiency Manitoba is a Crown corporation devoted to energy conservation. Their goal is to make saving energy and reducing energy bills easy and affordable.

Efficiency Manitoba filed their plan with the Public Utilities Board and our department continues to review the plan to determine the best fit for the Red River Métis.

Efficiency Manitoba and EIRM are working with the Louis Riel Capital Corporation and MMF Housing to refer Métis small businesses to available programming. The MMF Housing Department, in coordination with EIRM, has also hired an Energy Advocate to direct our Citizens to programming that is available to increase the energy efficiency of their homes.

### **Low Carbon Economy Fund – Energy Retrofits**

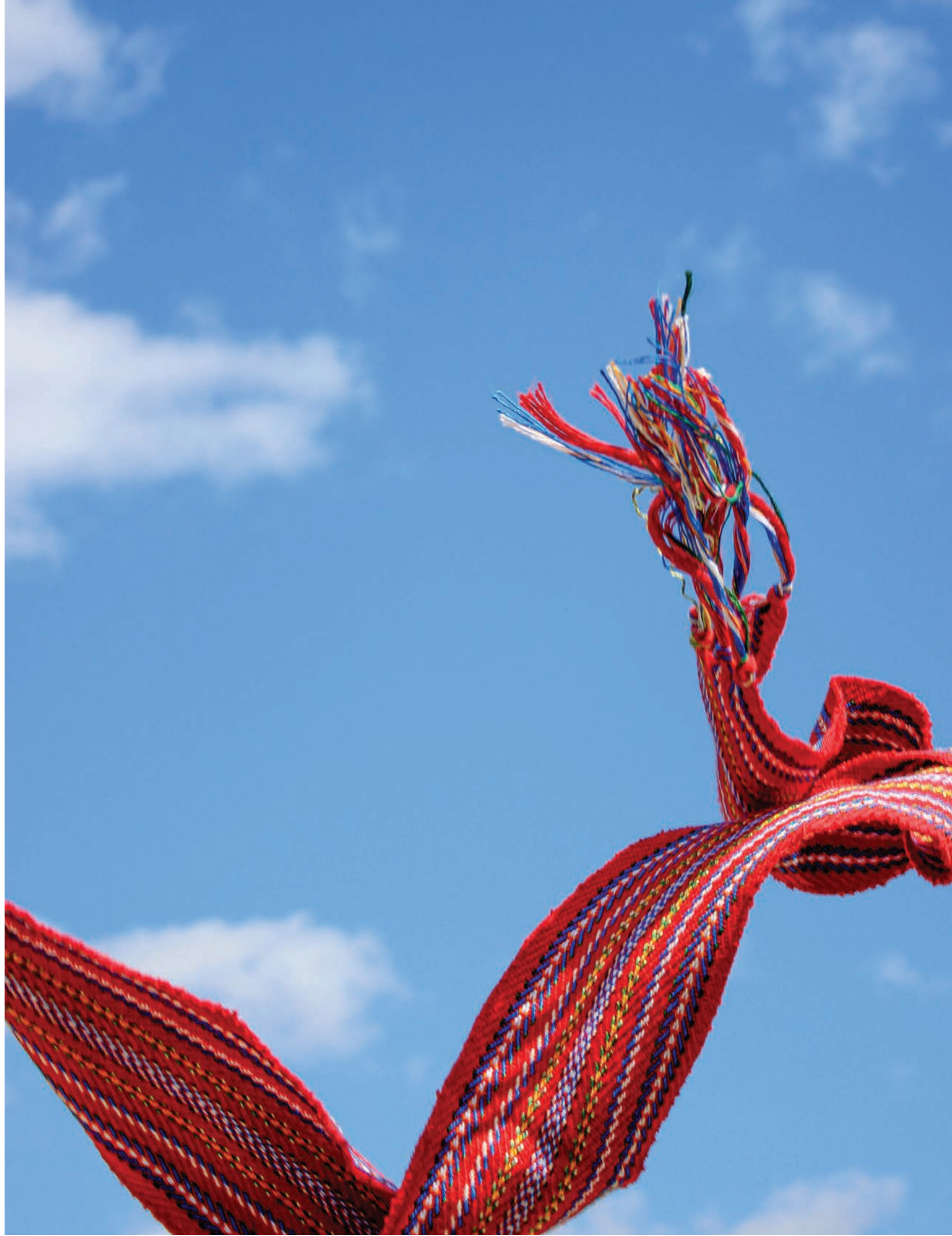
The MMF applied for funding to renovate the MMF Home Office with the intention of reducing our carbon footprint and making the building more energy efficient. The retrofit includes the building envelope and windows, a solar wall, the replacement of the boilers and related infrastructure, as well as additional renovations as appropriate such as low flush toilets. Work on the building has begun and will continue through to the end of the fiscal year.

### **Green Energy and Infrastructure Master Plan**

EIRM is seeking funding to assess MMF government-owned buildings for energy efficiency and green energy opportunities. The plan will serve as a carbon reduction roadmap for the National Government of the Red River Métis, helping to align your Government with the United Nations 2030 reductions, and 2050 net zero emissions goals.

### **Infrastructure Projects**

Canada recently provided funding to rural municipalities and smaller communities across Manitoba, and the MMF is working with each project team to ensure that Red River Métis rights, claims, and interests are appropriately considered and mitigated through project development, construction, and operation. Projects under this process include road improvements, docks, access trails, drainage systems, and boardwalks. The MMF is also working with the project teams to develop a process for N4 to participate in the work as appropriate.



# ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

## ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION



**Denise Thomas**

*Minister*

### Department Mandate

The Engagement and Consultation Department works to ensure a consistent, thorough, and pragmatic approach to Engagement and Consultation with the Red River Métis. The Department, through following Resolution No. 8, mandates a “single-window” approach to all engagement and consultation files that may impact the rights, interests, and claims of the Red River Métis.

The Department works closely with internal and external subject matter experts, departmental staff, MMF Regions, Locals, and Citizens having the responsibility to work together to ensure that any decision or project contemplated that may affect our collective Métis rights, interests, and claims are effectively addressed in matters related to engagement, consultation, and accommodation with the Red River Métis.

### Department Overview

The Engagement and Consultation Department (the “Department”) is the central point of contact for projects that may impact the rights, interests and/or claims of the Red River Métis. Consultation with the Métis Community is vital to ensuring that our rights are protected and that any impacts to our community are minimized, mitigated, and accommodated. Resolution No. 8 was adopted in 2007 and sets out the framework for engagement and consultation with the Red River Métis. It includes five distinct phases:

**Phase I:** Notice and Response;

**Phase II:** Research and Capacity;

**Phase III:** Engagement & Consultation;

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

**Phase V:** Implementation.

Throughout the 2021/2022 fiscal year, the Department continued acting on its directive for projects that impacted the rights, interests, and/or claims of the Red River Métis. The Department also worked with various MMF Departments to assist with writing proposals related to consultation/engagement activities with the Red River Métis. In the coming fiscal years, the Department will be facilitating community consultations with Citizens on a broad number of subjects including Governance, Health, Identity, Housing, Justice, Education, and so forth. In March 2021, the department was involved in 260 files but has subsequently enjoyed

an 85 per cent increase throughout that year, and now facilitates Engagement and Consultation activities on approximately 472 files.

### United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Throughout the summer and fall of 2021, the Department diligently worked to organize a Community and Youth virtual engagement on Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Many presentations were made by MMF Cabinet and leaders to ignite group discussions with Métis Citizens on how to advance Red River Métis rights related to the following matters:

- Environment, Lands, Territories and Resources;
- Red River Métis Languages;
- Health;
- Justice;
- 2SLGBTQIA++, Women, Elders, Youth, and Children;
- The rights of Métis Citizens with disabilities.

Many Métis Citizens and Youth had the opportunity through breakout rooms to voice their opinions and suggestions on what they believe should be on the list of priorities as it related to the UN Declaration and the creation of a Métis-specific action plan.

Overall, the consultations on Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples were a success and will give the members of our team the opportunity to review and address the direct needs of our Red River Métis Citizens.

### Caregiver Consultation

On September 15, 2021, the Department, along with Michif Child and Family Services (“MCFS”) and Métis Child, Family, and Community Services (“MCFCS”) hosted a virtual community consultation on defining a Métis Caregiver. Both MCFS and MCFCS presented an overview of Kinship & Foster Care Providers by the defining terms, their practices, statistics, and the Alternate Care Department.

Following the presentation, the meeting split into discussion groups to ask Citizens questions on how they define a Métis Caregiver, the types of changes needed to ensure care for children, and does the Red River Métis Community support enhancing Guardianship roles within the families? The discussion groups provided sufficient information on how to proceed forward and displayed the need to host future meetings focusing on different areas of Child and Family Services. These consultations are the basis which will inform the MMF’s own Child and Family Services laws.

### Against Gender-Based Violence Consultation

Near the end of 2021, the Department, in conjunction with Infinity Women Secretariat (“IWS”), held multiple virtual consultation meetings regarding Gender-Based Violence (“GBV”). As IWS led the virtual consultations with presentations and group discussions on several areas about GBV, topics included:



- GBV Awareness;
- Cultural Connections and Resiliency;
- Developing Prevention Capacity to Build a Strong and Healthy Community.

Due to the sensitive nature of the consultation and the heavy topics it brought, staff and Citizens provide support to each other by showing encouragement and sympathy for individuals who had a difficult time sharing and expressing their comments. By the end of the meetings, it was made clear by Citizens that to have and keep a healthy and safe community, more education, programs, and initiatives are required at a community level.

### **Territorial Acknowledgements**

The Department has been addressing the need of updating the traditional wording of various Territorial Acknowledgements to accurately reflect the Homeland of the Red River Métis. With the signing of our Self-Government Agreement on July 6, 2021, many organizations have not yet changed to reflect the Homeland of the Red River Métis, and that is why we have sent over 56 letters to school divisions, entertainment industries, private companies, etc.

To date, we have had meaningful discussions on updating Territorial Acknowledgements with many organizations, including: the City of Winnipeg, True North Sports & Entertainment, and the Manitoba Museum.

### **The City of Winnipeg – Our Winnipeg Draft Plan**

OurWinnipeg is the city of Winnipeg's development plan for the next 25 years, drafted to achieve "a vibrant and healthy city which places its highest priority in quality of life for all its Citizens and an affordable, responsive and innovative public service."

The Department engaged in discussions with the City of Winnipeg (the "City") regarding their "Draft Plan" and their Draft Engagement Framework. The plan includes policies related to Winnipeg's population growth, environmental resilience, homelessness, Indigenous economic development, and an "Indigenous Lens."

The Department provided extensive feedback and concerns related to the Draft Plan and continuously reiterated the importance of including the MMF and recognizing the MMF as rightsholders, not stakeholders. Additionally, as it is a 25-year plan, the MMF had requested OurWinnipeg to ensure there was a plan for homelessness included as an "Appendix" to the report. Unfortunately, the request was not fulfilled. Despite the efforts made by the MMF, the City has not had the capacity to meaningfully engage the MMF despite still having outstanding concerns with the Draft Plan when it was presented to the Executive Policy Committee on January 20, 2021.

Following this, the City informed the MMF of their Draft Engagement Framework. Following preliminary conversations, the City expressed interest in having the MMF provide a presentation on Resolution No. 8 to the City's leadership. During the summer of 2021, the Department made a presentation to the City's leadership and various department heads. As a result, the City proceeded to follow Resolution No. 8 properly, which led to a strengthening of their relationship with the MMF.

### **City of Winnipeg Council Chamber Flag Raising Ceremony**

Through the process of Resolution No. 8, the Department achieved Phase IV – Partnership and Accommodation with the City, with Winnipeg Region Vice-President and Ministers raising the Métis flag during their Flag Raising Ceremony on September 15, 2021. The ceremony recognized the new and permanent addition of Métis, Anishinaabe, Inuit, Cree, and Dakota cultural and symbolic items to the Winnipeg Council Chamber.

In early 2022, the Department connected the City with beader Emma Bradley, who is in the process of creating an art piece for the occasion.

The City is now in the process of developing a small video project which will be used as part of an education and awareness campaign for city staff and elected officials. The video will highlight an upcoming interview between the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Region Vice-President on what it means to have the Métis flag flying permanently at City Hall and what the MMF's hopes are for the relationship with the City of Winnipeg.

### **City of Winnipeg Archives Strategy**

In June 2021, the City of Winnipeg sought the MMF's interest in providing input on the direction of future City Archives programming and facility requirements. Specifically, the Archives' mission is "to acquire, manage, and maintain accurate, authentic, and usable records in the public trust. To foster civic identity and awareness by connecting citizens to the sources of their past, their histories, and their communities. To support the transformation of information into knowledge."

The MMF expressed appreciation towards the City's efforts to engage the Manitoba Métis Community in becoming informed of the Strategy and its impacts to Métis rights-holders, but was disheartened that the Strategy was sent to the Louis Riel Institute first. A reminder that all notifications are to be addressed to President David Chartrand, copied to the Engagement and Consultation Department.

Following a presentation between the Louis Riel Institute/the MMF and the City of Winnipeg, we rebuffed a broad requirement for "Indigenous ceremonies (which based on the review ONLY included smudging), storytelling, and programming" – an overarching, grossly pan-Indigenous outlook which does not reflect the distinction or the needs of Métis people to better access the Winnipeg Archives, which is situated at the birthplace of the Red River Métis.

In this regard, the MMF recommended a 20-year projection on how space requirements could account for consultation space in the archives to support the research needs of the Manitoba Métis.

### **Poverty Reduction Strategy**

In 2021, the City of Winnipeg (the "City") established a Poverty Reduction Strategy (the "Strategy") to "clarify the City's role in poverty reduction" to establish a foundation for the City of Winnipeg's work in poverty reduction going forward. The City requested to engage the MMF on a 10-year Strategy Report, and priority actions which will be taken over the next 18 months. The



Strategy includes eight 10-year goals:

1. Strategy Implementation and Systems Change;
2. Affordable Housing;
3. Employment and Income Opportunities;
4. Increased Community Well-Being Supports;
5. Transportation System Equity;
6. Equity in City Services;
7. Food Security; and
8. Community Safety.

During the summer of 2021, the Department discussed the inclusion of a Métis-specific action item which would be continuous and support ongoing collaboration and partnership with the MMF throughout the implementation of the Strategy across all relevant goals.

The City has proposed the following wording for a Métis-specific action item:

“Work with the Manitoba Métis Federation in accordance with Resolution No. 8 to develop an ongoing process of engagement and collaboration on poverty reduction-related measures that ensure inclusion of the interests and priorities of the Manitoba Métis Nation.”

The MMF asked to receive a draft of the Strategy and of the action items so they can be reviewed by the MMF prior to submission. On November 25, 2021, Council approved the City's first-ever Poverty Reduction Strategy (2021 – 2031), a comprehensive plan that includes a practical approach to reducing poverty, increasing equity, and incorporating a “culture of caring” in all City endeavours over the next decade.

### **The Privacy Act**

The Privacy Act (“the Act”) came into force in 1983 and is a key piece of Canada's overall legal framework for protecting privacy. It is federal legislation focused on the protection of personal information held by the federal government and federal public-sector institutions.

The Government of Canada (“Canada”) intends to modernize the Privacy Act to “update rights and obligations to protect individuals’ modern expectations of privacy, allow adaptability for innovative governance in a world of disruptive change, and incorporate meaningful and transparent accountability mechanisms backed by strong governance and oversight.”

In November 2020, Canada notified the Department of the intent to modernize the Act and initiated consultation regarding the “specific impacts of Privacy Act modernization on the Manitoba Métis Community.” The Department met with Justice Canada on March 29, 2021, to discuss how the Privacy Act “can better meet the MMF’s needs and the expectations of the Manitoba Métis Community.”

Justice Canada’s initial engagement efforts did not include the MMF, and noted funding was not available for the MMF to speak with its Citizens. As discussions progressed and Canada continued to propose changes related to other Acts that accompany the

Privacy Act, Canada presented the opportunity to submit a proposal to fund proper and meaningful engagement with Red River Citizens.

Based on meetings with Indigenous leaders, Justice Canada released a “what we learned” document in February 2022, with all engagements or surveys and a report of findings due by September 30.

### **The MCRT & Consultations Amid COVID-19**

The Department continues to assist the Métis COVID-19 Response Team (“MCRT”) with administrative duties, organization, reporting, research, and reviewing the necessary documents. Although providing support to the MCRT adds additional responsibilities, the Department ensures the Red River Métis Community is consulted and engaged on matters that may impact the rights, interests, and claims of the Red River Métis.

In 2020, due to COVID-19 and in the interest of the Métis Community’s health, the MMF put a hold on in-person community consultation meetings. Continuing into 2021, as the work of proponents and the Crown did not stop, the Department worked to develop innovative solutions to undertake community consultations in a virtual manner. Viewed as a crucial component to the Department’s work, community meetings continued virtually to ensure the voice of the Red River Métis were heard on matters that impacted their rights, interests, and claims. As the Department and Citizens hoped to return to in-person meetings in 2022, virtual consultation meetings ensured the health and safety of the Community during the lockdown period.

With health restrictions constantly changing, the Department adopted a process to continue facilitating consultations through a virtual format. However, it was identified early in 2020, that being able to hold consultations both in-person and virtually holds benefits for Red River Métis Citizens. The in-person consultation gives Citizens the chance to connect and share opinions face-to-face, while a virtual consultation gives the chance to Citizens living in remote communities, or those outside of the province the opportunity to participate. The department believes the current hybrid approach is working well to benefit Citizens in 2022.

The Department is eager to continue the MMF’s single-window approach to engagement and consultation, seeking out proponents, the Crown, and other organizations to ensure that the rights and interests of Red River Métis Citizens are acknowledged and respected. As we progress into the summer and autumn months, the Department continues acting as an aid to the MMF’s Beyond Borders Task Force, initiating consultations on projects the MMF are not notified of and otherwise connecting with organizations keen on respecting the rights of the MMF’s Citizens.

As a reminder, if a department receives formal notification from a proponent or has any questions regarding the engagement and consultation process, the Engagement and Consultation Department ([consultation@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:consultation@mmf.mb.ca)) is available to assist.

# **ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**

## ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE



**JoAnne Remillard**  
Minister



**Peter Fleming**  
Associate Minister

### Environment

Historically the Métis have been deeply connected to the lands, waters, and environment which lie within the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Contemporarily many Métis Citizens work closely within, and rely heavily on, our environment to provide a livelihood, sustenance, and the ability to practice traditional Métis culture. Your Métis Government understands the importance of protecting and conserving our traditional territory and beyond. It is imperative the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) works to ensure our environment is protected for ourselves and future generations. Without a healthy, sustainable environment, it is not possible to continue many of our traditional social and economic practices or exercise our Métis rights.

The Ministers responsible for the Environment & Climate Change Portfolio will continue to establish and explore traditional methods of stewardship undertaken by our ancestors to cultivate a future that allows for the continued and lasting culture of the Red River Métis across the National Homeland. Your Métis Government has the unique opportunity to bridge the generational divide between the traditional practices of our Elders and the adaptive and innovative perspectives of our Youth to ensure that together, the prosperity of our Nation is upheld, and our environment is protected. We are committed to working collaboratively to ensure our rights are upheld, and all issues concerning the environment are given the utmost attention. With this in mind, the Environment & Climate Change Portfolio, through the MMF's Energy, Infrastructure & Resource Management Department, is working on several environment-related files, including the following:

### 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.

Your Métis Government is currently working with Canada on the allocation of funding on this project. Initial objectives will include work on the MMF's Community Based Climate Monitoring Program, the creation of a Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan to better prepare our community for climate change impacts, and

emergency response and disaster management planning related to flooding, forest fires, and food security.

### Red River Métis Climate Adaptation & Resiliency Plan

The MMF, utilizing the funding commitment from the federal carbon backstop, will support Red River Métis climate change adaptation and resiliency priorities with a focus on the current and future impacts of climate change, the development of a recommendations report on key climate change issues – such as impacts to health, harvesting practices, and other culturally significant practices that may experience impacts – while also supporting land-based traditional knowledge education.

Food security, emergency management, disaster mitigation, fostering intergenerational relationships between our Elders and Youth, as well as our Youth and Harvesters providing educational and skills developing opportunities remain key priorities for this Portfolio.

We are always looking for interested Métis Citizens, Elders, Youth, and Harvesters who want to be involved in environment and climate change-related programming. For more information on MMF Environment and Climate Change programming, please contact Marci Riel via email at [marci.riel@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:marci.riel@mmf.mb.ca).

### Métis Youth Boreal Forest Stewardship Program (Guardians)

The MMF's Métis Youth Boreal Forest Stewardship Program, which is funded under a commitment through Environment and Climate Change Canada's Indigenous Guardians Pilot Program, is just one of the MMF's environmental initiatives. The program aims to develop training and educational opportunities in environmental stewardship and conservation work, eventually leading to both direct and indirect skills development and employment opportunities.

