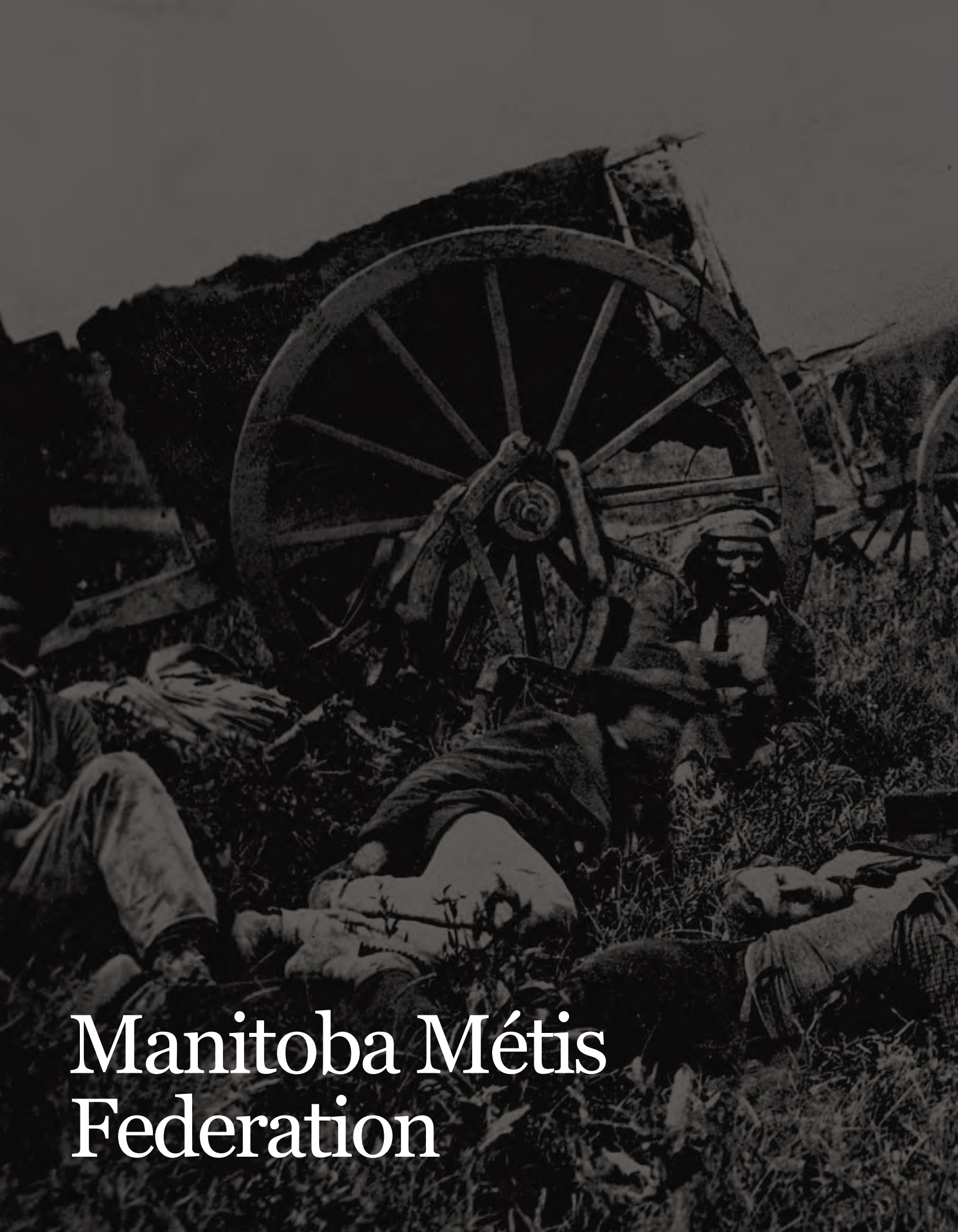


Our Historic Advancements

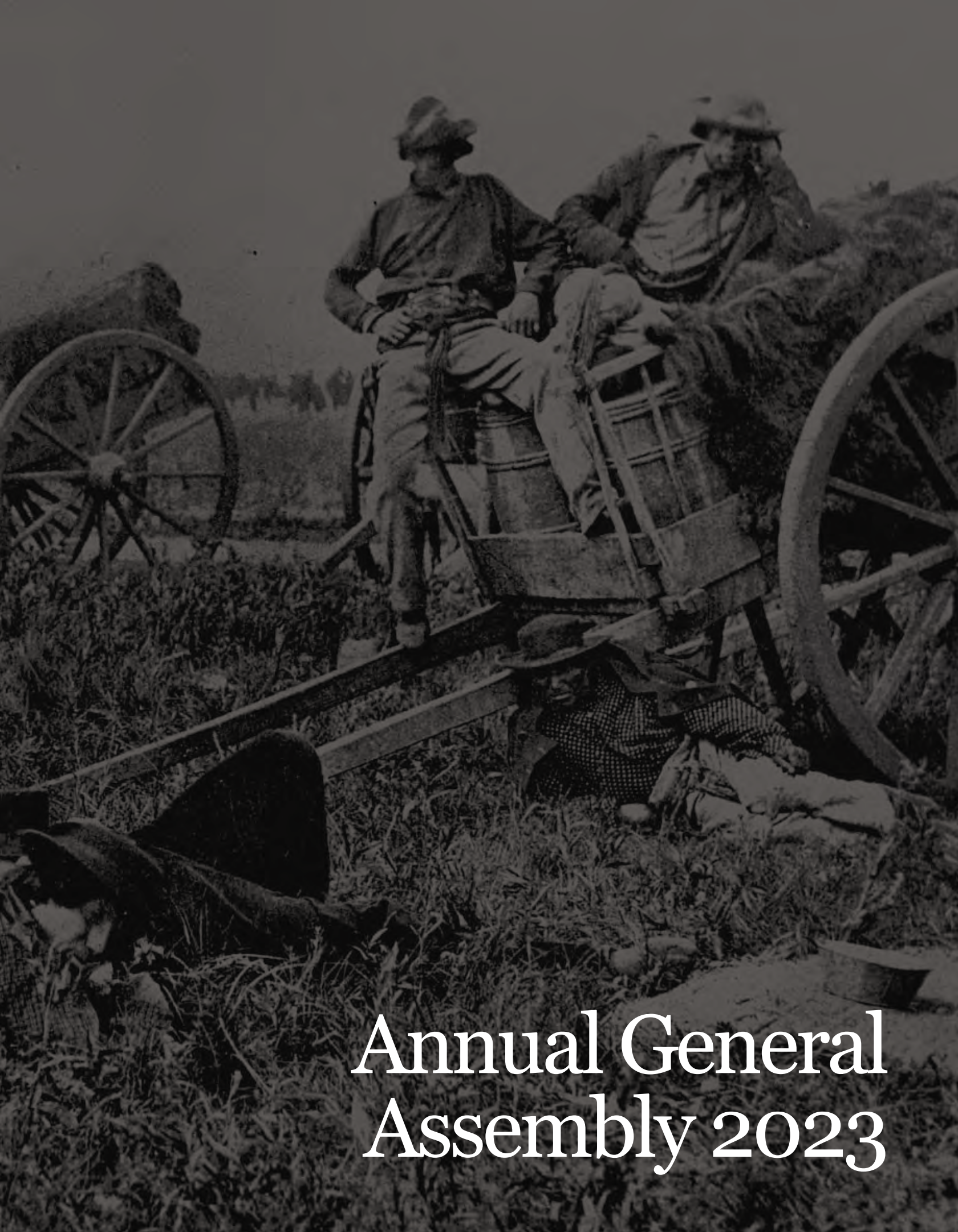


Manitoba Métis Federation
2023 Annual Report





Manitoba Métis Federation



Annual General Assembly 2023

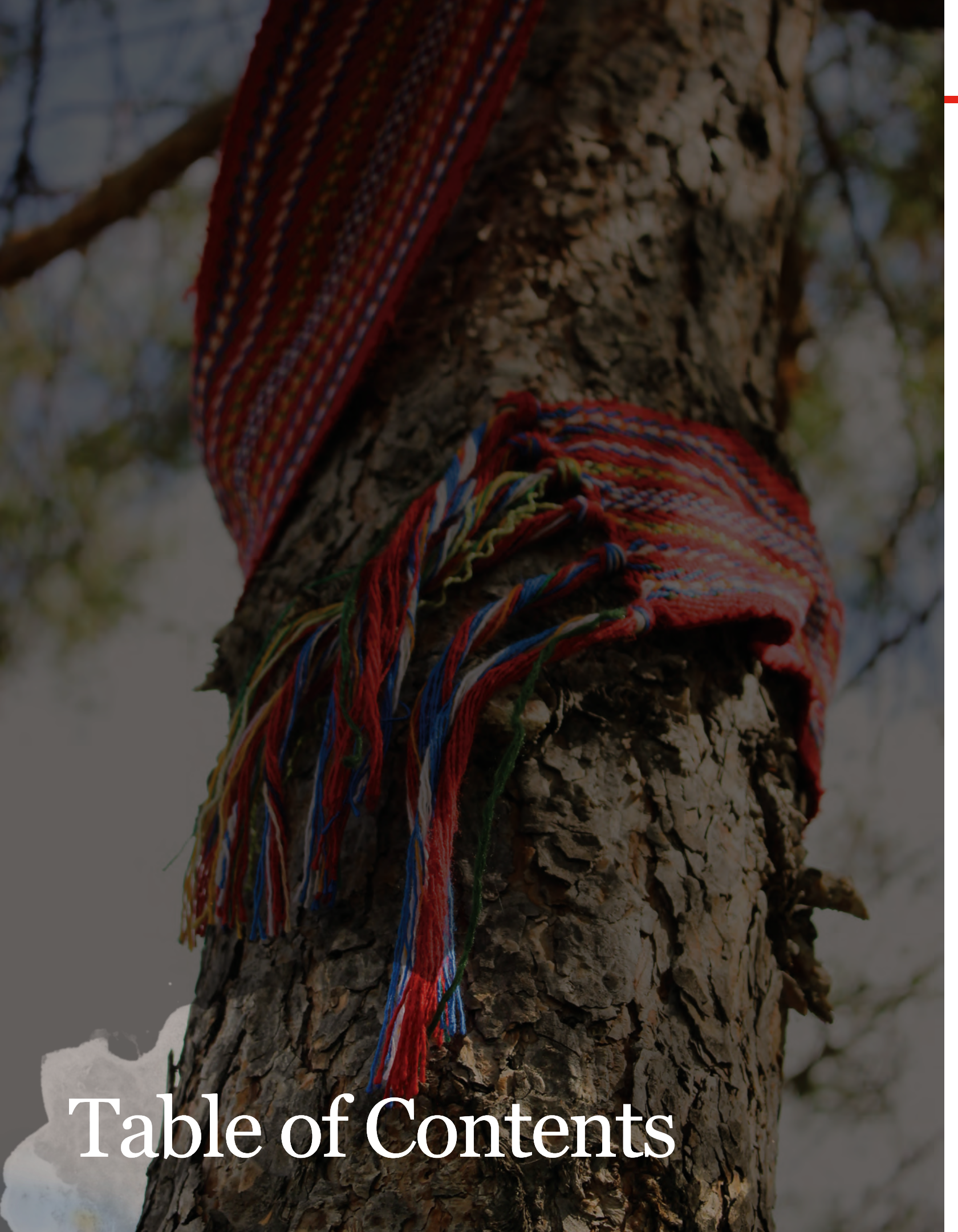


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Annual Greetings



Annual Greetings

President David N. Chartrand, LL.D. (Hon), O.M.

Manitoba Métis Federation

Welcome to the National Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis! While we've been advancing our Nation over the last decades, and finding our place in Canada's confederation, there can be no doubt that 2023 has been a historic year.

Consulting with Citizens across the Homeland and beyond regarding our treaty was not just the responsibility of your Red River Métis Government, it was also our honour and privilege. It was clear that our Elders – those who spent many years fighting for our Nation's very existence and for the rights of our people – had a deep understanding of the importance of our treaty. The tears they shed, the stories they shared, and their determination to vote to ratify our treaty moved both myself and all your elected officials. The strong presence of our Youth and our Local executives at each meeting showed their excitement about the future. Citizens living beyond our borders were so proud that our government included them in the consultations. I heard many share that they'd never felt more connected with our community and our Nation.

At our Extraordinary General Assembly, the energy, unity, and spirit of our people was on full display, clearly showing why our Nation survived the dark times. The pride Red River Métis Citizens have in our Nation inspired you to travel, from across our Homeland and beyond our borders, to be a part of that historic moment. Whether you travelled from Toronto or Vancouver and everywhere in between, or joined virtually, we will all remember that moment for the rest of our lives. Never forget that we survived and have begun to thrive thanks to the sacrifices of our Ancestors – we all felt your strength of spirit, pride, and love in the air that day. Today, we are embracing the bright and secure future that visionaries like Cuthbert Grant and Louis Riel dreamed of.

This year's Annual General Assembly is not just a chance for us to gather and conduct the business of governing our Nation, it's an opportunity to witness the signing of our treaty by Canada. I know there will be tears of happiness and great celebration as their descendants fill the room and bear witness on behalf of all those who cannot be present.

Our treaty paves the way for us to advance other priorities for our people. From healthcare legislation to settling our land claim, gaining full responsibility for our kids in care and creating a permanent bilateral relationship with Canada, we are well on our way to regaining our rightful place in Canada's confederation.

While our modern-day treaty with Canada is a critical step forward, your Red River Métis Government has continued to conduct important business on your behalf throughout the year. As your President, and your Minister for Economic Development, I have always been focused on securing the long-term economic well-being of the Red River Métis. We have made great strides in this area over 2023, which you will see in my full State of the Nation report.

We have also continued our efforts to stop the mass wave of attempted identity theft coming from outside our Homeland. In recent months, First Nations in these territories are also confronting this threat. Standing together, legitimate Indigenous Nations are stronger and better able to fight against this identity colonization. This attempt at colonization is a clear effort to do what was done to our Ancestors, trying to drive us to the margins in our Homeland, denying our birthright as Red River Métis. We have learned from what our Elders taught us, and from the teachings of our true history. We will never again let this happen; we are too strong and too united to be torn apart by invading forces. If these forces continue to underestimate us, they will soon learn that we cannot be defeated.

Along with sharing our progress toward advancing our Nation and celebrating Canada's signing of our treaty, I know this Assembly will again give us the opportunity to come together as a people, with hugs, laughter, and joy. We will enjoy great music, good food, and competitions in traditional skills, along with an opportunity to purchase the beautiful artwork of our artisans at our Métis Marketplace.

We are Red River Métis. Be proud of who you are and never forget that your Red River Métis Government has your back – always.



Infinity Women Secretariat Spokeswoman Anita Campbell

Infinity Women Secretariat (IWS)

MMF Minister of Finance & Human Resources

MMF Minister of Information and Technology (IT)

Welcome Elders, MMF Cabinet, Red River Métis Women, Delegates, Youth, and Special Guests. On behalf of Infinity Women Secretariat, it is a great pleasure to extend greetings to the attendees of our Annual General Assembly.

This year has been a year of substantial growth for the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the National Government of the Red River Métis. This year has shown us the continued determination, strength, and resiliency of our people. Your trust in your Red River Métis Government is as strong as our commitment to you, creating a unity which has allowed us to make significant advancements that protect our place in Canada's constitution and preserve our way of life, thereby creating a legacy for future Red River Métis leaders. Your unwavering confidence allows us to do our work, bringing forward the collective agenda of the Red River Métis.

Your determination and support were demonstrated on June 3, 2023, when Red River Métis Citizens throughout our Homeland and beyond voted unanimously to ratify our Treaty. Our Treaty will be a living document that will allow us to continue our nation-to-nation, government-to-government dialogue with Canada – a dialogue that began with Louis Riel's Provisional Government negotiating Manitoba into Confederation 153 years ago. When promises given were not upheld by the Government of Canada, our Ancestors did not give up – they persevered, even throughout the darkest parts of our history. Your President and Cabinet have fought relentlessly to have your rights and freedoms, traditions, culture, and your very identity as Red River Métis acknowledged by the Government of Canada and enshrined in the constitution. Because of your confidence and continued support, this year will forever be marked in our history as the year our people took a massive step forward in protecting our rights to self-determination and self-governance.

None of this would be possible without the strength, guidance, and hard work of the women of our Nation.

This year IWS has experienced a surge in our growth, as we continuously adapt to meet the diverse needs of our members, reconnecting them with their culture, heritage, and traditions, while promoting their socioeconomic and political well-being. The women of our Nation are flourishing, just as our Nation is flourishing. We have been beside our members every step of the way, through successful programing and the development of new partnerships.

When we engage our women in consultation, the events are always well attended, accompanied by positive feedback from our Red River Métis women, girls, and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals. IWS has many endeavours planned for the future, and we look forward to our continued work with our Red River Métis Government. We are a proud affiliate of the MMF and appreciate the continued support of President Chartrand and the Red River Métis Government that helps make us stronger.

I wish you good health, happiness, and to please remember to take a moment for yourself over the next few days to reflect on all that is happening, as we reconnect at this historic Annual General Assembly.

In Métis Sisterhood,

Anita Campbell



Jay Grewal

President & CEO of Manitoba Hydro

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending the 2023 Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly.

This past August, the Manitoba Métis Federation and Manitoba Hydro concluded a Revitalization Agreement to address the adverse effects of our existing developments and to establish processes for working together moving forward. The Red River Métis have strong cultural and spiritual connections to many of the lands and waters on which Manitoba Hydro operates, and I am pleased that by working together we were able to achieve this important milestone. The Revitalization Agreement builds upon Manitoba Hydro's Indigenous Relations Commitment Statement and establishes a strong foundation for our relationship as we work together towards Manitoba's evolving energy future.

On behalf of Manitoba Hydro, I would like to extend best wishes to all the delegates in attendance at the 2023 Annual General Assembly, and to thank the volunteers, organizers, and contributors that make events like this possible. I wish you all an enjoyable and inspiring assembly.



Rob Hill

Assistant Commissioner
Commanding Officer, Manitoba RCMP

I would like to acknowledge that we are on Treaty 1 territory. This land is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

On behalf of the Manitoba RCMP, I want to thank each and every one of you for your continued commitment to community, which is our shared focus. Our longstanding relationship with the Manitoba Métis Federation has resulted in many positive community initiatives and paths forward when it comes to public safety and community policing priorities.

My commitment to you, as the Commanding Officer in Manitoba, is that we will continue to work with the MMF to ensure information is shared openly and transparently and that the MMF is consulted on policing priorities and activities in communities. We have a newly appointed dedicated liaison officer who works directly with the MMF Métis Justice Institute, a role that focuses on communication and information sharing.