A field event involving Elders, Harvesters, and Youth was held in the Kettle Hills of MMF's Northwest Region in August of 2021. Stewardship of the area was top priority. The MMF maintained and cleaned up access trails to ensure safe access for Red River Métis Citizens, and assessed the prevalence of blueberry species, blueberry competition, and blueberry regeneration after forest fires using vegetation quadrat surveys.







Key focus areas for the program include wildlife and ecosystem conservation/management, educational programming and training, community resiliency planning (e.g., food security), and habitat restoration (e.g., tree planting and other environmental stewardship).

If you are interested in participating or in volunteering for this program, please visit the MMF website for more information.

### **Métis Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program**

Our Red River Métis Government's Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program is funded through Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. This monitoring program currently has dedicated Red River Métis Citizen Scientists collecting valuable climate data and will work closely with the Boreal Forest Stewardship Program, Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow, and the Lake Winnipeg Basin Program.

Currently, the department has a monitoring application called Survey 1,2,3, where Red River Métis Citizen Scientists are conducting environmental monitoring and collecting valuable climate data. Our Red River Métis Government is growing our Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program through the

purchase of weather stations in partnership with the Centre for Earth Observation Science at the University of Manitoba. These weather stations have been deployed in St. Laurent (Interlake Region) and Dawson Bay (The Pas Region).

They are always looking for interested Red River Métis Citizens who want to be involved in climate monitoring or to house a weather station on their lakefront property. If you would like more information or are interested in these programs, please contact our Water Resources Specialist, Phoenix Combe, at phoenix.combe@mmf.mb.ca.

### **Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow (MELT)**

Staff from the Energy, Infrastructure & Resource Management Department secured a 5-year funding agreement during the 2020/21 year to provide land-based education focusing on climate action and environmental stewardship for Métis Youth, ranging from kindergarten to Grade 12. In summer of 2021, MELT ran a series of canoe day trips from Winnipeg to Matlock on Lake Winnipeg from July 12-16. Fourteen Youth participated in the canoe trip over the 5 days, paddling a total of 70-km on the Red River and into Lake Winnipeg. On the trip, Métis Youth learned about the environment, climate change, water safety, paddling, as well as morning lessons on greetings and introductions in Michif. Plans for 2022 will work to expand this type of programming in order to offer it throughout the province.

Through these types of camps, MELT seeks to educate Youth on the impacts of climate change, while providing educational programming on how environmental stewardship and Métis Traditional Knowledge can lead to positive climate action they can take back and impart on their communities. MELT is working on fall and winter plans to engage more Youth on these topics.

MELT is always looking for interested Métis Youth who want to be involved in environment and climate change-related programming, as well as interested Elders and Traditional Knowledge Holders who would like to work with Youth. If you would like more information or are interested in participating, please contact our MELT Coordinator, Amber Chambers, by phone at (204) 725-7520, or by email at amber.chambers@mmf.mb.ca.







## Water Monitoring and Aquatic Ecosystem Health

The Red River Métis have always been very connected to water, for drinking, commercial and recreational fishing, and in using rivers for transportation. Water quality is consistently identified as a main priority of Citizens during community meetings, Traditional Knowledge interviews, outreach surveys, and consultation discussions.

### 1. Lake Winnipeg Basin Program:

Our Red River Métis Government's Community-Based Water Monitoring Program focuses on the Lake Winnipeg Basin and is funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada until 2023. The MMF has been monitoring phosphorus and salinity concentrations in the Lake Winnipeg Basin over the past three years with the help of dedicated Red River Métis Citizen Scientists. To supplement this scientific data, the MMF conducted a Traditional Knowledge study to determine any changes in the Lake Winnipeg Basin, and the resulting impacts for our Citizens. This program has expanded by increasing the number of Red River Métis Citizen Scientists and creating new partnerships; this includes a collaboration with the Centre for Earth Observation Science on the Weather Keeper Program. We are looking for a Red River Métis graduate student to compile and analyze the climate data we have collected.

### 2. Water Testing in Red River Métis Locals:

The MMF has begun an initiative to test drinking water in the Locals in each of the seven Regions. The goal of this water testing initiative is to identify and highlight any issues with the water our Citizens consume, and share these results with the Locals and Regions for follow-up by the MMF. Your Métis Government has prioritized ensuring our Citizens have access to clean drinking water, and is also testing water at treatment plants, lakes, streams, and other waterbodies. We are looking forward to working with the Local Chairs and their Regions to ensure our Citizens are consuming clean freshwater and encourage Locals to contact our Water Resources Specialist for more information or to make arrangements to have their water tested.

### 3. Cross-Boundary Water Relations:

Our Red River Métis Government has been involved with the International Joint Commission (IJC) on transboundary discussions on waterways crossing the United States and Canada. The IJC is currently looking at strategies to incorporate Indigenous representatives on their various watershed boards. Our Red River Métis Government attended many virtual and in-person meetings on the International Souris River Board and International Red River Board this past year. Our continued involvement ensures that the IJC engages with the MMF on behalf of the Red River Métis.

If you would like more information or are interested in these programs, please contact our Water Resources Specialist, Phoenix Combe, at [phoenix.combe@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:phoenix.combe@mmf.mb.ca).

## Sherridon Mine

The Manitoba Métis Federation has engaged with the Citizens of the Cold Lake local and others who use the area for harvesting and commercial activities to discuss concerns from the Community on the remediation of Camp Lake and the work being done by Manitoba onsite. The site is considered an orphaned and abandoned mine, and Manitoba is responsible for its monitoring. The draining of Camp Lake into Kissinging Lake resulted in an

orange discolouration of the water due to increased iron content, which led to staining Citizens' boats and raising immense concern around the impacts to local tourism businesses in Sherridon. The MMF has engaged a team of technical experts to test the water in the lakes, to review the results of Manitoba's monitoring program, and to recommend a process that will address the impacts of the project. The MMF continues to undertake traditional knowledge, land use and occupancy studies of Citizens and Harvesters who live in or use the area impacted by the remediation efforts.

If you would like more information about this project, please contact our Water Resources Specialist, Phoenix Combe, at [phoenix.combe@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:phoenix.combe@mmf.mb.ca), or our Fish and Fish Habitat Coordinator, Jenny Petrynko, at [jenny.petrynko@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:jenny.petrynko@mmf.mb.ca).



## Mineral Exploration

The MMF continues to follow up with 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 the Proponent or the Crown and has not had the opportunity to discuss the benefits of the project for the Red River Métis.

The MMF is awaiting further information from the province of Manitoba regarding other mineral exploration permits and technical level staff are meeting with the province to address the continued lack of appropriate notification or information on these projects. Your Métis Government continues to push Manitoba for a more meaningful consultation process on these and other 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, and Trade and the MMF regarding oil and gas license application files.

## Sherridon Mine

The Manitoba Métis Federation has engaged with the citizens of the Cold Lake Local and others who use the area for harvesting and commercial activities to discuss concerns from the community on the remediation of Camp Lake and the work being done by Manitoba onsite. The site is considered an orphaned and abandoned mine and Manitoba is responsible for the monitoring of the site and the impacts of the site on the land and water around it.

The draining of Camp Lake into Kississing Lake resulted in an orange discolouration of the water due to increased iron content which led to staining of Citizens' boats and raising immense concern around the impacts on local tourism business in Sherridon. The MMF has engaged a team of technical experts to test the water in the two lakes, to review the results of Manitoba's monitoring program and recommend a process that will address the impacts of the project. The MMF continues to undertake traditional knowledge, land use, and occupancy studies of Citizens and harvesters who live in or use the area impacted by the remediation efforts. Your Métis government will also continue to work toward a solution that involves a commitment on the part of the federal and provincial authorities to appropriately mitigate the impacts of the work that has been done.

## Lynn Lake Gold Mine - Alamos Gold

Alamos Gold Inc. has proposed 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 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.

This project is subject to a federal environmental assessment and Canada identified the MMF as being highly affected by the project. The Energy & Infrastructure portfolio will be reporting further on the environmental licensing aspect of this Project and the economic development opportunities that are being explored with Métis N4 Construction.

Three years later, the Project is currently undergoing environmental assessment and is receiving information requests from various departments to address information gaps in the Project Proposal. The MMF has received capacity funding to participate in this process, and ensure consultants review technical level concerns and appropriately consider specific issues raised through our Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study. We are currently moving forward on the economic development opportunities that will come from the re-opening of the mine sites and the employment and training opportunities for our Citizens.

We are always looking for input, comments, questions, and concerns from Métis Citizens who are directly or indirectly impacted by mining projects underway in the local community or within the areas that have traditionally been used for harvesting. If you would like more information about mining projects in Manitoba, please contact Marci Riel via email: [marci.riel@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:marci.riel@mmf.mb.ca)



**HEALTH  
& WELLNESS**



## HEALTH & WELLNESS



**Frances Chartrand**  
Minister

### Preamble

The Manitoba Métis Federation - Health & Wellness Department (MMF-HWD) was established in 2005. Over time the department has solidified a vision of “A Well Métis Community” with its mission and commitment to create and facilitate the use of knowledge to that will contribute to improving Métis health status in Manitoba and beyond. Strategically, the MMF-HWD plays a leadership role in its vision of “A Well Métis Community” by developing and using health prevention and prevention research, service delivery and interventions, community programming and health analytics. MMF-HWD goal is to enhance MMF capacity to lead extraordinary and innovative interventions to assure a positive impact on improving Métis health status and healthcare programs and services use.

MMF-HWD staff ensures operational activities are ethical and inclusive of Métis Citizens where appropriate. Métis Citizens are at the heart of and often directly involved in our priority of building Métis-specific knowledge. Through HWDs initiatives Métis Citizens get access to a number of community health programs, prescription drug program, COVID-19 supports, and the most up-to-date knowledge on Métis health issues.

### Annual Report

Fiscal year 2021/2022 was a period of substantial growth for the HWD. The Department has established three new Branches (Clinical, Community Health Programs, and Health Policy and Information Management) in addition to an already existing Research Branch (Figure 1). With several new hires including project staff to support the direction and the objectives of the newly re-formed Department.



The Department has continued building the relationships with Federal Government (ISC, FNIHB), University of Manitoba, Canadian Partnership Against Cancer. The Department also established new partnerships with Diabetes Canada and Dynacare, re-started conversations with the province on Clinical Preventative Services Plan and Mental Health. HWD staff established and continued providing COVID-19 supports, such as vaccination, testing, and mental health therapy. The Department held its first Health Summit, which was well received in the community. Despite the limitations that COVID-19 created we met projects' milestones.

### Community Programming

We are very excited for this branch of our department, we are going to be able to respond to our Citizen's needs. In partnership with the Housing Department, Michif Manor will be able to provide short term accommodation to Citizens and their families who are in the City of Winnipeg for medical appointment and appointments/treatment.

### Prescription Drug Program

Since 2017 when your Métis Government developed its first Métis Health Benefits Prescription Drug Program, eligible Métis seniors and Elders have had access to essential prescription drug coverage. To be eligible, individuals must be Métis Citizens, over the age of 65, and have an income of \$25,000 or less. As of April last year, Citizens over 55 years of age became eligible to apply to the program.

The success of the program is a result of the collaboration of the MMF Health & Wellness Department, the Métis Community Liaison Department (MCLD), and MEDOCare Pharmacy. Currently, over 1,000 Citizens are registered in the program and receive financial support toward their medication, as well as comprehensive prescription consultation.



### Métis Senior Vision Care Initiative

Vision is an important part of maintaining independence for Citizens; the Métis Senior Vision Care Initiative offers vision care services including managing healthy eye care, eye examinations, and prescription eyeglasses, all of which make this possible. Prior to COVID-19, Prairie Eye Care provided mobile vision care services throughout the MMF Regions. Once public health restrictions have been lifted, clinics will begin to be offered again.



Eligibility requirements for this program are the same as those for the Prescription Drug Program. However, there is value added for all Citizens regardless of age or income. Any Citizen can benefit from a negotiated rate of \$150 per set of prescription glasses, including bifocals or progressive lenses, by presenting their Citizenship card at the time of purchase.

### **Mental Health Line**

We know that COVID-19 has been hard on many and may have caused feelings of sadness, stress, and anxiety. In December 2020, the Mental Health Wellness phone line was set up to assist Citizens with any mental health issues during the pandemic isolation and to ensure that Citizens' needs were met. This telephone line is offered free of charge to Citizens and is answered by Métis counsellors. In the 2021-2022 fiscal year the line received over 700 calls. Women utilize the line at much higher rates than men with 92% (646) of callers being female and 8% (57) males to date. Most callers are in the 60-70 age range. Most of the calls came from the Winnipeg and Northwest Regions. 50% of the calls are related to check-

ins (returning callers), 16% for anxiety, 7% for depression. We encourage anyone who is feeling "out of sorts" to call 1-833-390-1041 extension 1.

### **Clinical Services**

One of the new programs offered in our department is Clinical Services. In addition to the vaccine clinics, this program will be coordinating two mobile Health Units – one for the south and one for the north. These Health Units will offer blood pressure monitoring, diabetic footcare, and Point-of-Care Tests (POCT) to identify the clinical markers of diabetes and other chronic illnesses among the population. The Mobile Health Units are up and running, for up-to-date news, check the MMF website.

We understand that there is a need for an addictions treatment center and have been working on ideas to make that a reality. Our plan the next year is to have a Métis-specific center to provide a whole range of treatment services for Citizens.

### **COVID-19 Testing**

Early on it was recognized that for many Citizens a long wait was required to get COVID-19 testing done at the provincial sites, and an even longer wait occurred before tests results were reported to them. Your MMF President and Cabinet responded to this by contracting the services of a private company - Intrinsic Analytics - to do the testing. Citizens who called our line were booked for testing either same day or the next day and usually received their results within 24 hours.

### **COVID-19 Vaccination Program**

Starting April 2021, your Health & Wellness and MEDOCare Pharmacy organized vaccination clinics for Citizens, their families, and staff. Located at 150 Henry Avenue (MMF Home Office) people were encouraged to get first, second, and booster doses of the vaccine to protect them against COVID-19 in an environment that was friendly and welcoming to them. At first, the vaccine clinic was set up Home Office at 150 Henry in Winnipeg. Our President led





the way in being among one of the first to get his needle! We were then able to offer vaccines to those who were not able to go out of their homes. We also visited sites in the Northwest, Interlake, and Southeast Regions to do vaccination. If you want to book an appointment call 1-833-390-1041 extension 3. During 2021-2022 over 3,000 doses has been given out to our Métis Citizens.

### Community Consultations

In June the Health and Wellness team conducted consultations with Citizens from the Winnipeg, Southeast, Southwest, and Interlake Regions. Topics included health legislation, medical transportation, vaccine hesitancy, and mental health and addictions. We heard from Citizens on their experiences through various health systems and observed productive conversation in focus groups, where Citizens shared their health and wellness journeys and their hopes for future health services. Consultations with the northern regions of Northwest, The Pas and Thompson are set to occur later this fall.

### Partnerships

Over the past year, HWD staff have continued to build working partnerships to enhance Métis health and wellness, which include:

- MCLD and MEDO Care Pharmacy, to assist in both the Prescription Drug Program and the Senior Eyeglass Program,
- Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC),
- Canadian Institute on Health Research (CIHR),
- University of Manitoba (UM), and
- The Children's Health Research Institute (CHRIM), Diabetes Canada, Dynacare Laboratories, and a pharmaceutical company called Boehringer Ingelheim.

In addition, the HWD works closely at a strategic level with the Canadian Partnerships against Cancer (CPAC) and CancerCare Manitoba to address Métis-specific preventative issues. It also interacts closely with the seven MMF Regions, and the Infinity Women Secretariat to connect with Métis Citizens at the local level about their health and wellness issues.

Health & Wellness staff took part in the Provincial Youth Forum held this year. Not only were they able to interact with several Youth as they described the projects they are involved with, but they were able to create an opportunity for two Métis students who were also involved. They worked with the department over the summer and will continue to be engaged with the Manitoba Métis Federation.

In conclusion, the Health & Wellness Department will continue to work with their families and communities, partners, and funders as they continue to build the department and enhance social programming and services for Métis Citizens across the province. The HWD will also continue to foster meaningful relationships and partnerships across the departments and with the health care system, to ensure the health care needs of the Métis are identified and that programs and services are developed to meet them. Over the next year, the department anticipates continued growth with a group of committed, experienced staff working together to create knowledge and improve programs and services for our Citizens.



# **HOMESCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM**

## HOMESCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM



**Joan Ledoux**  
*Minister*



**David Beaudin**  
*Associate Minister*

The Homeschool Support Program (HSP) is committed to helping children every step of the way by bringing relevant, authentic, and engaging content to students. Created in response to COVID-19, the HSP supports Métis families and their students from kindergarten to grade 12 in English or French. Due to the pandemic, the HSP has supported students through a remote-learning approach whereby utilizing Zoom students have access to flexible and customizable one-on-one virtual instruction time with certified teachers and tutors. By removing the barrier of access to technology and reimbursing WIFI costs and loaning devices to students, the HSP has seen an increase in participation. Over the past year, the HSP has supported 190 students and families within the homeschool and tutorship initiatives with educational support, school supplies, financial assistance, ongoing communication, and conducting math and reading assessments.

The HSP is consistently creating equitable and engaging learning experiences and adding new resources and interactive activities regularly. Along with one-on-one sessions, students have accessed a variety of outcome-based and Métis-focused group classes and activities to support learning and socialization. Some classes to highlight include:

- Métis Storytelling,
- Coding
- Mental Health Thursdays.

Students have also enjoyed participating in virtual field trips, as well as creating and being active in their peer group, "Students for ReconciliACTION." The HSP organized and ran an in-person MINI AGA in March 2022 that was a great success, with 60 students between the ages of five to 16 participating in the three-day weekend event.

Moving into the new year, the HSP looks forward to events and activities such as Orange Shirt Day, Mini AGA, Louis Riel Day, Indigenous Day, and Métis Days. The HSP will also be developing a Mindfulness and Mental Health for Youth initiative, and a Student Digital Media initiative. This coming year, the HSP is also excited to create new resources and plan more education and curricular-based content, classes, and activities that reflect the beauty of the Métis culture, language, and heritage with an objective to reclaim Métis pride in our children and Youth.



**Over the past year, the HSP has supported 190 students and families within the homeschool and tutorship initiatives with educational support, school supplies, financial assistance, ongoing communication, and conducting math and reading assessments.**



# HOUSING & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

## HOUSING & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



**Will Goodon**  
Minister

### Message from the Minister

It is an incredible honour to have been re-appointed as the Minister of Housing and Property Management for the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the National Government of the Red River Métis, again this summer by President Chartrand. I also feel blessed to continue to serve not only the Red River Métis Citizens of the Southwest Region, who entrusted me to represent them, but also all Red River Métis Citizens, throughout Manitoba, and now we are beginning to go Beyond Borders.

Since the federal budget in 2018, Métis Nation Housing has been a funding priority. We look to take what we built and continue to be the leaders in Métis Housing across Canada. The last three years have been important developmental years. In 2022, Housing and Property Management is maturing into a strong department that's capable of addressing our Citizens' housing needs. Together, the Housing Department has broken ground on a wide range of projects that support Métis homeowners, renters, seniors, families, Youth, and those most in need facing/at risk or experiencing

homelessness. Trust me, however, when I say that this is only the beginning. With each new project, we develop templates for Métis-specific solutions across the housing spectrum that can be adapted throughout the historic Métis Nation.

The MMF is proud to approach housing from a position of self-determination, but we are also honoured to strengthen partnerships and nation-to-nation relationships. In 2022, the Government of Canada recognized our work and committed an additional \$38 million to MMF's Housing Department. Furthermore, our department has partnered with Efficiency Manitoba to offer energy-saving upgrades to our Citizens.

Looking forward, we are keen to open the doors to several new housing options across Manitoba. Not only does this work to close the gap for Métis Housing needs, it ensures that our homes are built the Métis way with a focus on strengthening relations across the Red River Métis Nation.

### Building an Efficient Housing and Construction Division (Efficiency MB addition)

For over 50 years, the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) has committed to improving housing conditions for Red River Métis on our Homeland. From the very beginning of the MMF in 1967, housing was a priority for our families and communities. The signing of the Canada-Métis Nation Housing Sub-Accord in 2018 allowed the MMF Housing Department to grow substantially with a strengthened mandate and responsibility to expand Métis self-determination over our homes and our housing needs. Since then, the MMF Housing Department has gone from a team of three to twenty-eight staff who have experience in all aspects of housing including research and policy development, commercial development and housing construction, affordable housing and social programs, advocacy and planning, repairs, renovations and much more.





The year 2022 has been a year to break ground on a multitude of commercial projects and new builds that span the housing spectrum and reach throughout Manitoba. Current projects include: a Regional Office in Dauphin; daycares in Saint Laurent, Swan River, and The Pas; a Hub for Housing-First in Winnipeg; an intergenerational housing community in the Pas; a duplex in Binscarth; a six-plex in historic St. Boniface; and a 55+ Senior Living Complex in Selkirk. We also worked in partnership with the MMF Early Learning & Child Care Department to build several Métis childcare centres throughout Manitoba, with more on the way.

This report covers the output of the MMF's Department of Housing. Despite our rapid growth in recent years, housing is a tight-knit department that collaborates across a wide range of projects. Most of all, our staff are dedicated to improving the housing conditions of our Red River Métis relatives and are proud to serve the housing needs of the Métis Nation.

### Development of Affordable Housing

Currently, the MMF Housing Department is managing 50 affordable housing units across the province. There are many more to come! In the past year, the department has built or is currently building duplexes, triplexes, and a six-plex, in St. Ambroise, Binscarth, Winnipeg, The Pas, Portage la Prairie and Brandon to name a few. An additional 49 units will be available to our Citizens upon the completion of the 55+ Selkirk Senior Living Complex. The Housing Department will continue to find housing opportunities for the Red River Métis and is currently planning for future builds to meet the housing needs of Métis families and Citizens.

### First Time Home Purchase Program

While many Métis Citizens are able to pay monthly mortgage payments, it can be challenging to save enough money for a down payment and closing costs to purchase their own home. To remedy

this issue, the MMF launched the First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP) in 2019 to assist Citizens with the purchase of their first home. The FTHPP is designed as a needs-based program, which has proven to be incredibly effective and impactful. The program is administered by the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC).

Since the launch of the program, the FTHPP has helped Citizens purchase 712 homes and has housed 1,481 Métis Citizens. With 1,157 applications received and 1,023 approved, the program has an approval rate of 89 per cent, making it one of the most successful programs the Manitoba Métis Government has ever offered. The program has leveraged \$153,875,307.52 in mortgages and has provided \$9,667,605.95 in funding to date. The FTHPP also made major economic impacts including 331 jobs created and over \$37,871,280 in other economic impacts contributing to the Manitoba economy.

Those interested in the FTHPP are encouraged visit [lrcc.mb.ca](http://lrcc.mb.ca), or contact the LRCC main office at 204-589-0772, toll free at 1-800-387-6004, or by email at [info@lrcc.mb.ca](mailto:info@lrcc.mb.ca).

### HELP – our made-in-Red River repairs program

The MMF's Home Enhancement Loan Program (HELP) launched in April 2020 to help Métis homeowners make repairs, adaptations, and improvements to homes. Born in the opening weeks of the pandemic, HELP has never known a normal month, but it has consistently met an enormous demand with high-quality service. Unlike reimbursement programs, HELP assists homeowners every step of the way. Applicants are paired with HELP inspectors who

can provide advice and help find local contractors for the repair work. MMF pays deposits so that contractors can begin as soon as possible, and our inspectors advocate for the homeowner to make sure that the work is done to a high standard.



This spring, flooding affected Métis homes across traditional territories around the Lake Winnipeg watershed. After two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, this added to the financial hardship of our Citizens. HELP ensures that homeowners can respond to emergencies without facing a financial burden. HELP has completed 62 emergency projects, and a further 116 projects are underway. As of August 2022, HELP received 1,549 applications and invested \$8.7M dollars in Métis homes throughout the Red River Nation. Moving forward, HELP will continue to tailor the program to meet high demand while providing excellent service to Métis homeowners.

Those interested in the HELP are encouraged visit [mmf.mb.ca/home-enhancement-loan-program-help](http://mmf.mb.ca/home-enhancement-loan-program-help) or contact the Housing Department at 204-586-8474 ext. 2680.



### Reaching Home (Homelessness programming)

At the end of 2022, the MMF will open our doors to a new solutions HUB for addressing Métis homelessness in Winnipeg. Located at 670 Main, the new solutions HUB will offer transitional housing with wrap around supports/services and operate as a Métis-specific Housing First model. Housing First is a non-judgemental evidence-based model that starts by ensuring people have access to safe and secure housing. To truly feel at home, it takes more than a roof over your head. The MMF's Reaching Home program will connect participants with a variety of resources, programs and opportunities to heal from trauma, to connect with relatives and land, and to establish a sense of belonging on our traditional homeland.

This summer, MMF's Rapid Services division began to develop the Reaching Home program through a satellite office at 550 Selkirk Avenue. From May to August, 110 people were assisted. Rapid Services helped 29 people secure housing and 4 evictions were prevented. Eighteen people received advocacy support around food and income benefits, and 14 people received Start-Up Kits of furniture and basic necessities for their homes. This first summer has set a tone for MMF's Reaching Home Program, which continue will provide crucial supports in a culturally specific manner for Red River Métis Citizens.

### Indigenous Homes Innovation Initiative

In April 2019, CANDO, in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada, delivered the Indigenous Homes Innovation Initiative (IHII) to support Indigenous-led housing ideas. Minister Goodon was appointed to the national steering committee and was subsequently asked to serve as Co-Chair. The Initiative's Indigenous Steering Committee received 342 applications and selected 24

projects to proceed to the planning and development stage. Of the 24 projects chosen for funding, two proposals submitted by the Manitoba Métis Federation were selected: Michif Manor and Mazoun Infinitii Pakoshayimookh (The Infinity House of Hope or Mazoun for short). Michif Manor will provide a culturally appropriate "home away from home" for Métis families while their loved one is receiving medical treatment. The concept of Michif Manor is similar to the Ronald McDonald Charity House and will offer affordable temporary housing for those travelling to Winnipeg to access health care. The second project selected by IHII for funding is a transitional home for CFS Métis Youth who are aging out of care, but still need that extra support and guidance to acquire the skills needed to become an adult. Both projects are currently in the development stage and are expected to start construction in 2023.



### Property Management

The MMF has a long history of property management. Previously, the MMF has managed Métis homes in social housing through partnerships with the Province of Manitoba. More recently, the government has turned towards building, owning and operating our own residential portfolio to improve Métis access to affordable housing. The MMF currently manages 39 residential properties in 13 locations across Manitoba. This accounts for 55 units, 50 of which are affordable rentals. In the coming years, this portfolio will grow significantly with the development of at least 107 additional rental units that will house Métis Citizens.

In addition to residential property management, the MMF also owns and manages ten commercial properties across Manitoba and one in Ontario.

### LRCC Portion of the Property Management Report

In 2014, the Housing Department grew with the addition of Property Management into the portfolio, under the responsibility of Minister Will Goodon. For the commercial properties, a new division within the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) was created to lead this important portfolio in partnership with the Housing Department for our Métis Government-owned properties. The Property Management division maintains its due-diligence by confirming all revenues and expenses are collected and recorded, ensuring that all buildings meet provincial and municipal regulations, and that all repairs and financial obligations are estimated, performed, and paid in a timely manner. Currently LRCC provides property management for 8 properties across the province, with one in Ontario. The total annual revenue for the properties totalled more than \$2,700,000 for the 2021/22 fiscal year, with an estimated market value of all properties totalling almost \$33,000,000.





#### 150 Henry Avenue – Winnipeg

Owned by MEDO Developments Ltd., 150 Henry Avenue continues to serve as the Home Office for the Manitoba Métis Federation, 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 Métis Government. It is here where your MMF Cabinet gathers and governs the Métis Nation's Manitoba Métis Community. In partnership with Canada, the MMF is participating in the "Low Carbon Economy Challenge" – a program to make building retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030. This partnership includes retrofits of the building's HVAC system, hot water system, washrooms, fire suppression, windows, and the addition of solar panels on the roof as well as a solar wall on the south side of the building. Construction started in 2021 and is approximately 60% complete.



#### 335 Main Street – Winnipeg

Owned & Operated by the Manitoba Métis Federation, the former Bank of Montreal building at the historic Portage & Main intersection is soon to become the home of the Métis National Heritage Centre. This one-of-a-kind heritage centre will educate the public on the history, language, culture, methods of governance, and the legacy of the Métis Nation before, during, and after confederation.



#### MEDO Square – Winnipeg

Owned by MEDO Developments Ltd., MEDO Square is a 65,000 square foot industrial/office complex home to prominent tenants within Manitoba including: Métis Child, Family and Community Services; Winnipeg Regional Health Authority; Park Avenue Vending; and the Manitoba Métis Federation. Essential upgrades to the building include new carpeting and upgrades to the fire/sprinkler alarm for the property. MEDO Developments Limited is actively coordinating with the Winnipeg Transit Service Development Division to ensure their Master Transit Plan aligns with their plans for MEDO Square into the future.



#### 2000 Portage Avenue – Winnipeg

Owned by WMA Landholdings Inc., Métis Child, Family and Community Services continues to provide the essential supports needed to strengthen and support the health and well-being of Métis families. Potential capital projects being considered for this property include energy-efficient window upgrades and making the second floor accessible to people with mobility issues by adding a lift.



#### 406/408-412 McGregor Avenue – Winnipeg

Owned by the Winnipeg Métis Association, McGregor Avenue is home to the Métis Child, Family and Community Services and to the Winnipeg Métis Association's Métis Club, which is a community meeting place for various cultural and regional activities. Current renovations to the property include washroom upgrades, flooring and office renovations for the Winnipeg Métis Association's Métis Club.



#### 29 Royal Road – Portage La Prairie

Owned by LRCC Métis N4 Investment Inc., 29 Royal Road is leased to Michif Child and Family Services to provide essential services to Métis families around the Portage La Prairie region.



#### **456 Fischer Avenue – The Pas**

Owned by the Manitoba Métis Federation, 456 Fischer Avenue is leased to Michif Child and Family Services to provide essential services to Métis families around The Pas Region, and is also home to the MMF The Pas Regional office. Upgrades to the property include a snow and ice stop on the roof to prevent ice and snow from sliding off the metal roof during thawing, as well as new eavestroughs installed last spring.



#### **49 Austin Street – Winnipeg**

Owned by 5785066 Manitoba, the parking lot is located at 49 Austin Street in Winnipeg with capacity for 185 vehicles. Recent upgrades were completed to replace all electrical outlets with energy saving plugs.



#### **2-340 Maclaren Street – Ottawa, Ontario**

Owned by LRCC and MEDO, the building is leased to the Manitoba Métis Federation.

# HUMAN RESOURCES

# HUMAN RESOURCES



Anita Campbell  
Minister

As the Minister of Human Resources for the Manitoba Metis Federation I am very proud to share this years annual report for the Human Resources Department.

The Manitoba Metis Federation recognizes that our Mission and Vision to serve the Manitoba Metis Community and its Citizens through advancing their cultural, social, economic, and political wellbeing is realized through the hard work and dedication of staff. The purpose of the MMF Department of Human Resources is to design programs and policy aimed to attract and retain top talent candidates who will contribute to the development, implementation, and administration of programs and services designed to empower and improve the lives of our Metis Citizens.

## Our Services

Human Resources is a core business function with a focus on human capital management addressing compensation and benefits, recruitment and onboarding of employees, performance management, employee relations, training, organizational design and development, and workplace culture.

## Our Department

The Manitoba Metis Federation continues to be focused on providing strategic Human Resources Services and Initiatives to staff and Management. The department is structured with a focus on Recruitment and Employee Relations.

Our Recruitment Team is responsible for the development and execution of the recruitment program and strategies with a focus on sourcing, attracting, interviewing, hiring and onboarding new employees to the Manitoba Metis Federation. The team is comprised of one (1) Talent Acquisition Manager and one (1) Talent Acquisition Specialist. As the MMF continues to grow and provide additional programs and supports to our citizens, this team is in high demand to fill these key positions.

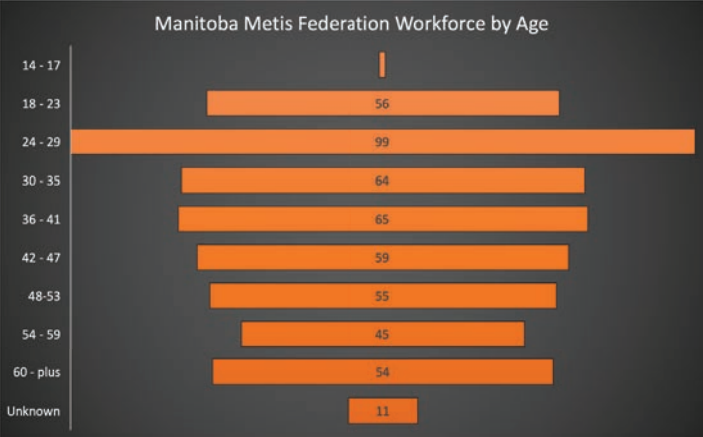
Our Employee Relations Team is responsible for the planning, development, implementation and promotion of activities and programs that enhance overall employee engagement, communication and relations while overseeing the compliance of MMF employment policies and practices that meet with todays Manitoba Employment Standards. The team is comprised of one (1) Employee Relations Manager and three (3) Human Resources Generalists.

The Human Resources Director is responsible for the strategic planning, program implementation and overall practices of the Human Resources Department. Our Human Resources Assistant provides support to all employees within the HR Department and is integral in the organization of HR Data and Metrics.

A (5) five-year strategic plan was developed outlining the priorities of the department with a focus on building programs to empower employees of the Manitoba Metis Federation and ultimately become officially recognized as an employer of choice on Manitoba's top 100 employer list.

## Our Workforce

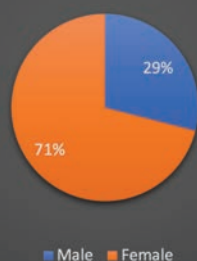
The Manitoba Metis Federation continues to expand in all areas of services and program delivery. The MMF is currently comprised of approximately 509 employees for the 2021/2022 fiscal year. This amount does not include MMF Affiliates or Regions. With MMF Affiliates and Regions our total Metis Government workforce is in excess of 1000 total staff. During this fiscal year, the MMF advertised approximately 130 positions and filled approximately 268 positions which includes internal promotions and transfers. Currently, we have 50 active positions posted and expect to continue to add additional new positions. If you are interested in submitting your resume or have any questions about current career opportunities within the Manitoba Metis Federation, please email [jobs@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:jobs@mmf.mb.ca) or visit [www.mmm.mb.ca](http://www.mmm.mb.ca) for a complete list of current opportunities.



The Breakdown of Workforce by Age Chart reflects a workforce that has a comparable representation of persons from all age groups ranging from 18-23 to 60 +. This data reflects that the Manitoba Metis Federation is an employer who respects and appreciates the skill and experience of all persons, regardless of age.

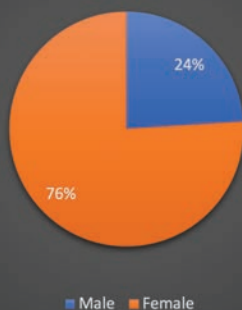


### Breakdown of MMF Workforce by Identified Gender



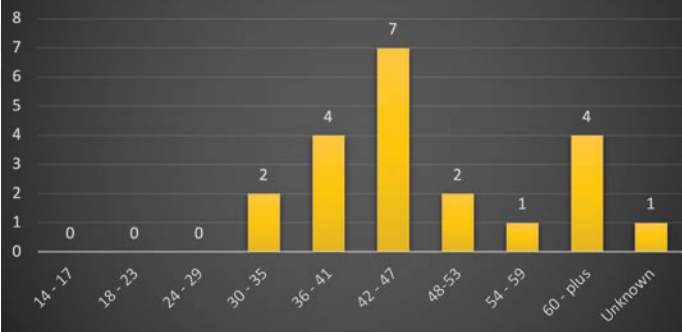
Of the approximately 509 employees of the Manitoba Metis Federation 356 identify as Female and 153 identify as Male. The Breakdown of Workforce by Gender Chart reflects a workforce that is predominantly Female.

### Breakdown of Leadership by Gender



Further Analysis of Gender within the workforce has determined that most leadership roles are filled predominantly by Females. The data presented are those of Manitoba Metis Federation employees and do not include Regional or Affiliate numbers, nor that of our Manitoba Metis Federation Cabinet.

### Age of Directors



Of the 21 Directors at the MMF

- Persons 30-35 = 2
- Persons 36-41 = 4
- Persons 42-47 = 7
- Persons 48-53 = 2
- Persons 54-59 = 1
- Persons 60+ = 4
- Unknown = 1

## Department Goals

The Human Resources Department has identified a variety of programs and projects that need to be developed to realize the vision of the departmental five-year strategic plan. Below is a list of immediate short-term goals the Human Resources Department is diligently working on:

**Recruitment:** Recruitment is one of the top priorities. As our Metis Government continues to grow, it is imperative to have the right people on board to support the mission and vision of the Manitoba Metis Federation. Currently the Department is focused on building our candidate pool of qualified individuals who are interested in working with the Metis Government so that when positions become available there are qualified candidates to draw from. If you are interested in submitting your resume or have any questions about current career opportunities within the Manitoba Metis Federation, please email [jobs@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:jobs@mmf.mb.ca) or visit [www.mmf.mb.ca](http://www.mmf.mb.ca) for a full list of current opportunities.

**Metrics:** Our focus is to develop systems to track key data of our workforce to develop metrics to better inform departments and leadership as to the current structure of our workforce, identify pressure points that need to be addressed, and to develop programming specific to identified needs.

**Policy:** Currently reviewing and updating all employment policies and practices to reflect current needs of Departments and employees and meet today's MB Employment Standards. All employment policies are being revised with a focus on gender neutrality to support the commitment our Metis Government has for inclusivity of all people.

**Human Resources Information System:** Implementation of a robust HRIS system is currently underway. This will help automate several HR processes to increase efficiencies across multiple departments, track and automate data to build reports, and to act as an intranet for employees so everyone is aware of important dates or events.

**Compensation Scales:** Human Resources is currently going through a thorough analysis of today's job market to ensure the MMF pays its staff a competitive salary. This project is expected to be completed this fall and will result in having competitive salary scales that reflect all the MMF's unique positions.

**Policies:** We have worked closely with an external services provider to assist us in updating and the development of new workplace policies that reflect today's Manitoba Employment Standards. This will help ensure consistency across the MMF and aid our leaders to manage our workforce in a fair and consistent manner leading to lower turnover and increased retention.

The Human Resources Department offers their thanks and appreciation to the Citizens, MMF Leadership and employees of the Manitoba Metis Federation during the development of this department. We appreciate your patience and understanding as the development of policy, process, and programming is underway.







# **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



**Anita Campbell**  
*Minister*

## Introduction

Welcome to our Elders, Citizens, Leadership and Staff:

The Manitoba Métis Federation's Department of Information Technology is privileged to serve the whole Métis Citizenry of Manitoba and as such we get to witness and participate in the incredible, diverse activities across the Red River Métis Homeland.

The Department of Information Technology came together in a way it has never done before. Everyone is focused, ready, and eager to help the MMF respond to any situation, even beyond our IT responsibilities. Programs and remote work that had been slowly evolving had to mature overnight and every aspect of program delivery supports for Métis Citizens had to be rethought.

Throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic, we have been ready, able, and willing to provide IT services to support rapid infrastructure expansion, work from home deployment, daily emergency responses, and online meetings. Our security, desktop computing, support, and administrative systems have all been reworked to support remote work, rapid distribution, security & safety attestations, and a host of changes that evolve as fast as we develop solutions.

This year we must think about how we service the MMF Citizens and partnerships with other MMF Departments, Regions, and Affiliates, as we are often stakeholders in delivery success. The last few years put the idea of "transformation" in a radically new context making it more urgent than ever.

## Our Goals for 2022-23

- Renewal & Recovery
- Expand support services for remote workers with smartphone registration, best practices, new tools, and hardware to speed up services on site.
- Promote IT advancements with new abilities and reporting tools.
- Expand IT budgets, space, and staffing requirements.
- Train staff internally to reduce budget demands.
- System consolidations and decommissioning to reduce operational costs.
- Pursue and collaborate on reporting.
- Expand our research and development services including our data repositories and national data consortia.
- Adapt to new demands as the needs evolve.

## Enhance learning & support

We are working to revamp educational tools to support increased needs for hybrid remote and onsite learning, as well as update systems for improved automation and reporting capabilities. We plan on maintaining the centrally supported Provincial Education curriculum database to track learner and program performance and partner with MMF departments who can deliver education and training in Computer Sciences.

## Create and enhance technology solutions & services

We continue to pilot projects with Microsoft and begin institutional deployment. We are evolving support for the core phone system and expansion of features. An expansion of cloud conversions for mid-tier applications will be a focus to assist us in developing a road map for future capacity.

We will be training on cyber security across the MMF and ensure applications are deployed consistently across the network. To this end, we will define and pilot initial desktop services for internal research, and finally, we plan to roll out new services to manage digital signage in lobbies, heritage centre exhibits, and meeting rooms.

## Supporting Computer Science, Innovation & Research

Utilizing an expanded AI data catalog and new GPU enabled hardware, we aim to pilot cloud-based elastic load balancing and hosting on Amazon Web Services. For custom solutions we will develop more open-source options. We will be launching unified storage management and security tools across converged networks for all MMF Properties. We plan to expand research and data center support for Computer Science Research and Decentralized Applications.

Assisting MMF Departments in deploying new storage and major upgrades to systems will be an important step in successfully delivering programs. With large infrastructure investments being made across the MMF, we will be able to provide access to quality systems and improved security and update antiquated systems to eliminate end of life risks. Internally we seek to improve ticketing and self-management for users, as well as developing IT policy standards for grant reporting regarding MMF government and archival services.