Being a part of the dialogue is so very important, and I recognize that being here at the AGA is an important part of that communication. Thank you for having me and I wish you all the best in the coming year.



Ben Carr

Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South Centre

Please accept my best wishes for your 2023 Annual General Assembly. Founded in the spirit of Louis Riel, the father of Manitoba, the Manitoba Métis Federation has enriched our province by ensuring that the Red River Métis Nation has a prominent and honoured place in the cultural, political, and economic fabric of our province. The Manitoba Métis Federation also plays a key role in the journey to reconciliation and equality in our nation.

Congratulations to the Manitoba Métis Federation for your contributions to Manitoba over the past half-century. Thank you to all the volunteers, sponsors, and organizers whose work makes this event possible. Best wishes to the delegates, guests, and exhibitors for a productive Assembly.



The Honourable Terry Duguid

MP for Winnipeg South

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 2023 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 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 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terry Duguid". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Danny Smyth

Winnipeg Police Chief

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

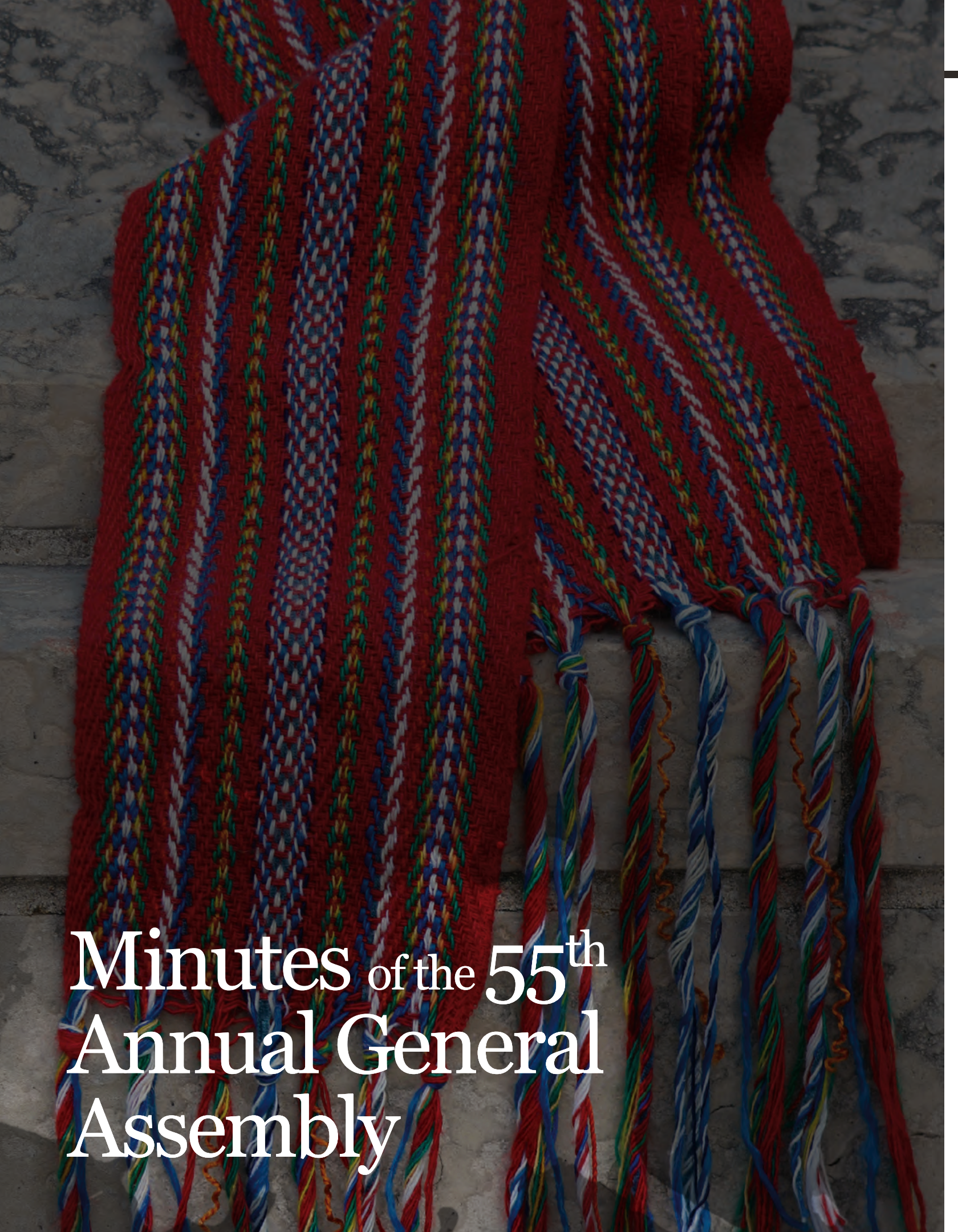
One of the great aspects of my job is to get to know the people that make up this great city and region. This includes the Red River Métis, whose people have contributed significantly to the history of Manitoba.

I also recognize that the Red River Métis are not defined by or limited to Manitoba. As I travel about the country, I see the strong presence that the Red River Métis have in other cities and regions, thanks to the advocacy work of your government, and the leadership of President Chartrand.

Unfortunately, I cannot be with you in person this year as my work has taken me to Ottawa. However, I know I will be reminded of the Métis community as I pass through the Ottawa Airport, where the Red River Métis banner is proudly displayed.

I am committed to maintaining a strong relationship with President Chartrand, and by extension a relationship between the Red River Métis and the Winnipeg Police Service.

I remain a proud friend and ally.



Minutes of the 55th Annual General Assembly

Minutes of the 55th Annual General Assembly

Assiniboia Downs
October 14-16, 2022

Minutes of the Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly held October 14-16, 2022, at the Assiniboia Downs, 3975 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, prepared by Megan Krempel, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

DAY ONE - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2022

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.

Marc LeClair, Chief Executive Officer, welcomed delegates to the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) Annual General Assembly (AGA) at 9:35 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Elder Verna DeMontigny provided an Opening Prayer.

1. APPOINTMENT OF ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY CO-CHAIRS

MOTION 01 10 22

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

To appoint Will Goodon and Marc LeClair as Chairpersons and to appoint Sydney Fleming as Co-Chair for the Manitoba Métis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

Chair LeClair introduced Co-Chair Sydney Fleming who offered introductory comments.

During review of the agenda it was noted that the Review of the MMF Financial Audit would be held on Day Three of the AGA and not on Day Two.