## Protection of infrastructure & data

MMF-IT will upgrade core identity and access management systems to enhance onboarding/offboarding procedures, account provisioning, emergency contact coverage, self-service portals, system and application timeouts, and collaboration with vendors, affiliates, departments, and partners.

We will introduce device security posturing to isolate untrusted devices on the MMF network and introduce user and device certificates to reduce the reliance on passwords.

We need to enhance detection and elimination of outdated, unsupported, or un-managed software which will reduce our governmental risk profile. Our work with architects, policy makers, regulatory bodies, and vendors to begin implementation will



assist MMF in delivering an improved access experience for all Citizens. Our development with systems such as Tesla Starlink, Constellations, and Fiber Optics will ensure the MMF is prepared to reach those Citizens regardless of location.

We want to expand detection and protection capabilities of Internet of Things (IoT) devices on the MMF network, and implement email reputation improvement to reduce impersonations and improve secure communications.

We regularly conduct maturity assessments against industry standards with MNP and Federal regulations to ensure continued compliance and will continue to pursue industry leading standards on projects where we can, improving remote access services for common server management protocols like SSH and SFTP.

## Summary

Like everyone at MMF, in FY22, we are committed to doing more. At the peak of the Covid-19 crisis, we proved it could be done. With shared purpose, personal engagement, and clear objectives we can move mountains. In broad strokes, our goals are the same. We will replace and upgrade systems. We will provide faster, more efficient services. We will continue our migration to the cloud; grow our repository of archival data; migrate to next generation of analytics; add new tools for research, science, and education; simplify administration; and respond to whatever new regulations, technologies, or crisis that comes our way.

Capturing this sense of mission will newly inform – and transform – everything we do so that every interaction, every upgrade, every email will help us help Citizens in a respectful, cultural, and engaged manner.

MMF Department of Information Technology  
Contact us at: [support@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:support@mmf.mb.ca)



**LANDS**



## LANDS

### Additions to Reserve (ATR) and Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Consultations

The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) and Canada have engaged in a 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 Red River Métis Citizens. The MMF continues the work of minimizing the impacts associated with ATR/TLE by engaging Manitoba Métis Citizens and identifying potential impacts on a site-by-site basis. The MMF has held several community meetings to explain the ATR/TLE process, inform Red River Métis Citizens of proposed Additions to reserves, and acquire input, concerns, and priorities to ensure Red River Métis perspectives are highlighted during ongoing consultation.

### 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 the Manitoba Métis. This history helps inform the MMF's work regarding Crown Lands. Public Services and Procurement Canada

(PSPC) is responsible for disposing and divesting federally owned lands that are deemed "surplus" and no longer necessary for Crown purposes. The MMF and PSPC engage in a process where PSPC identifies and notifies the MMF of federal land to be disposed or divested in the near future. Notifications of newly identified disposals/divestitures are communicated through monthly updates between MMF staff and PSPC.

Previously, PSPC's Real Property Directive placed Indigenous Nations in a lower position in the priority circulation scale when disposing of federal surplus properties. The Treasury Board of Canada recognized this de-prioritization of Indigenous interests and adjusted their Management of Real Property Directive in a

Policy Suite Reset. Indigenous Nations are now situated in the same position as federal departments, agent Crown corporations, as well as provincial and municipal governments.

### Kivahiktuq Agreement

The MMF has engaged with Crown Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) regarding the proposed Kivahiktuq Agreement. The Kivahiktuq 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 legal counsel to navigate discussions with Canada and to ensure Red River Métis rights, claims, and interests are protected.

This fiscal year, the MMF held a community meeting specific to the Kivahiktuq Agreement in Thompson and Churchill to consult with Red River Métis Citizens. Following the meetings, the MMF summarized what we heard in a Feedback Report that will be utilized in future discussions with CIRNAC.





**MÉTIS COMMUNITY  
LIAISON DEPARTMENT**

## MÉTIS COMMUNITY LIAISON DEPARTMENT



**Andrew Carrier**

*Minister*

The Métis Community Liaison Department (MCLD) provides supports to Métis Citizens in a culturally appropriate manner for the well-being of Métis Elders, families, and communities. The MCLD promotes healthy lifestyles, Métis pride, and self-determination. The Department aims to assist Métis Citizens in accessing services and resources in their respective communities.

Throughout fiscal year 2021-2022, the MMF continued to provide a range of services including those highlighted below.

### **MMF Hamper Program & COVID Initiatives**

On March 26, 2020, the MMF hamper program began delivering the first hampers. We are pleased to report that, to date, the MMF has prepared and delivered a total of more than 14,776 hampers to Citizens!

MCLD has played a significant role in the MMF's COVID response activities. Throughout the fiscal year, the MCLD continued to deliver hampers to Citizens through several regular hamper rounds such as the Christmas 2021 hamper program. The MMF includes Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in each hamper to help prevent the spread of COVID. MCLD staff continued to stay in touch with Citizens throughout the year, performed regular Wellness Checks, and continued to raise awareness of the pandemic.

### **Client Supports and Advocacy**

Oftentimes Citizens require assistance with navigating complex public systems and forms. This has an impact on access to important services. The MMF strives to assist Citizens through advocacy supports in a variety of areas and sectors, including the following:

- Northern Patient Transportation (NPT)
- Manitoba Health
- CancerCare
- Child and Family Services
- Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI)
- Workers Compensation Board (WCB)
- Employment & Income Assistance (EIA)
- Employment Insurance (EI)
- Old Age Pension (OAS) & Canada Pension Plan (CPP)
- Income Tax Benefits & Credits
- Residential Tenancies Board (RTB)

### **Elder Supports & Community Initiatives**

The Métis Community Liaison Department is able to link Citizens to culture-based programs and services designed to assist Elders, Seniors, and families. Please see below for a showcase of these important initiatives.

### **Métis Prescription Drug Program (PDP)**

The Prescription Drug Program (PDP) is a partnership with the MMF Health & Wellness Department and MEDOCare Pharmacy. This MMF initiative pays for Pharmacare eligible prescription drugs. MCLD staff assist Métis Seniors by facilitating intake and collecting supporting documentation.

### **Senior Eyeglass Program & Vision Care Initiative**

The Senior Eyeglass Program and Vision Care Initiative helps Métis Seniors who require assistance in managing their eye care. This program includes regular eye examinations and prescription eyeglasses.

### **Medical Assistance**

The Department does its best to provide Citizens with partial supports or referrals related to medical needs. MCLD helps Citizens seeking supports such as medical equipment (walkers, wheelchairs, canes, bathroom bars, shower/tub seats), financial aid for travel to medical appointments, as well as cost-sharing of ambulance services where possible.



**The Métis Community Liaison Department is able to link Citizens to culture-based programs and services designed to assist Elders, Seniors, and families.**



## We are pleased to report that, to date, the MMF has prepared and delivered a total of more than 14,776 hampers to Citizens

### MMF Memorial Service Financial Support Program

The Memorial Service Financial Support Program is designed to assist the family of a deceased Citizen with costs associated with a funeral or memorial service for their loved one. The MMF Program provides financial assistance of up to \$5,000 to eligible Métis Citizens to cover basic costs associated with funeral home expenses.

### MMF Bereavement Fund

The MMF Bereavement fund helps our Métis families in need of financial support with expenses involved with the loss of a loved one. Financial resources are replenished through fundraising efforts of the MMF. The MCLD assists the family by facilitating intake and collecting supporting documentation to ensure the family receives a \$200 donation.

### Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

This Program provides free income tax preparation services for Citizens who meet the eligibility criteria. The MCLD offers income tax clinics and accepts walk-ins. If MCLD is unable to provide this service, we will refer clients to Community Financial Counselling Services.

### Forward Looking Priorities

Under the leadership of Minister Carrier and other key Ministers, the MMF is exploring ways to enhance the Department with resources as there is a growing demand for the supports. Enhanced resources will help to more effectively service Citizens in need. MCLD looks forward to reporting on progress and enhancement in activities into fiscal year 2022-23.









# MÉTIS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING/ INDIGENOUS SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

## MÉTIS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING/INDIGENOUS SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT TRAINING



**John Fleury**  
Minister



**Joan Ledoux**  
Associate Minister

Manitoba Métis Federation's Métis 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 Aboriginal people can fully participate in employment and economic opportunities.

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

### Distinctions-Based Strategy

- Métis Nation separate funding envelope
- Allows for greater coordination and specialization to respond to the unique circumstances, needs and priorities of the Métis 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 Métis and non-Indigenous people, Métis 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 Métis-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 assisted thousands of Métis Citizens 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. Métis 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 resumé 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.



### 2020-2021 Results Achieved

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

<b>2,089</b>	Clients Served
<b>857</b>	Clients Employed
<b>504</b>	Clients Returned to School to pursue further education & training

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.*

**MÉTIS JUSTICE  
INSTITUTE**

# MÉTIS JUSTICE INSTITUTE



**Julyda Lagimodiere**  
*Minister*

As Minister of Justice, I would like to welcome everyone to The Manitoba Métis Federation's Annual General Assembly. The Métis Justice Institute (MJl) is pleased to provide you with an update on our department's activities over the last fiscal year.

The Métis Justice Institute has continued to focus on the development and delivery of justice programs and services.

Our department has continued to deliver court diversion programs through the Métis and Thompson Community Justice Programs. MJl staff have continued to deliver justice programming that includes domestic violence and anger management programs and is developing additional programs such as Life Skills Programming and community safety planning projects for our most vulnerable Métis Citizens.

Our relationship with the RCMP continues to focus on community-based policing and the inclusion of the Red River Métis Government priorities within policing both provincially and federally.

Our relationship with the provincial and federal governments continued over the fiscal year and discussions have focused on Red River Métis Government inclusion within the Provincial Police Act Legislation, Red River Justice Strategy Development, and the Indigenous Court Worker Program.

## THE MÉTIS JUSTICE INSTITUTE

The Métis Justice Institute (MJl) has continued working toward our mandate of focusing responsibility and authority for justice issues within the Red River Métis Government. Our department has focused on several key areas towards the creation of opportunities for our government's inclusion to develop justice services and programs that meet the expectations of the Red River Métis.

## CURRENT INITIATIVES

Since the inception of the MJl in 2003, we have continued to lobby Manitoba and Canada to work towards the development of Métis-specific justice programs and services. The MJl has utilized information obtained through Métis Community Consultations to focus efforts to develop Red River Métis community-based justice programming that will support Red River Métis Citizens involved in the Criminal Justice System.

Current Initiatives for the Métis Justice Institute include:

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

The Métis Community Justice Program (MCJP) and Thompson Community Justice Program (TCJP) are Court Diversion Programs that enhance the capacity of the Red River Métis community to deliver culturally appropriate justice alternatives that support the diversion of Métis people from the mainstream justice system to a community-based alternative.

The Programs provide culturally relevant supports, alternatives, advocacy, and resources to individuals who are referred to us from the Provincial Court to deal with justice involvement 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 Programs currently operate within the MMF Northwest, The Pas, Interlake, and Thompson Regions. Over the last year, our service delivery has also begun to expand to accommodate individuals who identify as Red River Métis Citizens from the Southeast and Southwest Regions.

Over this reporting period, the MJl has received 117 case diversions referred from Manitoba Prosecutions and the RCMP from 51 communities located within the MMF Regions. The Combined Number of Charges involved 156 charges from 29 different Criminal Code Offences. Some individual files involve multiple offences.

Court Diversion clients are required to complete Sanctions and Measures based on the individual circumstances of their offences. Specifically, Clients may be required to write letter(s) of apology, an essay, participate in MJl-delivered programming, community service, restitution, and assessments for alcohol or mental health.

These programs focus on clients participating in activities that are community-determined to assist the client with addressing underlying issues that contributed to their involvement with the Criminal Justice System.

The MJl has continued to lobby Manitoba and Canada for additional funds to support the expansion of the court diversion programs to include the remaining MMF Regions not currently serviced with staff. This effort remains an ongoing priority for the department to ensure all Red River Métis Citizens have an opportunity to have access to an alternative to the formal court process if deemed eligible by Manitoba Prosecutions.

## JUSTICE SUPPORT PROGRAM (JSP)

The Justice Support Program (JSP) was developed by the MMF to focus on the delivery of an efficient and effective reintegration process for Métis Citizens.

The program serves Métis Citizens who have been remanded, released from provincial or federal correctional facilities, or who have received community dispositions.





The JSP assists individuals to overcome barriers and address basic needs such as income, clothing, housing, health, family, etc. The program focuses on developing life skills and promoting job skills, and ultimately supports individuals to become employment or education ready.

## JUSTICE PROGRAMMING

### Domestic Violence Programming

The MJJ has continued to deliver the Métis Justice Domestic Violence Program for individuals that require programming as a part of their Sanctions for Court Diversion. Within six MMF Regions, programming has been utilized as a component for the MMF's Diversion Programs to assist individuals who require Domestic Violence Programming as a component of their court involvement.

A total of 35 Individuals involved in Court Diversion have participated and completed programming within the 2021-22 fiscal year.

### Anger Management Programming

The MJJ has continued to deliver the Métis Justice Anger Management Program for individuals that require programming as a part of their Sanctions for Court Diversion. Within six MMF Regions, programming has been utilized as a component for the MMF's Diversion Programs to assist individuals who require Anger Management Programming as a component of their court involvement for both Youth and adults.

A total of 25 Individuals involved in Court Diversion have participated and completed programming within the 2021-22 fiscal year.

## JUSTICE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

### Life Skills Programming

The Métis Justice Institute - Métis Justice Life Skills Program was developed last fiscal year. Due to covid, the program

implementation was postponed. The program will assist MJJ Clients involved in our Justice Support and Court Diversion Programs to empower participants to gain skills and resources to affect positive change in their own lives.

### Métis Community Safety Sessions

In our continued efforts to enhance the safety and well-being of Red River Métis Citizens and our communities, the MJJ has continued to develop programming that focuses on a variety of community safety issues identified in 2019 through surveys undertaken with Red River Métis Citizens. Provincial priorities have been identified and the department is currently working with the Louis Riel Institute to develop a workshop series that will focus on the following:

- Elder Abuse
- Frauds and Scams
- Internet Safety
- Safe Banking Practices
- Fire Safety
- Emergency Preparedness
- Personal Safety
- Planning for Your Future
- Safe Driving Practices
- Medication Safety,
- Safe Mobility Practices, and
- Substance/Gambling Abuse.

## NEW PROJECTS FOR 2021/2022

### Métis Identity within the Justice System Project

Newly received funding in the last quarter of the fiscal year was secured for the MJJ's Métis Identity within the Justice System Project. The Project will support the development of a Métis distinctions-based education and training resource for justice professionals in Manitoba. The project will provide the Red River Métis context and aim to address the underlying bias and racism in the Justice System that have led to the continued overlooking of the needs of Red River Métis people and our community through our government's perspective.

## **Red River Métis Engagement with the Indigenous Justice Strategy**

Newly received funding in the last quarter of the fiscal year was secured for the MJJ's Red River Métis Engagement with the Indigenous Justice Strategy – Métis Justice Strategy Project. The Project will support the development of a Red River Métis Justice Strategy in the planned co-developed Federal Indigenous Justice Strategy. Developed through a multi-stage process of research collaboration with elders, knowledge keepers, and other experts, with structured Citizen engagement processes. The project will develop a Red River Métis-led vision of justice system reforms achieved through a systematic effort to identify Red River Métis-specific traditions of law and justice. The project will also inform Federal Government sectors about the inclusion of a Métis distinctions-based approach to service delivery.

### **Métis Mediation Services Project**

Newly received funding in the last quarter of the fiscal year was secured for the MJJ's Métis Mediation Services Project. The project will develop a Métis distinctions-based Mediation Service to support access for Red River Métis Citizens who require Mediation Services. The focus will be on capacity building and service delivery for child and family mediation.

### **Métis Court Work Program**

Newly received funding in the last quarter of the fiscal year was secured for the MJJ's Métis Court Work Program. This Program will be under development over the next fiscal year to develop a Red River Métis Government support to facilitate and enhance access to justice through the provincial court. This program will replace the Manitoba Governments Indigenous Court Work Program.

### **Métis Family Support Project**

Newly received funding was secured for the MJJ's Métis Family Support Project. The project which is currently under development will focus on supporting Red River Métis families who have been impacted by a missing and/or murdered loved one. The project seeks to identify families through outreach, that may benefit from information and resources.

## **CONCLUSION**

As a department, the Métis Justice Institute staff are committed to continuing work over the next year to further implement and develop justice programs and services needed within the Red River Métis Community and assist Red River Métis Citizens involved within the Criminal Justice System.

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

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

**MICHIF  
LANGUAGE**

## MICHIF LANGUAGE



**Andrew Carrier**  
Minister

**General Manager: Sharon Parenteau**

The 2021-2022 year was another productive year for the Michif Portfolio despite the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. Many projects received extensions and/or amendments so that activities such as, gatherings, trainings, or in-person interviews could take place.

The following projects took place over the year:

### **Michif Documenting and Indexing Project (Complete)**

This project was designed to continue with the foundational work started in the Michif Revitalization Project, including training documenters, indexers, transcribers, archiving staff and beginning the work to document, index, transcribe and digitize language samples. Seven audio cassettes totalling 10 hours of audio from the Michif Languages Project were digitized, translated orally, and transcribed. The English translations were also digitized and will accompany the material and all metadata/descriptions of the collection. Both existing and new language samples will be shared with users through a language sharing platform called Mukurtu. This project also required some redesigning and an extension due to continued COVID-19 restrictions. As a result, the project was extended to September 30, 2021, and was completed by this date.

### **Michif Symposium Project (Complete)**

The Louis Riel Institute (LRI) was contracted to provide services to the Métis National Council regarding the implementation of the Indigenous Languages Act. Due to COVID-19 these activities were carried over one year and completed in March 2022.

LRI provided support to engagement sessions and events carried out in relation to the work of the Indigenous Languages Act Joint Implementation Steering Committee. Additionally, LRI carried out activities to support a distinctions-based approach

to Michif Language reclamation, revitalization, maintenance, and strengthening.

Based on LRI's assessment of the most effective means to address Michif language revitalization needs, it was determined that the activity should be mobilization of a unique Michif language resource whose significance had been previously established. Recordings of the "As We Remember" community radio program that was aired by the KEYA radio station in Belcourt, ND document the community history, cultural knowledge, musical talents, and personal memories of Southern Michif speakers of the Red River Métis. Thirty of the recordings, representing 28 different speakers, were selected for oral translation and transcription.

Wiichihitotaak ILR Inc. (Prairies to Woodlands) was contracted to complete English oral translation and transcription of the recordings and to make them publicly available online. The project was delayed due to impacts of COVID-19. However, by March 31, 2022, all aspects (English oral translation, transcription of English audio, and mobilizing the recordings) were complete.

In collaboration with Prairies to Woodlands' (P2W) website developers, a landing page was created for the recordings on their michif.org website. The Oral History Metadata Synchronizer interface has been embedded in the P2W's website allowing users to listen to the recordings and make use of features such as viewing the English transcriptions and other associated metadata. The recordings and the embedded metadata have been made for LRI to embed in their website using Mukurtu, an Indigenous content management system.

In addition, Ice River Films has completed three short education videos. One looks at the Michif language and its history, the second concerns the Master Apprentice Program, and the third concerns language and culture. All three will be available online and promoted on social media.

### **Métis Language Community Engagement Project (MLCEP) (2021-2023)**

The main purpose of the MLCEP is to promote, revitalize, and engage in activities that strengthen Métis languages. During year one of this project, LRI began working toward activities that promote its purpose. LRI continued to engage the Métis Language Community Circle, made up of 30 participants including Youth, learners, teachers, speakers, technicians, Elders, professionals, and one delegate from each MMF Region. Meetings took place monthly, using an online platform to adhere to COVID-19 restrictions. In addition, the LRI began to implement its communications framework, with the addition of a Communications Coordinator.



**With engagement from the Métis Language Community Circle, LRI drafted a Community Language Assessment Survey in October 2021. The purpose of the survey was to determine the extent of the historical Métis spoken languages throughout Manitoba.**



LRI created a monthly newsletter and began sharing social media posts and responding to engagement on all social media platforms.

Initial planning for the archiving was completed in October 2021. This included meeting with program development specialists to evaluate various platforms in terms of their effectiveness in interfacing with Mukurtu. LRI was able to determine the best approach in moving forward with digitizing and archiving, including the creation of metadata and transcriptions when needed, of language samples in Southern Michif, Northern Michif, Michif-French, Saulteaux, Cree, or Dene.

With engagement from the Métis Language Community Circle, LRI drafted a Community Language Assessment Survey in October 2021. The purpose of the survey was to determine the extent of the historical Métis spoken languages throughout Manitoba. LRI launched the survey in spring 2022. The survey was distributed to all seven MMF Regions as well as at the MMF Annual General Assembly in March 2022. Over 500 responses were received. The LRI is now working towards analyzing the data collected.