MOTION 02 10 22

It was MOVED (Barbara Bruce, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region)

To accept the Agenda for the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly (AGA) with the following amendment:

- ∞ The Financial Review to be held on Day 3, October 16, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. APPOINTMENT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

MOTION 03 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region) and SECONDED (Minister Joan Ledoux, The Pas Region)

To accept the following appointments to the Resolutions Committee for the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis:

- ∞ Greg Balmer, Interlake Region
- ∞ Bertha Bouet, Southwest Region
- ∞ Jeannette Brown Porter, Northwest Region
- ∞ Adrienne Carrier, Infinity Women Secretariat
- ∞ James Fight, Thompson Region
- ∞ Jana Fowles Joseph, Winnipeg Region
- ∞ Albert Linfitt, The Pas Region
- ∞ Ken Lodge, Southeast Region.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Goodon invited the Resolutions Committee to convene for its first meeting in which MMF Legal Counsel would provide a briefing and direction. Resolutions would be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Day Two of the AGA. More information could be found at www.mmf.aga.ca.

During the review of housekeeping matters, Chair Goodon advised of:

- ∞ AGA livestream through www.mmfaga.ca or www.youtube.com/manitobametismmf
- ∞ Elders' Assistants available for support throughout the AGA
- ∞ Conference bags and caps are made of 100% recyclable materials
- ∞ The availability of a COVID-19 testing station on site
- ∞ The Central Registry Office (CRO) booth providing processing of citizenship and harvester cards
- ∞ The Métis Mobile Clinic Van on site offering five-minute health checks
- ∞ Evening events, including a Youth Gathering.

4. MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

During a review of the Minutes of the Annual General Assembly held March 25-27, 2022, the following corrections were made:

- ∞ Correct the spelling to Keith Ginther throughout
- ∞ Clarification that Motion 17-03-22 was moved by Sydney Fleming, Northwest Region.

MOTION 04 10 22

It was MOVED (Raymond Garand, Southeast Region) and SECONDED (Ken Ginther, Interlake Region)

To accept the Minutes of the Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly held March 25-27, 2022, with the following amendments:

- ∞ Correct the spelling of Keith Ginther throughout
- ∞ Clarification that Motion 17-03-22 was moved by Sydney Fleming, Northwest Region.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. UNITED DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACT WORKSHOP

Chair LeClair provided information on the history of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the efforts required to get the UNDRIP recognized in Canada. The federal UNDRIP Act (Declaration) is a series of standards, which are consistent to Indigenous rights to self-government and upon adoption of the Declaration, Canadian laws, policies, and practices must live up to the standards of the UNDRIP. A progress report must be shared annually.

Celeste McKay, Consultant, commented that the United Nations (UN) itself, is the system where world leaders hold each other to account and discuss the principles of human rights that all governments must uphold. When the UNDRIP was adopted by the UN General Assembly (GA) in 2007, it was the culmination of 30 years of efforts by Indigenous leaders, including MMF Ambassador Clément Chartier, fighting for their rights and recognition as Nations and governments. The signing of the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement (MMSGRIA) was made possible because of the UNDRIP and it recognizes the Red River Metis as a Nation and government.

As the Declaration is implemented by the federal government in all aspects, the MMF seeks to hear from its citizens on what they feel are the important priorities to consider and for inclusion in the Red River Métis Action Plan. A citizen forum will be held in November/December 2022 to hear from citizens on priorities related to education, child welfare, language, health, and all aspects of life.

Additional comments were offered in regard to:

- ∞ 21 clauses in the Declaration refer to the need for “cooperation and consultation”, meaning partnerships based on mutual respect as equals
- ∞ Canada must adopt a federal Action Plan by June 2023; the MMF will develop a Red River Métis Action Plan and Canada must support its implementation
- ∞ The creation of new accountability measures to ensure the rights of the Declaration are upheld

- ∞ Reviewing critical priorities identified by the MMF and from past engagement with citizens
- ∞ The research and synthesis phase will set out a preliminary strategy for key laws, policies, and program reforms to address the priorities identified in the review phase
- ∞ A follow up citizenship engagement forum will be held to gather feedback on the implementation strategy brought forward by the MMF.

Chair Goodon shared a suggestion from a Delegate to include an interpreter for hearing impaired participants at the next AGA.

6. PORTFOLIO / DEPARTMENTS

6.1 Agriculture – Minister David Beaudin

Minister David Beaudin noted that the Agriculture Department is housed within Energy Infrastructure and Resource Management (EIRM), and supports Métis agriculture producers, agri-businesses, and citizens in achieving food sovereignty and addressing the economic and social barriers causing food insecurity. The department supports the sustainable management of land and water threatened by climate change.

Presentation highlights included:

- ∞ Hiring of an Agriculture Coordinator to advance the portfolio
- ∞ Partnership with Parks Canada on management of the Riel House Garden and the planting of over 40 heritage seed varieties; food produced was distributed to Elders
- ∞ The MMF bison herd and 4,000 lbs of bison meat distributed to citizens in need
- ∞ Production of traditional foods to combat food insecurity
- ∞ Amendments to the *Crown Land Dispositions Act* have enabled a mechanism for public auction of Crown lands; the MMF will legally defend Red River Métis farmers or ranchers negatively impacted by these amendments.
- ∞ During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered related to:
- ∞ The suggestion that some of the heritage seeds be made available to citizens for their own gardens will be explored by the Agriculture Department
- ∞ Bison can be purchased at meat distributors listed on the Métis Business Directory on the MMF website or through the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC)
- ∞ Government changes to life-time leases to a maximum of 15 years
- ∞ Government offered 50% discounts for leases for one year; however, costs were raised significantly and the discount had little impact
- ∞ MMF farmers and ranchers are struggling due to changes implemented by the provincial government; the MMF is lobbying vigorously to revoke these changes
- ∞ Farmers and ranchers (both Indigenous and non-Indigenous) must organize a collective position to put forward to government.

MOTION 05 10 22

It was MOVED (Jackie Lafort, Southwest Region) and SECONDED (Carol Reimer, The Pas Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Agriculture Report as presented by Minister David Beaudin.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 Central Registry Office and Natural Resources – Minister Leah LaPlante

Minister Leah LaPlante provided an update on the CRO and highlighted:

- ∞ Approval of 4,334 new citizen and 2,561 new harvester applications
- ∞ Technology upgrades provided the ability to apply and pay online for citizenship processing
- ∞ The CRO continues to address the backlog in processing times due to the pandemic
- ∞ Online election verification provided an easy way for citizens to verify information and vote
- ∞ Online Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) sticker and big game tag ordering forms provide easier access to harvesting
- ∞ An online harvester survey will provide critical data for enhanced reporting on harvesting and protection of harvesting rights:
 - o The survey is mandatory in order to receive a new CTF sticker and Big Game tags
- ∞ The Mobile Citizenship Office travelled to many communities during the summer and is available upon request.

During Minister LaPlante's update on Natural Resources, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ Development of initiatives to assist citizens and protect their lands, waters, and resources
- ∞ Protecting Métis harvesters who harvest within Recognized Métis Harvesting Areas (RMHAs) and Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) and who hold current Métis Harvester Cards
- ∞ Harvesters must follow safety regulations and understand the seriousness of the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) affecting deer
- ∞ Red River Métis were not meaningfully consulted on the province's moose management decisions, including closures, which prompted the MMF to introduce a Moose Harvesting Initiative
- ∞ Partnering with Parks Canada on a caribou monitoring corridor from Wapusk National Park to northern wintering grounds and on free entry for citizens into national historic sites and parks
- ∞ Creating two Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) – Kettle Hills Blueberry Patch IPCA and Thompson Region IPCA
- ∞ Tree nursery economic development and the planting of two million trees across the Homeland through the "Make Our Homeland Green Again" initiative.

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered related to:

- ∞ A Delegate from Norway House Local raised concerns with the lack of government consultation on a potential mining development in the William River area and the impacts to the lines of a Métis trapper
- ∞ A Fur Trading Board or Council will be considered by the Traditional Economies Department, managed by Minister Darrel Ferland
- ∞ Suggestion that pop-up maps be included in the online harvesting card registration to better reflect where harvesters are harvesting
- ∞ Kinew Local youth are interested in volunteering on tree planting projects:
 - o The MMF can share information online to get more youth involved in this area
- ∞ Concerns that Métis are being consulted on Crown lands only after development and extirpation of the habitat and wildlife have taken place:
 - o The MMF must prevent development and resulting negative impacts on harvesting lands
 - o The MMF has purchased lands for Red River Métis citizens to harvest
 - o The MMF must be made aware of any Crown lands that are being sold or developed
 - o Red River Métis must prove their connection to the Crown lands
 - o Section 35 rights apply to any Crown lands across the country
 - o Private lands are also being sold
- ∞ Work is needed to address the issues with the freshwater fishery industry:
 - o Fishing is a priority of the MMF and work is ongoing to find open markets for fish sales
 - o Work must happen with Métis entrepreneurs and fishing co-operatives
- ∞ The MMF will meet with the Province on opportunities to take advantage of underutilized community pastures.

MOTION 06 10 22

It was MOVED (Season Kirkwood, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Wes Hannah, Southwest Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Metis accepts the Central Registry Office and Natural Resource Report as presented by Minister Leah LaPlante.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. Delegates were advised that the Resolutions Committee would accept resolutions until 10:30 a.m. on Day 3 of the AGA.

6.3 Constitution, Rights and Governance, Red River Métis Beyond Borders – Minister Judy Mayer

Minister Judy Mayer provided highlights of the activities of the Constitution Department, including:

- ∞ Focus on the review of Local bylaws and strengthening them as they pertain to elections
- ∞ Signing of the MMSGRIA in July 2021, and MMF Legal Team actively working on the MMF's Modern Day Treaty with Canada
- ∞ Attended the majority of Regional Meetings
- ∞ Development of an Elders' Policy and clarification of the criteria for being considered an Elder
- ∞ The acclamation of the MMF Cabinet
- ∞ Pushing Locals to conduct their elections as stated in the MMF Constitution (Local elections should be held within three months after Cabinet elections)
- ∞ Revisiting the Métis Nation agenda, which relates to the activities of the Métis National Council (MNC) of which the MMF is no longer part
- ∞ The Beyond Borders initiative included engagement sessions with 513 Red River citizens in 13 locations outside of Manitoba:
 - o Discussion topics included nationhood, governance, language and culture, citizenship and identity, harvesting, and programs and services.

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ MMF Harvester Cards are not recognized in other provinces, but discussions are planned with provinces in this regard
- ∞ Citizens living outside Manitoba may return to the Homeland to harvest
- ∞ Facilitating easier access for Métis citizens to travel to the United States (US) for the purpose of trade and economic development is challenging due to differing biometrics for being Métis:
 - o This issue will be raised with David Cohen, US Ambassador to Canada.

MOTION 07 10 22

It was MOVED (Camille Berthwaite, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Sabrina Bornkessel, Southwest Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Constitution, Rights and Governance, Red River Métis Beyond Borders report as presented by Minister Judy Mayer.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4 Culture and Heritage – Minister Alfred Anderson Minister Alfred Anderson reported on:

- ∞ The resiliency Red River Métis demonstrated during the pandemic
- ∞ Continued work to strengthen pride and bring the Métis community together safely
- ∞ Events held on Louis Riel Commemoration Day,

November 16, 2021 and Louis Riel Day, February 21, 2022

- ∞ Creation of educational tools to grow Métis culture and heritage and highlight the pivotal role of Métis' role in Canada's Confederation
- ∞ Federal Department of Canadian Heritage funding for projects to preserve the Michif language
- ∞ The Métis Music Van attended birthday parties, graduation ceremonies, and community events in the Interlake, Southeast and Winnipeg Regions
- ∞ Plans to produce an events trailer, including tents, tables, dance floors, and barbecue.

A video was shared of a Youth and Elders Gathering in Selkirk, on August 27-28, 2022, at Lower Fort Garry, an opportunity to share knowledge and culture between generations.