### **Métis Language Supplementary Project (2021-2023)**

LRI directly applied to Heritage Canada Indigenous Languages Component for an additional Métis language project. This project was developed to assist in the undertaking of urgent work related to language promotion, preservation, and other developmental initiatives aimed at reclaiming, revitalizing, maintaining, and strengthening Michif and other languages spoken by Red River Métis.

To support the activities outlined within this project, LRI partnered with P2W on the development and creation of the Group Mentor Apprentice Program (MAP), as well as the delivery of Métis language vitality training to continue to build internal capacity.

Additional resource development began, through the creation of several draft stories. Illustrations concepts are currently being reviewed for print.







**MINING**

## MINING



**Vincent Parenteau**  
Minister



**Mildred Dorian**  
Associate Minister

Mining and resource development projects play a variety of roles in the lives of our Citizens with many of our Northern Citizens residing in areas where mining has been the primary economic driver and source of employment for many years. The benefits of economic development have allowed for a sense of self-reliance and financial stability for many of our Red River Métis families. However, the mining industry has also led to many negative impacts on our environment, which have affected the health and well-being of our community.

Several new operations are being explored across the province, drawn in by the demand for new resources and products. Unfortunately, the Red River Métis were left out of the First Nations-Manitoba Mining Protocol and as a result, provincial officials and project proponents are not proactively notifying or reaching out to the MMF. Your Métis government will continue to pressure Manitoba to revise the protocol to ensure it includes consideration of the impacts of the industry on our Citizens.

These mining operations pose unique opportunities and challenges. The Mining Portfolio is focused on ensuring our Citizens and harvesters are properly engaged and consulted on all mining operations in Manitoba with the intention to best utilize opportunities to avoid negative impacts to the Red River Métis. Some of the most recent mining files include:

### **Potash and Agri-Development Corporation of Manitoba Ltd. (PADCOM)**

The proponent submitted an Environment Act Proposal on September 2, 2021, for a proposed potash solution mining project located in the Hamlet of Harrowby within the RM of Russell-Binscarth, approximately 16 km west of Russell. The proponent is proposing the construction and operation of the project for the extraction and processing of potash and would include a potash processing facility with a centrifuge, dryer, intake well of potash brine, and downhole injection brine well.

Pipelines will be constructed below ground to transport potash brine and pump water to the facility. The project is designed to produce 250,000 tonnes of potash per year, with an expected life of over 100 years. The actual project site, in the Hamlet of Harrowby, has no inhabitants – with two abandoned houses remaining on the site, assessed beyond repair. The land holdings consist of “a few” traditional farms to the south.

PADCOM owns and leases the surface land that the proposed project will be developed on as PADCOM has purchased title to all privately-owned lands with the project site through negotiations with the landowner.

The project will employ the “Beechy Process” for selective solution mining, removing only the potash from a selected high-grade potash seam – developed and implemented in SK. The pilot project version of this process has been approved by Manitoba. Your Métis government is currently working with the proponent on opportunities for the MMF to partner with PADCOM and seek equity options for the benefit of our citizens.

### **Vivian Silica Sand Project**

Sio Silica Corporation (formerly CanWhite Sands), a private company based in Calgary, has proposed to construct a silica sand processing facility and extraction process to produce 1.36 million tonnes of processed silica sand per year.

The Provincial licensing process is being split between two provincial Environmental Assessment Proposals (EAP) – the first for the processing facility and the second for the extraction process which has yet to be filed. Manitoba has chosen not to recommend a CEC hearing for this Project and although the MMF formally requested a designation of the Project under Federal jurisdiction (IAAC 2019) along with four other Indigenous governments and organizations, however, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change chose not to federally designate the Project. Both the processing facility and the extraction process have been approved by Manitoba and the project is moving forward.

Several Citizens have brought forward concerns about how the company stores the extracted material. Your Métis government has followed up with Manitoba to raise these concerns and seek remediation of these issues.

### **Wanipigow Silica Sand Mine**

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

The MMF contacted both Manitoba and CPSI to initiate full, proper, and meaningful engagement and consultation with the Red River Métis but neither Manitoba nor CPSI responded. Since that time, Manitoba issued an Environment Act Licence, the MMF filed an appeal to this decision and the provincial Minister subsequently dismissed the appeal.

Your Métis government is aware of the economic development opportunities that flow from the extraction of the product and will continue to attempt to engage with the proponent to ensure the Red River Métis are included in these opportunities.



# **NATURAL RESOURCES**

## NATURAL RESOURCES



**Leah LaPlante**  
Minister



**Peter Fleming**  
Associate Minister

The Manitoba Métis Federation's (MMF) Natural Resources portfolio, housed within the MMF's Energy, Infrastructure and Resource Management Department, is centred around the Métis Laws of the Harvest and the constitutionally protected Section 35 rights. As the Minister Responsible for Natural Resources, Leah LaPlante is dedicated and passionate about protecting Métis Harvesters, and has ensured that Red River Métis Citizens' concerns and interests are brought forward to help conserve and manage the lands, waters, and resources of Manitoba.

The MMF has the privilege to introduce Associate Minister Peter Fleming as the Associate Minister of Natural Resources. Minister Fleming's knowledge of harvesting, conservation-related work, and Métis harvesting rights will be invaluable to the Natural Resources portfolio.

A few developments within the portfolio through 2021-2022 include the following:

### Harvesting

Despite the MMF's best efforts to defend Métis harvesting rights within the Recognized Métis Harvesting Area (RMHA) and MMF RMHA Expansion Areas (GHAs 5, 7, 7A, 17A, 26), the Manitoba government has continued to charge Métis Harvesters who exercise their constitutionally protected right to harvest, ignoring both Canada's Constitution protecting Métis harvesting rights as well as the provincial Crown's commitments in the 2012 MMF-Manitoba Harvesting Agreement. A Red River Métis Harvester must follow the laws of public safety, must adhere to Métis Laws of the Harvest: Revised 3rd Edition, and must hold a validated MMF Harvester Card with the current year's Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) sticker. Following these requirements, in the case of wrongful harvesting charges that are a direct infringement of Section 35 rights, Red River Métis Harvesters may contact the MMF's Energy, Infrastructure and Resource Management Department. Once contacted, the MMF will gather harvesting charge information and will determine the necessary steps required to decide whether support and legal assistance can be provided. The MMF reminds all Harvesters that they are taking a risk while harvesting in MMF RMHA Expansion Areas [i.e., GHAs in which the 2018 MMF AGA voted unanimously to defend Métis harvesting rights (GHAs 5, 7, 7A, 17A, 26)] as well as areas outside of the RMHA<sup>2</sup>.

Due to recurring issues with Red River Métis Harvesters hunting on private property with verbal permission only, a permission slip must

now be used to obtain written permission from private landowners. The permission slip will reduce the chance of Harvesters being faced with a situation if the landowner decides to revoke permission after the fact. Be aware that verbal permission is no longer acceptable and that it is the responsibility of the Harvester to understand where they are harvesting. Written permission from private landowners supports Red River Métis rights to harvest on private property when approached by a Conservation Officer. Permission slips are available at the MMF Home Office, Regional Offices, and on the MMF website at [www.mmf.mb.ca](http://www.mmf.mb.ca).

Red River Métis Harvesters must validate their Métis Harvester Card yearly by purchasing the current year's CTF sticker on or after April 1. In addition, Red River Métis Harvesters are required to complete the mandatory MMF Harvesting Survey prior to receiving the new season's CTF sticker and big-game tags. The survey is important to help manage resources, monitor harvesting activity, and increase conservation efforts throughout the province. The MMF recently developed and launched an online Harvester Portal to ease the process of completing the survey, and obtaining the new season's sticker and tags. The Harvester Portal looks to improve and streamline the overall harvesting reporting system. Please visit the Harvester Portal through the MMF website at [www.mmf.mb.ca](http://www.mmf.mb.ca) to obtain the season's CTF sticker and big-game tags.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is an incurable fatal disease that affects members of the deer (i.e., cervid) family, which includes white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose, and caribou. While there is currently no direct evidence CWD can spread to humans, meat from an infected animal is not recommended for consumption. In response to the discovery of the first case of CWD in the province on Nov. 1, 2021, the Manitoba government announced management actions, including deer culls, a mandatory CWD surveillance zone, and the establishment of a licenced mule deer hunting season, to increase efforts to effectively monitor CWD, help prevent the spread of CWD, and protect deer family populations in other areas of the province. It is important to note that these management actions do not apply to Red River Métis Harvesters exercising their Aboriginal right to hunt for sustenance within the RMHA. Harvesters must understand the seriousness of CWD and be sure that they are using a conservation-minded approach by following all health and safety regulations, as these actions play a key role in preventing the spread of CWD. The MMF has worked to ensure that the harvesting rights of harvesters are protected, and that steps are being taken to minimize the loss of food resources resulting from Manitoba's CWD Emergency Response Plan. Earlier this year, 1,000-lbs of tested and CWD-safe, salvaged deer meat was taken to MMF Regions to be distributed among Red River Métis Elders and Citizens in need.

Following consultations with Red River Métis Citizens and Harvesters regarding night hunting, the MMF submitted a report to the Manitoba government and passed two Resolutions at the 2017 AGA. 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 when away from settlements and local populations. On February 9, 2018, the MMF Cabinet passed the MMF Night Hunting and Night Lighting Agro-Zone Boundary Resolution, providing policy specifying the Métis night hunting law in Manitoba, including

definitions, maps, and map notes. All information regarding night hunting can be found on the MMF website at [www.mmf.mb.ca](http://www.mmf.mb.ca).

## Moose

In 2011, the provincial government implemented moose harvesting closures in the Duck Mountain and Porcupine Mountains (i.e., GHAs 13, 13A, 18, 18A, 18B, and 18C) without meaningful or adequate consultation with the Red River Métis. The MMF, in response to conservation concerns highlighted by the Red River Métis, initiated a voluntary closure of moose harvesting in the above-noted GHAs as an exercise of stewardship and self-government rights. The Red River Métis have not been meaningfully consulted or engaged regarding moose management decisions, including ongoing conservation closures or any proposed changes since the closures were put in place.

In October 2020, and again in 2021, using a conservation-minded approach, the MMF announced the reopening of GHAs 13 and 13A – Porcupine Mountains – and GHAs 18, 18A, 18B, and 18C – Duck Mountain – for the harvest of bull moose (i.e., no cows, calves, or yearlings) on a limited basis for Red River Métis Harvesters through the MMF's Moose Conservation Harvesting Initiative. The Moose Conservation Harvesting Initiative consisted of Conservation Moose Tags, Captains of the Hunt, and Conservation Moose Harvesting Parties. A live draw took place with one Conservation Moose Tag being issued to each successfully drawn Captain of the Hunt on behalf of all Red River Métis Harvesters of their Conservation Moose Harvesting Party. Each Conservation Moose Tag was GHA-specific, with a total of 16 tags being issued for Duck Mountain and 10 tags for the Porcupine Mountains.

## Caribou

The MMF has taken part in the National Boreal Caribou Knowledge Consortium (NBCKC) since its beginnings in 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 institutions, industry, non-governmental organizations, and Indigenous governments and representatives. The NBCKC has developed working groups in which the MMF has been actively involved, including the Indigenous Knowledge Circle, the Monitoring Working Group, the Habitat Restoration Working Group, and the Chronic Wasting Disease Knowledge Network. The NBCKC provided the opportunity to learn about caribou conservation projects across the country, to explore partnerships, and ensure that the voices, concerns, and views of Red River Métis Citizens and Harvesters are included in caribou conservation work. The MMF has determined through yearly Caribou Workshops in northern Manitoba that there is a concern for diminishing caribou populations across the province as well as a need for support for immediate conservation efforts to ensure species survival. In the winter of 2020, in response to these concerns, the MMF began work on Project Caribou, a caribou monitoring and research project using motion-activated monitoring cameras installed throughout critical caribou wintering habitat in northern Manitoba. The MMF has continued work on the project and is planning to add cameras throughout the wintering habitat over the next three years. The MMF also plans to continue working with the NBCKC to ensure that the Red River Métis are well represented.

## Parks Canada

### a) Indigenous Open-Door Program

The MMF and Parks Canada have worked to expand Parks Canada's Indigenous Open-Door Program by providing free entry for Red River Métis Citizens into Parks Canada-administered national historic sites and national parks throughout Manitoba, including the Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site, the Riel House National Historic Site, and Riding Mountain National Park. Red River Métis Citizens in possession of their MMF Citizenship Card and/or Métis Harvester Card are provided free entry. Parks Canada's Indigenous Open-Doors Program provides free entry; however, other fees for attractions and services – including tours, workshops, and special programming – or any other fees associated with the site, do still apply and must be paid at the visitor centre.

### b) Call to Action 79 – Truth and Reconciliation Commission

In 2021, the MMF was engaged by Parks Canada to undertake a review of Parks Canada's Cultural Heritage Policy, as part of the Call to Action 79 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. To accurately respond to Parks Canada, the MMF held virtual engagement sessions with each of the seven MMF Regions, inviting Red River Métis Citizens to provide input, discuss the policies, and identify concerns and impacts of the policies' initiatives on Red River Métis rights. Following the engagement sessions, the MMF submitted an Engagement Report to Parks Canada summarizing the comments and concerns identified at the meetings.



### c) Métis Reconciliation Fund – Wapusk National Park Trail Camera Project

The Métis Reconciliation Fund is an internal Parks Canada fund to help support Métis reconciliation activities. To date, the MMF has used this fund to help support trail camera deployment and the maintenance, data collections, and inclusion of Red River Métis Citizens in on-the-land activities in Wapusk National Park.

## Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas

In January 2020, the MMF finalized two multi-year Contribution Agreements with Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) that provides the MMF with multi-year funding to work towards creating two Indigenous Protected & Conserved Areas (IPCAs). The first IPCA is in The Pas and Northwest Regions within the Kettle Hills Blueberry Patch, and the second IPCA is in the Thompson Region, near Wapusk National Park.



This ECCC initiative stems from the federal government's commitment to protecting 25% of Canada's land and 25% of its oceans by 2025. The purpose of the MMF's proposed IPCAs is to conserve and protect Canada's wildlife and habitat along with ensuring Red River Métis Citizens are engaged in conservation. The MMF has conducted a variety of engagement on this file, including traditional knowledge interviews, community workshops, virtual community meetings, and webinars to ensure the protected areas are built on Red River Métis values, knowledge, and priorities.

Specific to the Kettle Hills Blueberry Patch IPCA, and for the past two summer field seasons, the MMF has maintained and cleaned up access trails, assessed the prevalence of blueberry species, blueberry competition, and blueberry regeneration after forest fires using vegetation quadrat surveys. Specific to the Thompson Region IPCA, the MMF held a Community Cultural Values Mapping Interview to collect traditional and contemporary Red River Métis land use and occupancy information, which will be utilized in future on-the-land management decision-making. Additionally, tied to Project Caribou, the MMF continues to maintain the trail cameras deployed in this area, forming a passive monitoring network within critical caribou wintering grounds.

### Make Our Homeland Green Again – MMF's Tree Planting Initiative

The Manitoba Métis Federation has made the commitment to plant 2 million trees across the National Homeland of the Red River Métis through a new initiative entitled Make Our Homeland Green Again. This commitment came as a direct result of the Government of Canada's announcement in September of 2019 to plant 2 billion trees across Canada by 2031.

This initiative will see native tree and shrub species planted through 5 program streams:

1) Citizen Yard Improvement Program – a Citizen-focused program that will provide the opportunity for Red River Métis Citizens to apply for tree or shrub species (including a limited number of fruit-bearing species) for planting in their own yard.

2) Edible Forest Program – a community-focused program that will utilize fruit and nut-bearing tree and shrub species to create a hub for fresh produce within communities.

3) Shelterbelt Program – a program focused on the betterment of the environment that will utilize tree species to provide natural windbreaks within communities and on Red River Métis Citizens' private land.



4) Wildlife Habitat Enhancement & Restoration Program – a program focused on the betterment of the environment that will enhance (further improve the quality and value of) or restore (return, back to its natural state) wildlife habitat areas throughout Manitoba.

5) Riparian Area Revegetation Program – a program focused on the betterment of the environment that will support the improvement of riparian areas (strip of land between the shoreline and the upland zone) along waterways within Manitoba.

Approximately 1,350 trees were planted in the fall of 2021 of the 2021-2022 fiscal year; all trees were planted through both the Citizen Yard Improvement and Shelterbelt Programs. If you are interested in applying for trees or in volunteering, please visit the MMF website at [www.mmf.mb.ca](http://www.mmf.mb.ca) for more information, or contact technical staff at [trees@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:trees@mmf.mb.ca).

### Powley Program

The MMF and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) have an ongoing and longstanding partnership to monitor the harvest of migratory game birds by the Red River Métis. Through the Powley Program, the MMF has been able to undertake consultation initiatives, identify key knowledge holders, and better equip ourselves towards mitigating impacts to the Red River Métis, our lands, waters, and resources. The MMF plans to continue monitoring migratory bird harvests by the Red River Métis through the mandatory harvesting survey, and to share migratory bird harvest data to manage resources, monitor harvesting activity, and increase conservation efforts throughout the province.

<sup>1</sup> Delegates to the 2018 MMF Annual General Assembly (AGA) voted unanimously in favour of a Resolution to defend Métis harvesting rights in Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) bordering the Recognized Métis Harvesting Area (RMHA), including: 1) the Grass River Region (GHAs 5, 7, and 7A); and 2) the Manigotagan Region (GHA 26 and the portion of GHA 17A outside of the Pimtitoh Traditional Land Use Planning Area/Bloodvein Registered Trapline).

<sup>2</sup> In September 2019, delegates to the MMF AGA voted unanimously for the MMF to consider providing legal support to Métis Harvesters who exercise their constitutionally protected rights in the areas outside of the RMHA, including GHAs 2A, 4, 21, 21A, and the Upper and Lower Nelson River systems and Churchill Region.





# PROVINCIAL EDUCATION

## PROVINCIAL EDUCATION



**Joan Ledoux**  
Minister



**David Beaudin**  
Associate Minister

In 2019-2020, the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) Provincial Education Department was reorganized to allow for the creation of a province-wide strategy on education to support Métis students throughout their education journeys – from K-12 and into post-secondary, across the homeland. Towards this goal, MMF Provincial Education has since launched several initiatives at various education levels.

The MMF Provincial Education Working Group Committee was established with the responsibility of overseeing MMF Provincial Education to ensure its efficient and effective operations.

### Post-Secondary Education

Since the signing of the Canada-Métis Nation Accord, the MMF has agreed to invest \$90 million over 10 years to support Métis post-secondary education in Manitoba. The objective is to close education attainment gaps between Métis and non-Indigenous Canadians through distinctions-based, strategic supports. In line with the Accord, the MMF Provincial Education Department works toward broader goals of self-determination and control of education, as well as to improve social, economic, and academic health and well-being.

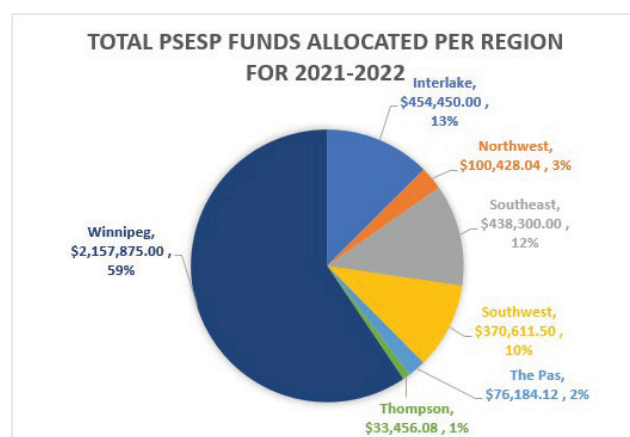
### Métis Inclusion Coordinators

As part of our strategy to help our Red River Métis students transition into post-secondary opportunities and thrive while they journey through that stage of their education, we have begun implementing Métis Inclusion Coordinators in post-secondary institutions across Manitoba. We are excited to announce that we have hired a Métis Inclusion Coordinator at the University of Winnipeg, and as this goes to press, we are in the middle of the hiring process for Brandon University. We are hoping to work with the University of Manitoba and the University College of the North next.

Our Métis Inclusion Coordinators are full-time MMF employees who are situated on the institution's campus and offer guidance to Métis students, plan cultural and community building events, help our students apply for citizenship, assist them with accessing our tuition support programs, and direct them to any other MMF and/or post-secondary institution supports and resources they may need. Our Métis Inclusion Coordinator at the University of Winnipeg already had a packed schedule of student meetings before the Fall 2022 semester even started, highlighting a significant student demand for Métis-specific supports in post-secondary institutions.