MOTION 08 10 22

It was MOVED (Keith Ginther, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Dave Lavalle, Interlake Local)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Culture and Heritage report as presented by Minister Alfred Anderson.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.5 Early Learning and Child Care and Health and Wellness – Minister Frances Chartrand

In regard to Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC), Minister Frances Chartrand offered comments on:

- ∞ Continued focus on Métis languages and culture as the foundation for Métis children
- ∞ Designing and delivering an ELCC system that reflects the needs and aspirations of Métis people
- ∞ All Métis children should have access to affordable and accessible ELCC services and programs
- ∞ Growing MMF childcare centers throughout the province, including in Duck Bay, Dauphin, St. Eustache, Winnipeg, and Swan River
- ∞ The "My Little Métis Box", a curated education box targeted at children aged 0-6 years, used during the pandemic to engage with Métis children and families; over 5,000 boxes distributed
- ∞ The licensed Home Child Care Program filled the need for flexible and affordable childcare spaces where childcare centres are not feasible:
 - o Home daycare businesses are given \$40,000 in forgivable loans and a 10-week licensing and coaching session
 - o Three operational licensed Home Child Centres established with another 12 in the process
- ∞ Additional family support programs include hot lunch, transportation, and parenting programs
- ∞ Potential for 223 new childcare spaces and over 100 staff employed in the last four years
- ∞ Childhood Education (ECE) programs offered in Winnipeg and Dauphin

- ∞ Programing in a hybrid format of both in person and online classes.

Health and Wellness

During the report on Health and Wellness, Minister Chartrand offered comments on:

- ∞ The importance of conducting health research to obtain the necessary government funding
- ∞ Engaged with citizens on health-related topics, including tobacco reduction strategies, cancer, cannabis, and opioids; data received will inform appropriate program and service design
- ∞ The MMF currently provides a free prescription drug program for citizens aged 55+:
 - o The program was implemented in response to a need identified by Métis citizens
- ∞ A second MMF pharmacy to open in Dauphin; the MMF is in need of pharmacists and nurses
- ∞ The MMF Eyeglass Program provides citizens with \$150 for glasses
- ∞ Métis Mobile Clinics offer vaccines, diabetes screening, maternal health, and foot supports and is operated by registered nurses and specialists.

Minister Chartrand encouraged citizens to complete the Regional Health Survey (RHS) found within the meeting kits, adding citizens would be given \$100 for their completed and submitted RHS.

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ The Métis Homeland has an abundance of natural plants and herbs for health and healing and knowledge of these medicines is being lost
- ∞ The MMF should make information on traditional healing and plants in the Homeland and how and when to harvest and preserve them, available to citizens:
 - o The Health and Wellness Department is conducting on-the-land research, speaking with Elders, and will provide an update at the next AGA
- ∞ There is a lack of research on the needs of citizens living with disabilities:
 - o The ELCC and Health and Wellness departments are working on programs and supports and can conduct research in the province
- ∞ Some of the language in the RHS is outdated, i.e., references to “homosexuals” should be “2SLGBTQIA+”:
 - o MMF staff will follow up with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community to get their input and to seek clarification on the definition of 2SLGBTQIA+ to ensure it is correctly identified.

MOTION 09 10 22

It was MOVED (Albert Beck, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Adrienne Carrier, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Early

Learning and Child Care and Health and Wellness Report as presented by Minister Frances Chartrand.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.6 Energy and Infrastructure – Minister Jack Park

Minister Jack Park noted the department works to ensure the voice of the Red River Métis is heard by government and industry through participation in environmental assessments, regulatory processes, and monitoring opportunities.

Department activities include:

- ∞ Working with federal regulators such as the Canada Energy Regulator, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
- ∞ Working with federal Crown corporations to coordinate processes to ensure economic development opportunities for the MMF
- ∞ Negotiations of a number of agreements, including Enbridge Line 3 Decommission Project, Whiteshell Reactor #1 Decommission Project, and Kivalliq Hydro Fibre Link Project
- ∞ Current relationship with the Province is being repaired slowly and carefully; the MMF will continue to fight for the best interest of MMF citizens and harvesters
- ∞ Comprehensive catalogue of land use and knowledge, including Red River Métis Traditional Knowledge Land Use and Occupancy Studies (TKLOUS) to inform licensing decisions
- ∞ Working with Canada to improve federal legislation and ensure the Red River Métis position and concerns are reflected
- ∞ Monitoring programs provide opportunities for the MMF to have direct involvement on sampling and data collection
- ∞ MMF Office energy retrofit and installation of solar power will reduce 7,000 tonnes of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.

A video was shown of the activities of the department, including property development and construction projects, the Selkirk 55+ apartment building, St. Laurent Biodome, Michif Manor, Breezy Point Tree Nursery, Métis National Heritage Centre, and a boutique hotel project.

MOTION 10 10 22

It was MOVED (Keith Ginther, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Albert Beck, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Energy and Infrastructure Report as presented by Minister Jack Park.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.7 Sixties Scoop – Minister Denise Thomas

Minister Denise Thomas reported on the department's work to address and respond to the complex needs of Métis citizens affected by the Sixties Scoop. The Sixties Scoop Wellness Centre was launched in 2021 and is designed to support Red River Métis citizens and survivors through the delivery of Métis-driven

programs and services aimed at healing and reintegration into community. Mental health supports are provided to survivors 24/7. The Minister noted that representatives from the centre were on site at the AGA and available to answer questions.

Three “Kitchen Table Talk” sessions were hosted virtually with a focus on reconnecting with survivors and supporting them on their healing journeys. Future sessions will be held on adoption, obtaining birth records, citizenship, and learning of available MMF programs and services.

The Minister additionally touched on the status of a Sixties Scoop Métis and Non-Status Indian class action suit against the Government of Canada.

MOTION 11 10 22

It was MOVED (Ken Lodge, Southeast Region) and SECONDED (Tyler Thomas, Southeast Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Sixties Scoop Report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.8 Engagement and Consultation – Minister Denise Thomas

Minister Denise Thomas reported on work with affiliates, regions and departments on consultation and the transition from meeting virtually through the pandemic to hybrid methods of both in person and virtual. The department was involved in the permanent raising of the Métis flag at the City Hall in Winnipeg, which was an important first step in reconciliation. In partnership with the Infinity Women Secretariat (IWS), the department assisted in the planning and education of three virtual consultations on human trafficking, gender-based violence, and the UNDRIP. A video was shared of the highlights of the UNDRIP consultation held in November 2021.

MOTION 12 10 22

It was MOVED (Albert Beck, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Keith Ginther, Interlake Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Engagement and Consultation Report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.9 Environment and Climate Change – Minister JoAnne Remillard

Minister JoAnne Remillard introduced Associate Minister Peter Fleming and reported on a federal carbon pricing backstop and a confirmed Métis set-aside within 10% of revenues. The MMF will use these revenues to create climate action and resiliency plans.