### Post-Secondary Education Support Program (PSESP)

The first PSESP intake was launched in November 2019, during which 557 Métis students were awarded a total of \$2,351,570 in PSESP funding. The second intake took place in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, during which 847 students were awarded a total of \$4,235,000 in PSESP funding. Our third intake was during the 2021-2022 fiscal year and was our largest and most successful year yet. We are pleased to announce that the PSESP program awarded 881 Red River Métis students up to \$5,000 each, for a total of \$3,631,304 in PSESP funding supports. See Graph and Table 1 below, which detail the number of applicants granted PSESP awards in 2021-2022, as well as which MMF Region the students are from.



Region	Total Per Region
Interlake	\$ 454,450.00
Northwest	\$ 100,428.04
Southeast	\$438,300.00
Southwest	\$370,611.50
The Pas	\$76,184.12
Thompson	\$33,456.08
Winnipeg	\$2,157,875.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,631,304.74</b>

### K-12 Pilot Project in The Pas Region

In 2021-2022, MMF Provincial Education started the process of creating a pilot project to support K-12 students in The Pas Region. This process included speaking with some of the superintendents in the Frontier School Division (FSD) and principals to gain perspective on how we could better support our students in the North, improve educational outcomes, and prepare them for post-secondary opportunities. Stage One of this project is ongoing and includes the implementation of a Métis Inclusion Coordinator for Grades 8-12 who will travel to different schools and communities around The Pas Region to work with our Red River Métis students in different capacities. We are looking forward to expanding this project to other Regions to offer our K-12 students a strong foundation on which to continue their lifelong journey of learning.

# RED RIVER MÉTIS VETERANS



## RED RIVER MÉTIS VETERANS



**Shawn Nault**

*Minister*

Our Métis Veterans have always been held in the highest regard by our own people. In order to provide better support to Métis Veterans and their families, President David Chartrand and the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) developed a new department to recognize Red River Métis Veterans, provide services and support to Red River Métis Veterans, and increase public awareness of veterans' contributions.

Newly appointed Minister Shawn Nault is the Minister of Red River Métis Veterans (RRMV). As a newly developed department, the RRMV will be conducting a strategic planning session in 2023 to set the long- and short-term planning of the department.

The RRMV has begun working strategically this year to keep Métis Veterans on the minds of Canadians all year round. This goal comes with great expectations and is at the forefront of Minister Shawn Nault going into 2023.

### Review of 2022

The RRMV is proud to announce a Red River Métis Veterans Remembrance Day Service that will take place on November 8, 2022, at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada here in the heart of the Homeland. The event will feature a fly-by of Royal Canadian Air Force aircraft, museum tour, and traditional remembrance ceremony honouring Red River Métis Veterans and their legacy.

### In our community

On August 14, 2022, the Red River Métis Veterans department was invited to be the honoured guests and guest speaker for the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association's 75th Anniversary.

Minister Nault attended the ceremony and presented an infinity symbol wreath on behalf of the Manitoba Métis Federation.

### 80th Anniversary of Dieppe Raid

Minister Shawn Nault also represented the Red River Métis Veterans at the 80th Anniversary of the WWII Dieppe Raid.

### Consultation Surveys

The Red River Métis Veterans department has been conducting a survey across the Homeland to gain valuable insight about our Métis Veterans. We have conducted hundreds of surveys throughout the Homeland and will be compiling a comprehensive report that will assist Minister Nault in setting the priorities of the Red River Métis Veterans department.



**Newly appointed Minister Shawn Nault is the Minister of Red River Métis Veterans (RRMV). As a newly developed department, the RRMV will be conducting a strategic planning session in 2023 to set the long- and short-term planning of the department.**

# RESIDENTIAL & DAY SCHOOLS

## RESIDENTIAL & DAY SCHOOLS



**Andrew Carrier**  
*Minister*

The recent discovery of unmarked graves at former residential school sites across Canada in 2021 has brought all levels of government a renewed commitment to address the dark and shameful chapter of Canadian history. At least 150,000 First Nation, Inuit and Métis children were taken away from their community and families between 1870 and the late 1990s to attend government-funded, church-run residential and day schools to assimilate them into mainstream society.

Many Métis children who went to residential and day schools never returned. They were lost to their families and communities. They were buried away from their families in long-neglected (many unmarked) graves. The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) is the Métis Government representing all Red River Métis Citizens/ families, and on their behalf, asking the most basic questions about our missing Métis children; they are – what are the names of the children that died or went missing? How did they die or go missing? Where are they buried? These questions have never been addressed by schools, churches, law enforcement, medical practitioners, or comprehensively documented throughout the history of Canada's residential and day school systems.

### Provincial Focused Activities

#### First Nations, Inuit and Red River Métis Council

The MMF participates as a member of the First Nations, Inuit, and Red River Métis Council, consisting of representatives from the Manitoba Keewatinowí Okimakanak, the Southern Chiefs' Organization, the Manitoba Inuit Association, and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, community organizations and government officials from provincial, federal, and municipal levels to provide guidance and advice on how best to support Indigenous-led searches for children who died attending residential schools. Members meet regularly to share best practices and information to advance their work.

#### Honouring Our Children

Residential school survivors shared their stories on the grounds of the former Portage la Prairie Indian Residential School, now a national historic site, at an event centred on the theme of unity and working together to move forward. The MMF joined other Indigenous Governments and the province at the Honouring Our Children event on June 15 at Long Plain First Nation for an announcement on the identification, commemoration, and

protection of burial sites of children who attended residential schools. The recently formed council, alongside the Government of Manitoba, announced the allocation of \$2.5 million to Indigenous governments and organizations to help co-develop Indigenous-led approaches to find and memorialize missing children and promote collective healing and reconciling action. Of that funding, \$240,000 is shared equally between the MMF and the Manitoba Inuit Association. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action #75 and #76 call upon the federal government to work with Indigenous communities, governments, survivors, churches, and landowners to develop strategies and procedures for the ongoing identification, documentation, commemoration, and protection of residential school burial sites. The MMF directs this funding to its Pekeywaytahihnan nutr zanfaan leur zisprii (We are bringing our children's spirit home) Project to assist with the search for our children.



#### September 30, Orange Shirt Day Act

The government of Manitoba is putting forth ideas to undertake an engagement process with Indigenous leadership and residential school survivors to identify perspectives on the optimal approach to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation provincially. The Truth and Reconciliation's Calls to Action #80 calls for establishing a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Federal Bill C-5, passed on June 3, 2021, designates September 30 as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Manitoba was one of the few provinces that closed their provincial legislatures, schools, and public services to observe Truth and Reconciliation Day. Manitoba's Orange Shirt Day Act designates September 30 as Orange Shirt Day in Manitoba- the Act does not establish September as a holiday, statutory or otherwise. Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Manitoba have called for further provincial action to recognize September 30 in Manitoba.

The province of Manitoba proposes an engagement process to:

- Hear directly from residential school survivors and leadership on their views concerning a variety of questions related to the recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Manitoba;
- Take steps to ensure that Manitobans are given the opportunity, and are encouraged, to observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and reflect upon the lasting legacy of residential schools in Canada; and,



- Respond to Calls to Action #80, aligned with Manitoba's commitment to reconciliation, as outlined in The Path to Reconciliation Act.

The government is exploring additional measures to enable Manitobans to recognize, participate, and ensure steps are taken to formalize the day to reflect the values and importance of honouring survivors of residential schools and their families and providing public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools. Various legislative and non-legislative options are available to recognize September 30 in Manitoba formally. Measures could include new or amended legislation, the closure of schools, and other activities to mark the day's importance.

The province proposes to ask four questions focused on; (1) what the day means and what specific messages should be communicated to Manitobans; (2) what the broader importance of this day to the people of Manitoba is, including indigenous and non-indigenous Manitobans; (3) how Manitoba might recognize September 30 provincially; (4) what the day should be called.

The MMF is working diligently to determine its involvement in this process that takes a survivor and trauma-informed approach.

### National Focused Activities

#### Pekeywaytahihnan nutr zanfaan leur zisprii (We are bringing our children's spirit home) Project

In response to the 2022-2024 funding request submitted to the federal government under the Residential Schools Missing Children- Community Support component of the Federal Interlocutor's Contribution Program, the MMF has been approved funding for fiscal years 2022-2024 in the amount of \$1.4 million.



(Photo courtesy of MMF Communications (L-R) Hon. Alan Lagimodiere (MB), Premier Heather Stefanson (MB), Survivor Charlotte Nolin, Elder Linda St. Cyr-Saric, Minister Andrew Carrier).

The fiscal year 2022 sets out local research, engagement, and knowledge-gathering activities to determine the burial locations of Red River Métis children. This will involve working with Red River Métis experts, the National Centre on Truth and Reconciliation, institutions, agencies, and individuals holding archival records and determining and researching possible archival records.

The MMF houses Red River Métis Residential School survivor records. There will be a complete exploratory, categorizing, and

digitizing exercise to determine what records are contained within the documents that could be used to assist in the research and search process.

The program will be supported by a Red River Métis Residential School Survivor Advisory Committee. A Terms of Reference is being developed for Cabinet approval.

A series of regional meetings will be part of the activities to acquire additional information on potential burial sites with Métis Residential School Survivors and the Métis community. Work with Engagement and Consultation is in progress to plan these sessions.

Throughout this project, the Minister for Residential and Day School will implement approved strategies and recommendations to continue representing the interests of Red River Métis communities on all matters related to the search for Métis Residential School children.

### Survivor-led Steering Committee for the Residential Schools National Monument.

To honour residential school Survivors and all the lost children to their families and communities, a Residential Schools National Monument will be installed in a highly visible location in Ottawa. The federal government announced the newly formed Survivor-led Steering Committee, which will guide work on the Residential Schools National Monument.

The Survivor-led Steering Committee will oversee the monument project through to its completion, ensuring the project remains grounded in Indigenous values. Committee members will also provide advice and guidance on site selection, the design competition process, educational content development, and on-site programming.

Members were selected through direct appointments and a public nomination process managed by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

Representatives from the Red River Métis community are Georgina Liberty (Red River Métis representative) and Jimmy Durocher (Residential Day School Survivor).

### National Advisory Committee on Indian Residential School Missing Children and Burial

The establishment of the National Advisory Committee on Residential Schools Missing Children and Unmarked Burials is to ensure Indigenous communities have access to independent, trusted, and expert information in their efforts to identify, locate, and commemorate their missing children. Thousands of First Nations, Inuit and Métis children never returned home from residential schools. Many were buried in gravesites that were unrecorded, unmarked, and unprotected.

The National Advisory Committee brings together individuals with a wide range of experience and expertise in areas such as Indigenous laws and cultural protocols, forensics, archeology, archival research, criminal investigations, communication and working with Survivors. The National Advisory Committee is guided by a Circle of Survivors, comprised of two First Nations Survivors, two Inuit Survivors, and two Métis Nation Survivors.



**In response to the 2022-2024 funding request submitted to the federal government under the Residential Schools Missing Children- Community Support component of the Federal Interlocutor's Contribution Program, the MMF has been approved funding for fiscal years 2022-2024 in the amount of \$1.4 million.**

On July 19, 2022, the National Advisory Committee held its inaugural meeting, discussing how to best support the work undertaken by Survivors, their families, and communities. Through engagement with Indigenous communities and organizations, the National Advisory Committee will help ensure that First Nations, Inuit, Métis Nation governments, and communities have access to the best available information to support their efforts.

The representative from the Red River Métis community on this committee is Elder Verna DeMontigny.

#### **National Red River Métis Residential & Day School Recognition Sash**

As the Red River Métis are historically known for wearing a sash around their waist as part of the Métis culture, and in honour of the memory of missing Métis children that attended residential and day schools, a special sash was commissioned to honour their memory.

The following are colours and significance of our new Missing Métis Children sash:

1. Orange – every missing Métis child matters.
2. Black – the mourning of families and communities in the loss of children.
3. Yellow – the rays of the sun that reflect a fresh start.
4. Red – the blood that flows within our veins.
5. Purple – to reflect the spiritual healing within families and communities.
6. Green – to reflect growth and a rebirth.
7. Blue – to reflect possibilities of the future.

We will honour the memories of the Missing Métis children by giving the sash to families and organizations that are helping in the search for closure and healing.

**RIEL HOUSE**

## RIEL HOUSE



**Andrew Carrier**

*Minister*

The Louis Riel Institute (LRI) had a very successful 2021 season. We had three types of programming: onsite, offsite, and online. There were no group or school programs this year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Five staff were hired in May and June 2021. They received training in Métis history and culture, Riel House as national historic site, and the Riel and Lagimodière families. They were taught to do Métis style flower beadwork as well as make their own wraparound pointed toe moccasins. Their trainer for the moccasins was Julie Desrochers of Prairie Owl Beads.

Riel House was open onsite from July 13-August 27, 2021. There were no fees to pay this year. A total of 473 guests came to Riel House, with 80% of guests asking for tours in English. Most guests came from Manitoba, but Ontario, Quebec, and Alberta also had high numbers. British Columbia and Saskatchewan had guests in lower numbers, and one guest even came from Belgium!

Interpreters offered perimeter tours until public health restrictions allowed guests inside on August 7, when guests were allowed in the house again. Butter making and Red River Frame Construction were two of the activities that occurred in addition to tours.

Riel House offered offsite programming with "Riel House on the Move! / Maison-Riel en Route!" Interpreters delivered five different programs to students in a summer program called Community

School Investigators (CSI), which reached 78 elementary-aged students. They also delivered to the Manitoba Métis Federation's (MMF) Métis Employment and Training (MET) Summer Camp twice and worked with 20 elementary-aged students.

Riel House offered online programming all summer, with regular social media updates on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. Artist of the Week profiled seven different Métis artists in various mediums. Four of the artists were connected to Riel House in various ways. Daily Virtual Tours occurred live at noon and was broadcast on Facebook.

There were no special events this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Local guests inquired often about the Thursday Night Soirées and the Corn Roast.

The gardens at Riel House were not managed by LRI this year. The MMF's Energy, Infrastructure and Resource Management Department managed the food gardens. The Manitoba Master Gardener Association cared for the flowerbeds and shrubs.



**Riel House offered online programming all summer, with regular social media updates on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. Artist of the Week profiled seven different Métis artists in various mediums.**



**LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE**  
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage



**SIXTIES SCOOP**

## SIXTIES SCOOP



**Denise Thomas**  
*Minister*

The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) leads the charge in advocating for justice and providing support services to Citizens affected by the Sixties Scoop, a child welfare policy developed and implemented in the early 1950s, lasting well into the early 1990s. The Sixties Scoop policy separated Métis children from their families and communities through the judicial process of adoption or foster care placements. Many Métis children, now adults, have lost their identity and Métis rights because of this policy.

### Our Collective Journey

The journey towards recognition, reconciliation and redress for Red River Métis Sixties Scoop Survivors has been slow and painful and remains fraught. The lack of progress in the negotiation and legal process has led the MMF to pursue other avenues to support Survivors.

Following a 2019 series of engagement sessions with Survivors, a national report entitled *What We Heard-Report of the Métis Nation's Engagement with Sixties Scoop Survivors* provided a national collective response highlighting the Five Pillars of Reconciliation: Reparation, Apologies, Commemorations, Accountability and Healing.

In 2020, the Sixties Scoop Department was formed, and in 2021, the department launched the Sixties Scoop Wellness Centre ("the Centre"). The Centre's primary goals are to respond to the healing needs of Red River Sixties Scoop Survivors and their families through Métis-driven programs and services aimed at healing and reintegrating those lost into the Red River Métis community.

### Building on our Success

Although much work is needed to address the complex needs of Sixties Scoop Survivors, the Centre has reached a few milestones in its quest to support the Citizens most affected by the Sixties Scoop era. This annual report outlines the Centre's achievements over the last fiscal year.

### Engagement with Survivors and Métis Citizens

The Department is actively out in the community, ensuring all Red River Métis Citizens and Sixties Scoop Survivors know the support available through the Centre. An integrated survivor-centred trauma-informed approach is chosen and utilized.

To prioritize Sixties Scoop Survivors' reintegration into the Red River Métis community, a Métis community effort is promoted. Awareness and education of colonial policies, such as the Sixties Scoop, are necessary to make those not aware of those practices that have so drastically shaped Sixties Scoop Survivors and their families' lives.

The Kitchen Table Talk is an example of our engagement with Sixties Scoop Survivors. These sessions are hosted virtually and are an opportunity for Sixties Scoop Survivors to come together as Survivors, reconnect with the Métis community, and discuss important topics relevant to their healing journey. The first series of sessions in May 2022 focused on reconnecting, with the participation of 29 Survivors. Future sessions will include citizenship, adoption, birth records acquisition, and MMF programs and services.

The Centre's presence at annual regional meetings exemplifies our engagement with the Red River Métis community. The Centre provides an oral presentation to delegates on current initiatives or sets up a booth where staff can provide information and answer any questions or concerns.

### Mental Health Supports

The Centre provides mental health support to Red River Métis Sixties Scoop Survivors. The Centre utilizes the services of LifeWorks. One-on-one, face-to-face, and secured video-conferencing services are available 24 hours a day. Call the Centre for more details.

### Negotiations

The MMF sought intervenor status to be involved with the Métis and Non-Status Class Action lawsuit against the Canadian Government. The Federal Court and the Federal Court of Appeal denied the MMF's request. The focus of this lawsuit is to settle the loss of culture and language experienced by Métis and Non-Status Indians. The MMF will communicate with Survivors on the next steps soon.

### Year in Review

- Wellness Centre launch
- Staff hired (Director, Intake Worker, Administrative Support)
- 152 Sixties Scoop Survivor Intakes
- Program postings on website and social media
- Distribution of information literature to Citizens and locals
- Mental Health Support Services established
- 3 Kitchen Table Talk Sessions
- Creation of Wellness Centre Logo

### Next Steps

The MMF Sixties Scoop Department will continue to grow over the next year to develop programs and services that meet the specific needs of Sixties Scoop Survivors. The Centre is redeveloping the Lost Moccasin Repatriation Program and plans to host a Sixties Scoop Gathering in 2023.

**SPORTS  
& YOUTH**

## SPORTS & YOUTH



**Richard Genaille**  
*Minister*

### Youth – UPIP Programming

Youth Programming administered by the Métis Employment & Training Department uses a combination of funding to pilot innovative projects that address the wants and needs of Red River Métis Youth. Using funding from both UPIP and ISETS, Youth-Programming targets Youth-oriented projects that create dynamic opportunities that adequately addresses Youth interests, add benefit and value, and create a powerful connection to Red River Métis culture and history.

Utilizing meaningful Youth participation contributes to structuring programs, services, events, and conferences that reflect positive outcomes within youth programming delivery. By engaging Métis Youth, MET – Youth Programming focuses on building Youth capacity and Youth advocacy in the planning and development of Youth initiatives.

For more information on youth involvement, events and conferences please email MET – Youth Programming at [youth.coordinator@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:youth.coordinator@mmf.mb.ca)

### Youth Advisory Committees

Youth Programming works in collaboration with the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee and the Regional Youth Advisory Committee's to provide the upmost engaging and beneficial programs and services. The ideas and insights obtained from committee members are used to deliver initiatives that add value to their futures, create connection amongst Youth and to ensure programming provided meets the needs of Youth within each MMF Region.

### Programs and Services

Youth Programming offers a variety of programs and services that range from cultural learning to skill development, conferences, and events. Through Youth programming we hope to further develop Red River Métis knowledge amongst Youth, build daily life and employability skills, as well as create a space for Youth to gain traction in creating successful futures.

### Individual Youth Supports

This program offers annual support of \$350.00 for youth aged 29 and under to participate in Sports, Recreational and Cultural activities. The Individual Youth Support program provides an inclusive opportunity for youth to take part in extracurricular opportunities while enhancing skills in commitment, teamwork, and cultural learning.

### Sports and Recreational Camps

**Youth Leadership Camp** – Our annual Youth Leadership Camp delivered from the MMF Home Office takes place over the summer months, creating an atmosphere for positive leadership and cultural learning. Youth participants join two-week sessions filled with fun cultural activities such as learning to bead, Elder inspiration, and historic Red River Métis site visits. This camp offers the opportunity for Youth to express themselves through cultural art projects and games as well as new opportunities with fun excursions.

**Sports Camps** – A variety of sports camps take place throughout the year to enhance athletic development and give new opportunities to Youth. Sport camps are delivered to ensure that Youth with various skill levels can participate, stay active and learn new skills.

As Métis Youth continue to be a growing and prominent feature within the Manitoba Métis Federation, MET - Youth Programming continuously strategizes opportunities to further develop Youth engagement and empowerment as well as provide a space for the Youth voice.

For more information about Youth programs, services and events please contact [youth.coordinator@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:youth.coordinator@mmf.mb.ca) or connect with your MMF Regional Office.





# TRADITIONAL ECONOMIES

## TRADITIONAL ECONOMIES



**Darrel Ferland**  
Minister

As the recently appointed Minister of the new Traditional Economies Portfolio, Minister Ferland is looking forward to creating and further stimulating Red River Métis' traditional economies. Creating and restoring local economies provides an opportunity to conserve natural ecosystems and allows for economic development and capacity building within the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF).

The Traditional Economies Portfolio covers all aspects of fish and fish habitats that were previously managed by Minister John Parenteau. Additionally, the Traditional Economies Portfolio will also consist of the MMF Forestry file, which includes pursuing sustainable forestry operations and engaging Manitoba on forestry management and operating plans that directly affect Red River Métis harvesting rights.

Several developments within the 2021-2022 fiscal year include:

### COMMERCIAL FISHING

On May 8, 2019, the MMF, in coordination with Manitoba Keewatinowí Okimakanak Inc. (MKO) and Southern Chiefs Organization (SCO), held a Commercial Fishers Emergency Meeting. The meeting consisted of presentations and breakout group discussions dealing with the inland 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 industry's future and therefore, a desire to work together to ensure industry sustainability. The MMF plans to hold a validation meeting in response to the 2019 emergency meeting in the fall of 2022.

### MMF COMMERCIAL FISHER NET PROGRAM

In January 2021, the MMF launched the MMF Commercial Fisher Net Program. This program helped over 150 fishers and provided approximately 2000 nets to Red River Métis Citizens that fish commercially, which allowed them to fish the 2021/2022 winter season with some extra resources. These nets arrived in batches and were distributed among the regions where Red River Métis Commercial Fishers reside and work.

### MMF SPAWNING GROUND STUDY

The MMF conducted Walleye catch and tagging activities in Lake Winnipegosis during the fall of 2021. The abundance and size of Walleye were documented in preparation for the tagging of adequately sized walleye with telemetry transmitters. Additional telemetry tagging fieldwork will take place in the fall of 2022. This work will provide the MMF with valuable data on where mature walleye are moving and spawning in Lake Winnipegosis.

### AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

The MMF continues to engage with the Manitoba Government regarding Aquatic Invasive Species. Your Red River Métis Government is working to provide Red River Métis specific Aquatic Invasive Species awareness training to further develop the knowledge Red River Métis Citizens hold as stewards of the land.

### REARING PONDS AND FISH HATCHERY

Red River Métis Citizens have raised interest in investing in rearing ponds and fish hatcheries. Rearing ponds that the MMF operated near St. Laurent were damaged by flooding. Due to a lack of funding, the MMF has yet to restore these ponds. However, the MMF is currently researching to restore and re-establish these rearing ponds. The rearing ponds project will help fish stocks in Manitoba lakes and provide training and employment opportunities for Red River Métis Citizens.

### FORESTRY

As previously stated in last year's AGA Report, the forestry and peat mining projects have a common theme of proposed timber harvesting, access development, access control, renewal activities, and road development and decommissioning—directly affecting Red River Métis harvesting rights. The Manitoba Government recognizes it's duty to consult and accommodate in a meaningful way with the MMF on behalf of the Manitoba Métis with respect to forestry operations in Manitoba.

The MMF is currently involved in the consultation process for the following forestry related files:

- Louisiana Pacific 20-Year Forest Management Plan
- Louisiana Pacific and Mountain Quota Holders Association 2-Year Operating Plan

- Nisokapawino Forestry Management Corporation 20-Year Forest Management Plan
- Sun Gro Horticulture Petland Expansion Project

As these projects may impact the rights, claims, and interests of the Red River Métis, Crown consultation must take place to ensure that impacts are minimized and opportunities for accommodation and mitigation are fully explored.

#### **NEW ARCTIC REGION COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND CO-DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT**



In 2018, DFO announced the development of a new Arctic Region. This new Arctic Region will be a stand-alone region, managed independently and encompasses approximately 50 per cent of Canada's coastline. The intention is to improve program and service delivery in the north and ensure Indigenous Nations are directly involved in decisions impacting their resources and environment.

As the Arctic shipping season remains open for longer on average, and new ocean shipping corridors are opening due to global climate change, new opportunities and risks are arising for the Red River Métis on the Hudson Bay coast.

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the MMF signed an Agreement with the Canadian Coast Guard aimed at further understanding the following:

- Red River Métis historical and contemporary resource use, cultural and heritage resource concerns, and conservation and ecological concerns
- Potential impacts of Coast Guard activities to Red River Métis Citizens
- Coast Guard priorities that support the MMF

On February 19, 2022, the MMF held a community meeting to collect comments, questions, and concerns from the Churchill Local. Following this meeting, the MMF submitted a What We Heard Report to the Canadian Coast Guard outlining Red River Métis priorities.

#### **TRANSPORT CANADA BOATING SAFETY PROGRAM**

In the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the MMF finalized a Small Vessel Operator Safety Initiative, which consisted of two objectives: 1. Identify Red River Métis Citizens who operate vessels in the area that may interact with larger vessels, and 2. Communicate safe navigation practices. In collaboration with above mentioned Coast Guard meeting, the MMF held a community meeting with the Churchill Local specific to this initiative. This meeting provided an opportunity to identify local operators, share safety information, and identify future Red River Métis priorities.

For questions concerning the Fisheries files, you may contact Jenny Petrynko, Fish and Fish Habitat Specialist, by phone at (204) 586-8474 or by email at [jenny.petrynko@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:jenny.petrynko@mmf.mb.ca).

And for questions concerning the Forestry, Coast Guard and Transport Canada files, you may contact Riley Bartel, Conservation Coordinator, by phone at (204) 586-8474 or by email at [riley.bartel@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:riley.bartel@mmf.mb.ca).









**AFFILIATES**



**LOUIS RIEL  
CAPITAL  
CORPORATION**

# LOUIS RIEL CAPITAL CORPORATION



**Leah LaPlante**  
Chair



**Jack Park**  
Vice Chair

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
James Bruce

**Director**  
Anita Campbell

**Director**  
Gerald Baron

**Thirty-year Anniversary: The Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) will celebrate 30 years of providing capital and business services to Métis entrepreneurs in Manitoba in October 2022. The formation of the LRCC was an initiative of the Manitoba Métis Federation's Tripartite Self-Government department.**

The LRCC continues to deploy valuable loan and grant (equity) funding to support and foster the Manitoba Métis business community and Métis Citizens seeking to start up, expand or buy an existing business. On average, the LRCC provides both loan and/or grant capital totalling more than \$4 million to roughly 90 new business projects each year.

## COVID-19 Pandemic Programs:

The COVID-19 Pandemic has provided significant challenges to our many Métis business clients as they struggle to keep their businesses afloat. The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the National Government of the Red River Métis, and the LRCC, along with the assistance of the Métis Economic Development Fund (MEDF) have been supporting Métis businesses by providing them with a significant amount of capital to pay their operational expenses and continue to support their families. The capital provided by the MMF through the LRCC has been in the form of a non-repayable grant to help keep our Métis businesses' doors open or position them to reopen in the near future when provincial restrictions are lifted.

Early and throughout the Pandemic, the MMF continued to negotiate with Canada for millions of dollars in additional COVID-19 stimulus funding to support Métis Citizens and businesses. Through these negotiations, the LRCC administered the Métis Emergency Business Loan (MEBL) and the MMF COVID-19 Business Support Program.

The MEBL program was a Métis-specific version of the Canada Emergency Business Account designed to help cover non-

deferrable operating costs. The program ran until June 30, 2021, and up to \$60,000 in funding split into a grant of up to \$20,000 and an interest-free loan of up to \$40,000 with no payments for 12 months was made available. This program provided over \$8.3 million in support to 170 Métis businesses affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The MMF COVID-19 Business Support Program (MMF CBSP) continued to operate during the year, with a combined \$8 million in funding provided by the federal government and the MMF. This program initially provided up to \$10,000 as a non-repayable grant to Métis businesses that continued to be affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Many businesses accessed the program multiple times as restrictions continued to harm their business operations. This program ended March 31, 2022, and provided funding to over 600 Métis businesses, including Artisan/Crafters, Musicians, Fishers, Ranchers & Farmers.

## The LRCC Loan Program:

The LRCC is one of the Economic Development arms of the Manitoba Métis Federation providing loans, and grants (non-repayable equity contributions) to Métis businesses and entrepreneurs in Manitoba. We inherently take on more risk than banks and credit unions when providing loan capital to our Métis businesses. As a result, many of our clients have access to loan and grant capital when otherwise, they would not have the ability to obtain the capital they need.

The LRCC's loan program can provide our Métis business clients with up to a maximum of \$250,000. Loans can be amortized to a maximum of 15 years based on the life expectancy of the assets being financed or the security available to secure the loan. Loan interest rates are fixed for the entire term and can be as low as 5.00 per cent. The actual interest rate 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 and, in most cases, better than the fixed rates offered by other financial institutions.

Please visit our website: [lrcc.mb.ca](http://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 Métis clients with the additional capital (equity) that the financial institutions (banks, credit unions, etc.) require to obtain a business loan.





The LRCC has been delivering the BECF since the spring of 2013 and to date, we have paid out over \$12 million to help support the creation, expansion, or purchase of over 320 Métis-owned businesses. The BECF is adjudicated on a needs basis. The client must demonstrate that the grant is needed to obtain a commercial loan from a financial institution. A further condition for a Métis client to obtain a grant is they must contribute some of their own cash to 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 to access the BECF.

We are pleased to report that the LRCC will continue administering the BECF grant/equity funding for the foreseeable future. These business grants are non-repayable and have assisted Métis 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 estimated average grant contribution would be \$50,000. The grant/equity program on average contributes 33 per cent of the project's cost. When applying to the 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 four to six weeks depending on the client's preparedness. We encourage all Métis 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 [lrcc.mb.ca](http://lrcc.mb.ca).

#### **MMF Entrepreneurship Initiative:**

The MMF Entrepreneurship Initiative was launched in October 2020, with a focus on providing financing and mentorship support for micro business, such as small and home-based businesses and small-scale fishers and trappers operations through three distinct loan programs. The MEI also provides financial, and training supports to Metis youth entrepreneurs aged 18 to 29 years of age. Full-time, part-time, and seasonal operations are eligible for support through the MEI.

Funding amounts and rates differ depending on the program being accessed with all programs providing a portion of the loan forgiven provided the applicant, with the support of the program manager, can demonstrate the viability of their plan. During the 2021-22 fiscal year, 26 loans were approved and over \$190,000 funds were disbursed through the Initiative and 500 meetings / consultations were conducted with Metis clients. For more information related to the MEI or to access and application for to the LRCC website <https://www.lrcc.mb.ca/mmef-entrepreneurship-initiative>

#### **Métis Women Entrepreneurship (MWE) Program:**

Newly started, the MWE provides commercial financing to help Métis women start or expand businesses in Manitoba. This program offers up to \$20,000.00 in financing composed of a grant and loan. Businesses must be at least 51 per cent Métis and women-owned and controlled. Additionally, ownership must also have at least five per cent of their total costs as available cash equity to put towards their project. Eligible costs may include, but

are not limited to, the purchase of equipment/inventory, leasehold improvements, insurance, commercial rent, utilities, and marketing or promotional items.

Full program details can be found on the LRCC website at [lrcc.mb.ca](http://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, in Winnipeg. This parking lot can accommodate up to 185 vehicles, and 100 per cent of the stalls are leased monthly with signed parking agreements. Public paid parking is available overnight between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. and all day on weekends.

#### **Louis Riel Capital Investments Inc.:**

Louis Riel Capital Investments Inc. (LRCII) is a separately incorporated company owned and operated by the LRCC. LRCII now provides small personal loans of up to \$25,000 to full-time employees of the MMF and the employees of their affiliates. These loans are designed to provide funds for personal use (maximum 48 months) to employees that are no longer on their probation period. The loan will become due and payable in full should the employee leave the employ of the MMF or affiliate.

The interest rate is 19.5 per cent for small loans of \$5,000 or less. For loans of \$5,001 and over the interest rate is competitive with bank personal loan rates starting as low as 6.75 per cent. The rate applied to each loan is based on credit history and the value of any security pledged.

It's 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 use this program, please contact the LRCC office at **(204) 589-0772** or email: [info@lrcc.mb.ca](mailto:info@lrcc.mb.ca).

#### **First Time Home Purchase Program:**

A detailed report for the First Time Home Purchase Program can be found under Minister Goodon's portfolio report (Housing and Property Management).

#### **Property Management – 5785066 Manitoba Ltd., a Division of LRCC:**

The LRCC's property management company continues to manage seven commercial buildings on behalf of the MMF, MEDO Developments, and one regional office. A full property management report can be seen under Minister Goodon's portfolio report (Housing and Property Management).





**LOUIS RIEL  
INSTITUTE**



# LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE



**Joan Ledoux**  
Minister



**David Beaudin**  
Associate Minister

**Vision:** The Louis Riel Institute (LRI) serves to empower the Métis Nation of Manitoba, made up of skilled and proud Métis Citizens, families, and Communities.

**Mission:** The Louis Riel Institute promotes, builds capacity, and supports the heritage and history of the Métis in Manitoba through efficient, effective, culturally sensitive programs and activities.

**Mandate:** The Louis Riel Institute is the legislatively mandated authority responsible for Métis education and culture in Manitoba.

## Louis Riel Institute Programs

**Adult Learning Centre (ALC)** – The ALC program is a non-traditional high school for adults, which offers unique course selections such as Métis Studies and Métis Art. There are two streams that students can attend – Post Diploma Upgrading and Mature Student Diploma. Due to COVID-19, most students were taking courses online or through independent study via email. Physical drop-offs/pick-ups of print work were available for students who do not have technological resources. Teachers actively supported students through email, phone, text, and videoconferencing. In the 2021/2022 year there were 326 students: 111 working towards their Mature Student Diploma, 208 working on Post Diploma Upgrading courses, 4 underage, and 3 getting their regular diploma.

Additionally, the ALC had 131 credits completed during the year and 17 students graduated with their high school diplomas. The ALC successfully received a technology grant from Adult Learning and Literacy for materials to assist teachers in remote teaching and learning. The plan for the 2022-2023 school year is to offer our courses both in person and remote, using the Bright Space Learning Management System through MB Education and Training.

**The Mobile Literacy and Essential Skills (MLES)** – Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the in-person programming delivery in the MLES trailer was put on hold from November 2020 until June 2021, when the project received approval for an extension until January 31, 2022. The extension included adapting the programming

to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions to ensure LRI met the project objectives and to explore other opportunities within Métis communities around Manitoba by delivering the program virtually.

Over the summer of 2021, the training material was converted to an online format using a cloud learning platform to prepare for the delivery of the course online. Laptops were purchased for students who had an opportunity to keep the computers if they successfully completed the course. Two cohort classes took place in the fall of 2021, and two cohorts took place in 2022, with a total of 28 students enrolled. Several students found employment as a result of skills they acquired during the course. The MLES project continues to develop partnerships with organizations and communities for future training opportunities.

The MLES project received a federal extension until September 30, 2022.

**LRI Cultural Programming** – The LRI Cultural Programming department has continued to deliver a variety of workshops, presentations, and training both virtually and onsite. The Cultural Programming department has also been involved in many events throughout Manitoba during the 2021-2022 fiscal year to teach Métis knowledge, culture, and history.

## Métis History Courses

**Métis 101: Métis History and Governance** – This course was offered 14 times in the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and approximately 260 students successfully completed this course and received certificates. This three-hour online course is an introduction to all of Métis history until current times.

**Métis 102: Louis Riel** – This course was offered 15 times in the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and was completed by approximately 60 students. This three-hour online course is an overview of the life and legacy of Louis Riel.

**Métis 103: Métis Women** – This course was developed in 2021 and will be delivered during the 2022/2023 year to students applying to the Post Secondary Education Support Program (PSESP). This three-hour online course is an overview of the role and responsibilities of Métis women historically and contemporarily.

**Red River Métis History and Culture** – In 2021 the LRI Cultural Programming Department rebranded the Red River Métis History and Culture Course. This introductory workshop is offered both onsite and virtually. LRI offers and delivers the Red River Métis History and Culture Course to individuals, groups, schools, non-profit organizations, for-profit organizations, and government agencies. This workshop is customizable to fit specific lengths of time and can be tailored for each audience.



**LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE**  
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage





## The Louis Riel Institute promotes, builds capacity, and supports the heritage and history of the Métis in Manitoba through efficient, effective, culturally sensitive programs and activities.

### Cultural workshops

**Beading Workshops** – In 2021, the LRI Cultural Programming Department began researching alternative spaces to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions. LRI began a partnership with R. B. Russell Vocational School, and in May 2022 the Flower Beadwork Circle will resume weekly, in-person workshops at this location.

**Sash and Finger Weaving Presentations** – The LRI Cultural Programming department has responded to the demand from classrooms by creating history and culture presentations via Zoom that focus on the Métis sash. This presentation also includes a small instructional video for beginner finger weaving.

**Little Métis Family Fun Events and Little Métis Sing With Me** – These programs have been temporarily cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

**Other cultural workshops** – The LRI Cultural Programming Department conducted numerous workshops throughout the year, both onsite and virtually, which included kids beading, jigging, Paper Bag Moccasins, and the Louis Riel Collage.

### LRI Resources

The LRI publishes many books on Métis culture and history written for various age groups from preschool to adult. The orders for books and educational kits have skyrocketed in 2021/2022. In addition, the lending kits, displays, and historic clothing have continued to go out for virtual events, filming of videos such as *Métis Minute*, and Riel House interpreters.

### Métis Historic Tours

The LRI offers two historical bus tours: one to the Riel House National Historical Site and various sites in St. Boniface, and the other to St. Francois Xavier and the Seven Oaks Monument. Additional walking tours have been added to the Forks, Upper Fort Garry, and St Boniface. These have been popular with summer camps and other groups. This year, the LRI has secured a 25-person tour bus in order to expand tour offerings.

### Riel House National Historic Site Interpretation Program

For the 2021 spring/summer season, one coordinator and four staff (Interpreters and Intern Interpreters) were hired to provide programming to the public. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, programming was not available until July 13, 2021, resulting in no school programming being offered. Guests were able to have perimeter tours of the house and grounds until early August, after which, small groups of the public were invited to come into Riel House with the use of masks.

Riel House staff went offsite and delivered “Riel House on the Move!”/“Maison-Riel en Route!”, including the delivery of five Riel House programs to 78 students in the CSI summer program. Online programming was very well used in 2021: regular Instagram posts, including seven Artist of the Week profiles, 26 Facebook Live, Tours and 164 Twitter followers. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there were no special events in 2021.

Riel House was open five days per week and a total of 473 guests visited Riel House, with 79 tours offered.

### Michif Language Initiatives:

- **2021-2023 Métis Language Community Engagement Project:** This project is ongoing, with a finalization date in 2023. This project includes a focus on community engagement through the Language Revitalization Community Circle on language revitalization education, a community survey creation, and the beginning of Michif digitizing and archiving development.
- **2021-2023 Métis Language Supplementary Project:** This project focuses on capacity building through training initiatives, the development of a pilot Master Apprentice Program (MAP), and the development of Métis language resources. Work on this project is ongoing with a completion date in 2023.
- Communications work is ongoing with the development of a Métis Language Facebook page, monthly newsletter, and other print resources.

**Research, Archives, and Special Collections** – Michif language revitalization continues to be the focus of the Research, Archives, and Special Collections initiative. Efforts are being made to support research activities for Michif language revitalization through strategic planning and the preservation of digitized language materials, including new language documentation materials. In alignment with the archival management system, LRI's efforts will be devoted to the continued development of the content management system Mukurtu, an open-access digital heritage platform. In order to facilitate online access to language resources and to further support language learning, Michif language collections are currently being uploaded to Mukurtu as part of LRI's commitment to language preservation.

**Métis Veterans Project** – Negotiations and engagement with the Manitoba Métis Federation on the Métis Veterans Project (MVP) began in the fall of 2021. LRI contracted a Project Manager to develop a workplan and budget. Sage Research and Consulting Inc. was also contracted to develop and assist with the planning of the research and manuscript development for three of the four books in the series, known as the Métis Veterans Memorial Collection.

The lead research consultant has been working on the development of a research and manuscript proposal for each of the books in the series, as well as on the development of partnerships which aim to increase the impact of the project. LRI will continue work on this project, and the anticipated completion date of the Métis Veterans Memorial Collection is 2025.

**Financial Aid & Awards** – The MMF's endowment fund is now currently over \$28 million, an increase of over \$2 million from 2020/2021. The LRI, in partnership with post-secondary

institutions, administers the available funds, through the Louis Riel Bursary, on behalf of the MMF. 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 the 2021/2022 year.

<b>2021/2022 Endowments through Louis Riel Bursaries</b>			
<b>Post-Secondary Institute</b>	<b># of Applicants</b>	<b># of Awards</b>	<b>Total Award Value</b>
Assiniboine Community College	22	19	\$95,000
Brandon University	93	70	\$201,389
Red River College	74	44	\$42,000
University College of the North	15	8	\$2,176
University of Manitoba	564	309	\$418,335
University of St. Boniface	62	41	\$92,100
University of Winnipeg	210	89	\$183,650
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>\$1,034,650</b>

**LOUIS RIEL  
VOCATIONAL  
COLLEGE**

# LOUIS RIEL VOCATIONAL COLLEGE



**Joan Ledoux**  
Minister



**David Beaudin**  
Associate Minister

## Mission:

The Louis Riel Vocational College promotes educational advancement for the Red River Métis while welcoming diversity through the delivery of programs and services leading to success.

## Vision:

To deliver quality programs that empower all learners in the pursuit of educational economic success benefiting family and community

## Values:

The Louis Riel Vocational College, as a highly regulated institute of post-secondary education we value the following: Commitment, Community, Diversity, Professionalism, Quality and Success.

The Louis Riel Vocational College (LRVC) is a highly regulated private college that offers both certificate and diploma programs under the Advanced Education and Training portfolio.

The LRVC began operations under the Manitoba Métis Federation's affiliate, The Louis Riel Institute in 2013. At that time the LRVC had a single diploma program of Health Care Aide. Since then, the college has grown to now offer five diploma programs:

- Health Care Aide
- Health Care Aide Challenge

- Medical Office Assistant
- Indigenous Focused Early Childhood Educator
- Employment Counsellor

All diploma programs include a mandatory Métis culture and history component.

The LRVC provides unique student supports that are unmatched by any public or private institution. Students are fully supported by having access to their instructor seven days per week from 9 am to 11 pm via text, phone call, or email should they have issues or questions with their course load. The LRVC also offers an online training portal where students can access course materials and resources. All LRVC students are provided with employment leads, resume building, and job interview techniques and strategies after graduation.

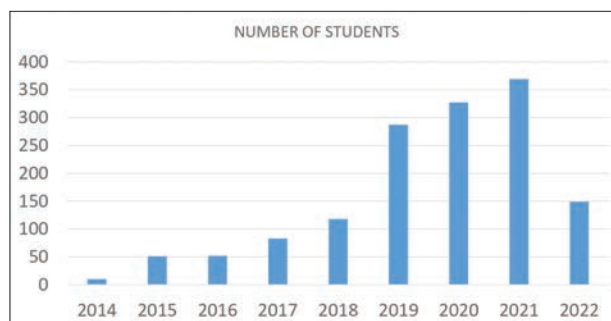
The college also offers customized pre-employment programs featuring a variety of soft skills training that can be delivered in community, in person, or online. Our soft skills library includes over 100 relevant titles that can be blended to fit a community's needs.

The LRVC has the unique ability to respond to sector and community needs and can prepare programs that result in employment for the graduate. To date, our pre-employment programs have been offered in several different communities across Manitoba and have resulted in more than 60 people finding meaningful employment.

The LRVC in partnership with Métis Early Learning & Child Care (ELCC) department will deliver another Child Care Assistant program beginning in the fall of 2022. Further discussions in partnership with Métis ELCC are ongoing with the possible delivery of the full Early Childhood Educator (ECE) 11 program in October 2022 and in January 2023. The LRVC partnerships include the Red River Métis Government departments and affiliates such as: Metis Employment and Training, Early Learning and Child Care, the Louis Riel Institute, and all MMF Regions and Locals.

To date, over 1500 students have trusted the LRVC with their education to assist them in acquiring a meaningful career in their field of study.

2020/2021 Endowments through Louis Riel Bursaries			
Post-Secondary Institute	# of Applicants	# of Awards	Total Award Value
Assiniboine Community College	8	8	\$40,000
Brandon University	59	56	\$155,000
Red River College	92	83	\$356,000
University College of the North	14	7	\$16,000
University of Manitoba	391	245	\$413,950
University of St. Boniface	51	43	\$96,000
University of Winnipeg	111	54	\$190,100
<b>Totals</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>\$1,267,050</b>



**LOUIS RIEL**  
**VOCATIONAL COLLEGE**  
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage



**MÉTIS CHILD &  
FAMILY SERVICES**

## MÉTIS CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES



**Mona Buors**

*Minister*

Our Métis CFS system is strong, and we are diligent! With the generous financial assistance of the Manitoba Métis Federation, our system was able to ensure that children had all of the technology requirements to continue remote learning. Family visits that could no longer take place face to face were conducted virtually. Staff were on rotation at the offices to ensure the safety of coworkers while carrying on the very important work of serving families.

I would like to thank all the staff at the: Métis CFS Authority; Métis Child, Family & Community Services agency; and Michif Child and Family Services agency for continuing the difficult work of delivering child and family services and programs during a very uncertain time. I am proud of all that has been accomplished, despite the hurdles that were faced. Our Métis CFS system continues to be an international leader in delivering Child and Family Services. Many experts in this field look to our system as an example of compassion, collaboration, and family-first practices.



### Métis Child and Family Services

Métis Child and Family Services operates under a unified system composed of three separate entities. Like the Métis sash, these organizations are woven together to provide support, strength, and cultural pride to Métis families across Manitoba.

Our Métis Child and Family Services system is a proud affiliate of the MMF that includes two child welfare agencies (Métis Child, Family and Community Services and Michif Child and Family Services) and the Métis Child and Family Services Authority. These bodies strive to preserve and nurture Métis culture and continue practicing collaborative and inclusive methods for child welfare.

Over the past few years, our system has developed revolutionary initiatives that stray away from traditional CFS models and focus on nurturing Métis children, Youth, and families. The following are a few examples of how our system is fighting for the safety and betterment of our Youth.

Bill C-92: An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families

On February 28, 2019, the Government of Canada introduced Bill C-92, An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families (the Act). This legislation was co-developed with Indigenous, provincial, and territorial partners to keep Indigenous children and Youth connected to their families, communities, and culture. This Bill recognizes a simple truth: one size does not fit all when it comes to Indigenous child and family services. Under Bill C-92, Indigenous communities and groups are free to develop policies and laws based on their histories, cultures, and circumstances.

### Creating Legislation

Our Métis CFS system has been working on developing Métis CFS laws with the Manitoba Métis Federation's Senior Policy Unit. This work allows for child and family services to be delivered in a Métis-specific way recognizing that children and Youth must be placed with family, and that family has the ability to make decisions when planning for their children. These laws will replace the current provincial CFS Act.

### Children's Special Allowance (CSA)

On May 18, 2022, the Manitoba judicial system decided in a court decision that the misappropriation of benefits for children in care was unconstitutional and discriminatory against Indigenous foster children. This was a long and hard-fought battle from our Métis CFS system along with other Indigenous child welfare



organizations. Justice Edmond issued his decision, finding that Manitoba's actions and section 231 of BITSA were unconstitutional and that they discriminated against foster children in Manitoba, 88 per cent of whom are First Nation and Métis children, all of whom Justice Edmond declared were among the most vulnerable members of our society. This decision will lead to millions of dollars being returned to children in care and those formerly in care. Although, our fight is not over until each child personally has every dollar that is owed to them.

## Our Agencies

This has been an exciting year for Métis Child, Family and Community Services and Michif Child and Family Services.

While we work with the MMF on cultivating revolutionary pieces of legislation, we continue to shift our practice to focus on family-led decision-making and improving our case practice model to greater empower families. This work is meant to ensure that children have the greatest connection and attachment possible to their homes, families, and communities. Some of the most notable highlights from this past year are:

- Having over 100 staff members attend All My Relations training – training focused on increasing connection to family and community. Numerous others within the agency have gone on to complete additional coaching sessions or became a coach themselves in this practice.
- We have continued our yearly trend of decreasing the number of protection files opened and increasing the number of Voluntary Family Service files (actually, more than doubling the number of families receiving voluntary services from the previous year!).
- Despite the restrictions of COVID, we have continued to make efforts in every way possible for connections to continue and ensured that families had access to services that meet their needs.
- Through funding support, our agencies were able to employ a variety of positions dedicated to nurturing and preserving Métis culture. These positions include our cultural workers and Elders.
- Through the support of the Manitoba Métis Federation, we were able to supply children in care with over 100 laptops to enable their full participation in remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Registered Disability Savings Plan Project

The federal Child Disability Benefit forms part of the Children's Special Allowance (CSA). Over the past 3 years, the agency has been working towards having eligible children in care receive this further allowance within the Registered Disability Savings Plans (RDSP). Once deposited into these plans, the federal government matches these funds again through other grants and benefits resulting in the amount deposited being multiplied by three. Each child in care with a disability would ultimately receive approximately \$12,000 per year (after grants) into their RDSP.



So far, 31 children and Youth have had cheques deposited into their accounts totalling about \$214,000. These Youth also have pending government grant applications which bring this number to \$642,000. Although these numbers may seem staggering, our agencies have gathered far more funds for these children that could not be deposited due to the Province of Manitoba's claims that this money was theirs. With portions of the Province's Budget Implementation Bill being struck down and the court clearly stating that these funds belong to the Youth, these funds will be placed into the children's RDSP accounts. After processing grants and benefits applications, approximately \$1 million more will be deposited for these 31 children and Youth.

The Métis CFS system knows it has many more children in our care eligible for this support. Accounts will be created for every child eligible. Further, we know many young people have left our care without this support. We have hired Métis Spirit staff to locate and connect with every eligible Youth who has left our system, create RDSP accounts with them, and help them seek the historic dollars owed to them. In total, several million dollars will be made available for these adults with disabilities, which can drastically change the course and quality of their lives.

The Métis CFS system is the first, and perhaps the only, child welfare system in the country to offer this support to their children in care.

## Registered Education Savings Plans

We are pleased to announce that all children in ongoing care have had Registered Education Savings Plans created for their future use. The importance of education in breaking the cycle of poverty, which affects so many families we are involved with, cannot be understated.

Currently, these RESPs contain federal grant funding only. Our children in ongoing care have received about \$250,000 in Registered Education Savings Plan dollars thus far. Unlike the vast majority of other post-secondary level supports for children formerly in care, an RESP is in the control of the Youth themselves, and can be used at a broad range of educational institutions. Currently, there are approximately 700 children and Youth in care who have RESPs.



## Extending Support for Former Children in Care

During the difficult times over the past year, our former children in care needed more help than ever. Our agencies have worked to end the concept of “aging out of care.” We continued to offer agreements with young adults to all Youth exiting care, even if they were not attending post-secondary education. We also have expanded our Métis Spirit staff. These staff work to support former Youth in our care in whatever way is required.

For the first time, a budget for emergency funds was set aside for former Youth in care to access when they needed to. Conceptually, this fund replicates the typical young adult asking their parent for a little help. Practically, it has meant that Youth have more stable housing and food for their table.

## Métis CART Program

The Métis CART program is an acronym standing for Community Addictions Recovery Team. Family addictions and substance use are some of the most significant factors affecting child safety. This program works toward providing mental health and addictions services to families at risk of child apprehension. This program is comprised of a team including a caseworker, family mentor, addictions worker, and mental health worker. This team provides support for families with parental substance use, child abuse, or neglect problems. Families can access these services quickly, as well as referrals to various community resources. The program also includes connections to cultural programming. We are proud that the project implementation is in line with recommendations made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which called for the provision of Indigenous-led, culturally safe services, as well as increased supports for Indigenous-led agencies and families with children in the home.

## Métis Connect

In October 2018, Métis Connect was established to help children become connected/reconnected to family, extended family, and community. This initiative is unique to our Manitoba Métis CFS System. Métis Connect workers teach specialized techniques for locating extended family and trusted community members. These connections can become a network for children, as well as engage with the agency in planning and decision-making. This program helps ensure children in care know their identity and have a sense of belonging through connection with family, community, and culture. This program has resulted in hundreds of children gaining strong and meaningful connections with adults who have invested in their future.

“It feels good to have a safety net. For someone who has never had that in my life, it was scary at first. But now I know I have people who are here to help me when I need it. Having a mental health advocate is the best thing I have ever done.”

## Comfort Kits

Our agencies received more grant funding from the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada's Ted and Loretta Rogers Foster Care Comfort Kit Program, which provides Comfort Kits for children and Youth entering agency care. These Comforts Kits consist of a variety of items that help support children's well-being, safety, and sense of security.



“B was happy with the clothing items, the warm blanket, and the hygiene. B told the foster parent that she is still grieving the loss of her father, and the Comfort Kit lifted her spirits and made her smile. She thanked the agency for the kind gesture.”

- B, age 8

## How our agencies are making a difference

Hi, my name is Calvin Parani, and I'm a Skills for Life Worker for Métis Child and Family Services. One particular “feel good” memory occurred last Christmas 2021.

With the pandemic taking its course, 412 McGregor Office had our annual Christmas lunch/dinner celebration. This year, the celebration would be celebrated a lot differently! With social distancing and capacity restrictions in effect, we decided to make the event a drive-through food pick-up service. Unfortunately, not everyone has transportation, so our office allowed staff to complete dinner deliveries. One Youth in particular had no means of transportation and was very new to the city, coming from La Broquerie, Manitoba (D.D).

This Youth is very shy, quiet, and soft-spoken! I worked with this Youth for over a year. Once I arrived at his home residence, I could tell he was very excited to see me. I handed over his plate of food and greeted him Merry Christmas. Then, all of a sudden, this shy, quiet, soft-spoken Youth came towards me and hugged me. He didn't say one word, just smiled and returned inside. I was shocked, especially with the social distancing and the whole six feet apart rules, but just that simple, soft gesture can remind you that our Youth in care do appreciate us, and we can make a difference.

We don't do this job for money, gifts, or even recognition. But, the moment you realize you are making a difference is when you plan to drop off Christmas dinner to two siblings you work with (K.M) & (M.M). And they have a gift for you personally wrapped by them, and your name is written completely wrong – that's when you know you may be doing something right!

One of our Eagles Nest Youth competed in regional track and field and qualified for Provincials in the discus. Unfortunately, Jayden fell just short of qualifying for shot put. Provincials were held at the University of Manitoba, where Jayden placed fifth in discus. After a competitor dropped out of shot put, he was offered the opportunity to compete in that event as well, where he also placed fifth. The team was led by Richard Rosales, and I had the pleasure of watching Jayden compete. We are so proud of him! Jayden was



also selected as a finalist in a Canada-wide poetry competition, which he received a certificate for. His poem is being published in a poetry book along with the other finalists.

#### Quotes from our Métis CART Program

- “It’s refreshing to have someone to talk to each week. They help you go over the things in your life. You are slowly understanding why you are the way you are. They help you understand why things might frustrate you.”
- “It feels good to have a safety net. For someone who has never had that in my life, it was scary at first. But now I know I have people who are here to help me when I need it. Having a mental health advocate is the best thing I have ever done.”
- “Having peer support workers who have lived experience with addictions or CFS involvement is helpful. It feels like they can be trusted because they have some understanding about what this experience is like.”

#### Quotes from our Métis Connect Program

- From a father who had never met his children: “And thank you for finding me and connecting me to my kids. If it wasn’t for you, this wouldn’t have happened...like an angel or something.”
- From a mother: “I have never been asked to have an opinion, I have never been given a say – I am so thankful.”
- From a mother: “So far, I’m appreciative of the meetings we’ve had with the agency as well as having supports such as my family being involved. It’s helped me immensely knowing that I have such a structured group of people helping me along the way. You guys have been phenomenal in helping me move forward in a positive manner. I’m grateful and positively influenced by the family group meetings we’ve shared, and will continue to look forward to our meetings in the future!”

#### FE Quotes

- From a Youth: “Like honestly, (worker’s name), even though I sometimes get frustrated with you, I really do appreciate everything you do and have done for me.”
- From a worker: “I called a family about Citizenship and I used to be their worker. They told me I was a strong advocate for them when I was their worker, and it made me smile.”
- From a mother: “I’m really happy to reconnect with you, though, because I feel empowered by the positivity you emanate. So, thank you, thank you, thank you, and I hope we can continue in conversation some more.”

#### Michif CFS Youth Celebration

After a two-year hiatus, one of our agencies were able to host a Youth Celebration on May 27, 2022, at the Victoria Inn in Brandon. The agency was able to celebrate with seven young adults as they continue their journey from agency care into adulthood. Guests were treated to amazing food provided by the Victoria Inn, great

music performed by Jason Lepine and the Métis Spirit Band, and

terrific dancing by the Norman Chief Memorial Dancers.

#### MCFCFS & MCFS Annual General Meeting

Our agencies held their Annual General Meetings in Brandon on May 27, 2022, at the Victoria Inn. This event had been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but it was a fantastic opportunity to gather and discuss all of the good work taking place across our Métis child welfare system and ways we can improve for future generations.

We would like to thank our families, communities, and staff for all the hard work they do in providing a brighter future for our children and Youth. We look forward to continuing to improve our Métis Child and Family Services System and watch future generations flourish as they give back to our Red River Métis Communities.

Inside your AGA Kits are copies of each agency’s annual reports for more information.





**MÉTIS ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT FUND**



# MÉTIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND



Minister President David Chartrand

The Métis Economic Development Fund (MEDF) is celebrating its 10th year “Helping Métis Business Succeed”. The MEDF is an affiliate of the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) executing primarily its investment program as an economic arm of our Métis government.

The fund’s activities are governed by providing equity for Métis entrepreneurs and businesses; promoting and encouraging trade and commerce; facilitating and promoting the Métis business community; and maintaining a liaison between the Métis business community and government agencies and representatives at municipal, provincial, and federal levels.



## The MEDF Program

The MEDF stimulates the economic development of Manitoba Métis businesses and entrepreneurs by providing equity and/or debt financing creating equity partnerships. The MEDF concentrates on businesses and entrepreneurs which 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.

## Investment Criteria

Corporations funded under this program must:

- Be owned and controlled by individuals who reside in Manitoba with Métis ancestry proven through genealogy.
- Have an experienced, well-balanced management team.
- Submit a comprehensive business plan outlining the product and service offering, with 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 Métis entrepreneur, communities, and the fund (non-profit businesses will not be considered).

## Nature of Financing

Financing is available up to \$500,000 with an anticipated holding period between three to seven years (up to 10 years) and a maximum ownership of 35 per cent of the fair value of the corporation. A variety of financing instruments could be utilized and tailored to meet the specific needs of each opportunity.



## Red River Métis Business Conference “Back to Business”

hosted by MEDF & LRCC was held at the Hotel Fort Garry on May 19, 2022. Over 100 people were in attendance with over 55 Métis businesses who took part in the events throughout the day. A keynote address was made by President Chartrand providing all attendees insight into the Métis economic landscape and priorities of the MMF.

The information sessions were aimed to provide insight for Métis entrepreneurs into:

1. **Métis Procurement** - MMF Housing Department tenders MMF construction projects as they are responsible for development throughout Manitoba.
2. **Procurement products & services** - ESGS aims to provide the purchasing power of the Métis by procuring products & services.
3. **Small Business programs** – A newly created program for Métis women.

Métis entrepreneurs had a chance to meet each other through six 15-minute speed meetings. This event gained the most interest from the attendees. The day rounded up with casual networking to get those last-minute introductions and speak to the MMF programs at their specific booths situated in the concert hall. There was an overwhelming positive response from entrepreneurs and participants about the conference’s day events.

## Investments



The MEDF recorded our 1st investment exit last year returning the company to a 100 per cent Manitoba Métis company as well as achieving a positive return on our investment – a tremendous success!







In addition, MEDF recently completed an investment into a company called Accufab Metalworks located in Winnipeg. The company manufactures aftermarket, aluminum, stainless steel and metal parts, assemblies, and fabrication for Urban Transit buses. Accufab Metalworks has grown exponentially to include the agriculture and aerospace industries where it now specializes in metal fabrication of production, OEM and aftermarket parts for the transportation, agricultural and aerospace industries.



#### Helping Métis Business Succeed!

The following businesses are companies in which the MEDF has a current equity position.



**EnerPure** (<https://enerpure.tech/>) commercialized a small-scale waste oil micro-refinery that provides a profitable and sustainable solution for the processing of waste oil.



**Covert Logistics** ([www.covertlogistics.com](http://www.covertlogistics.com)) re-branded and reorganized enhancing its competitive edge in the logistics industry.



**Voyageur Internet** ([www.voyageurinternet.ca](http://www.voyageurinternet.ca)) expanded its network infrastructure delivering high-speed internet to rural Manitobans.



**Nonsuch Brewing Co.** ([www.nonsuch.beer](http://www.nonsuch.beer)) opened a micro-brewery crafting beer in Winnipeg.



**Accufab Metalworks** (<https://accufab.ca>) specializes in metal fabrication of production, OEM and aftermarket parts for the transportation, agricultural and aerospace industries



**Salisbury House Restaurants** ([www.salisburyhouse.ca](http://www.salisburyhouse.ca)) was a franchise purchase making it now a majority Manitoba Métis-owned business.



**HUB Technology Solutions** ([www.hub.ca](http://www.hub.ca)) provides consulting, strategy, and design; support and management; project management through solutions in cyber security, networking, systems, and storage, communication, and Office 365.



**Transcona Roofing** ([www.transconaroofting.ca](http://www.transconaroofting.ca)) is an Install – New Construction company, reroofing & recovering of all roof systems and architectural sheet metal & wall systems.



**Praxis Profiles Inc.** ([www.partnerwithpraxis.com](http://www.partnerwithpraxis.com)) designs, manufactures, and sells PVC extrusions for the window and door industry. The company owns the intellectual property (IP) of 3 main window systems designed for various climates in North America and primarily sells into Central-Western Canada.

For more information, please visit our website and social media at:

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