Minister Remillard additionally highlighted:

- ∞ A Métis Youth Boreal Forest Stewardship Program, which provides land-based education and training opportunities for Metis youth integrated with Métis harvester and Elder knowledge
- ∞ Métis Community Based Monitoring Program with a goal to build capacity within Red River Métis citizens by

providing them with necessary training and equipment to conduct various types of environmental monitoring across the regions

- ∞ Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow (MELT) for Métis youth
- ∞ Technical teams addressing concerns with the impacts of the Sherridon Mine on Cold Lake
- ∞ Métis Traditional Knowledge Studies to fill gaps in the MMFs current understanding of where Métis harvesters use the land and waters.

During discussion, concerns were raised by Delegates in regard to logging companies using chemicals to kill deciduous trees in moose harvesting areas. Minister Remillard agreed to follow up on this matter. Associate Minister Fleming noted the department was conducting studies on chemical residue from forest fire fighting treatments in the Kettle Hills.

MOTION 13 10 22

It was MOVED (Adrienne Carrier, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Jeannette Brown-Porter, Northwest Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Environment and Climate Change Report as presented by Minister JoAnne Remillard.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 3:23 p.m. and reconvened at 3:43 p.m.

6.10 Housing and Property Management – Minister Will Goodon

Minister Will Goodon commented on the department's growth and its current \$20 million budget enabling it to move quickly and strategically toward its goals on a wide range of projects. In 2022, the department broke ground on several affordable housing projects and mobilized its construction capacity to build multiple childcare centres and the Northwest Métis Council regional office.

The MMF's capacity for construction has been recognized by partners. The federal government recently allocated an additional \$31 million in infrastructure funding to the MMF Housing Department, an extra \$4-5 million per year for next six to seven years for housing programs. The MMF has close to 50 affordable housing units across the province, two senior duplexes, and an adaptable template to build more affordable and high-quality housing in any community.

The department is partnering with the Health and Wellness and ELCC Departments on the Mazoun Infiniti Pakoshayimooohk (The Infinity House of Hope), a transitional housing centre for youth aging out of care. The MMF is additionally partnering with the City of Winnipeg on a rapid housing initiative and with the IWS on providing a safe place for individuals fleeing violence. The MMF First Time Home Buyers Program provides citizens with a down payment of up to \$15,000 and \$2,500 for closing costs. Since February 2019, 1,500 citizens have been supported with the purchase of 712 homes. The MMF Home Enhancement/Repairs Program provides a one-time forgivable loan (\$18,000 in the south and \$25,000 in the north) for home repairs or improvements, of which 1,259 citizens have been approved.

MOTION 14 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Frances Chartrand, Northwest Region) and SECONDED (Barbara Bruce, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Housing and Property Management Report as presented by Minister Will Goodon.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly scheduled October 14-16, 2022, adjourned on October 14, 2022, at 4:23 p.m. after agreeing to convene on October 15, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

DAY TWO - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2022

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly scheduled October 14-16, 2022, reconvened on October 15, 2022, at 9:43 a.m. Chair LeClair welcomed Delegates and Elder Verna Demontigny provided an opening prayer in Michif.

7. OPENING CEREMONIES

MMF Ambassador Clément Chartier, Responsible for International and National Relations

Ambassador Clément Chartier informed Delegates of recently receiving a MMF citizenship card, noting it as one of the greatest events of his life. MMF leadership demonstrates that the Red River Métis are on the right path to protect its Nation and people for the future. The Red River Métis is a strong, vigorous, and future-looking Nation that will never see a threat from outside or within derail or detract from the goals of their leaders of the past, present, and the future.

The role of Ambassador is to continue the dialogue between the MMF and the various First Nations throughout the country, provide mutual support for all Indigenous peoples' rightful place in Canada, and to establish the Red River Métis' place within Canada and the Americas as leaders. The MMF is gaining recognition and the hope is that governments within Canada will actualize the MMSGRIA and recognize the Red River Métis' inherent right to self-government and that the MMF represents all Red River Métis descendants, wherever they reside.

Ambassador Chartrand shared of the experience with the Beyond Borders Task Force, travelling throughout the country to meet with Red River Métis citizens and "welcome them home".

The Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations

Via video, Minister Marc Miller acknowledged the leadership of the MMF and its citizens who worked hard to protect their loved ones during the pandemic, their efforts were crucial to ensuring the health and safety of communities. The pandemic did not stop the MMF from taking important steps to self-determination, and the MMSGRIA signed with Canada, recognizes the MMF's jurisdiction over its citizens, elections, and operations of its government on behalf of its citizens. Canada will continue negotiations to address the final and outstanding resolutions

related to the Supreme Court of Canada's 2013 ruling on Section 31 of the *Manitoba Act*.

In reference to the infrastructure funding provided to the MMF, Minister Miller looked forward to seeing the results of the work being done to provide safe and affordable housing to Red River Métis citizens. The Red River is the origin and the core of the Métis Nation and the Métis Homeland, strong sense of identity, roots, and culture is reflected in all that it does.

Honourable Dan Vandal, Member of Parliament (MP), St. Boniface

Minister Dan Vandal commented it was an honour to be in attendance on behalf of the Government of Canada and commended the MMF on its ability to continue to deliver much needed programs and services to its citizens during the pandemic. Important progress was made between the MMF and Canada in the recognition of Métis rights and work will continue to advance as proud partners on a shared path.

The pandemic highlighted the importance of being part of strong, vibrant communities and of the value in spending time together and exploring natural surroundings. Public spaces, museums, and libraries are important as they cultivate education and opportunities, this is exemplified in the federal government's announcement of a \$23.1 million contribution to the Métis National Heritage Centre. It is a one-of-a-kind center at the intersection of Portage and Main, Winnipeg's most important corner, where there will forever be a strong Métis presence.

Government is committed to working together to deliver and improve the quality of life for all Métis citizens, improve infrastructure and affordable housing, and recognize Red River Métis' right to govern themselves in Manitoba and across Canada.

Heather Stephenson, Premier of Manitoba

Via video message, Premier Heather Stephenson commented it was an honour to provide greetings to the MMF AGA and noted confidence in the Manitoba Minister of Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Affairs' attendance to represent the Province during the AGA.

The Province of Manitoba deeply values its relationship with President Chartrand and the MMF and is committed to working with them to advance shared interests. The Red River Métis founded Manitoba and the MMF continues to support its citizens to create a better life for all. The MMF has served Red River Métis for over 50 years with strength and tenacity and are the rightful government body of the Métis. The province will continue to engage with the MMF on a Nation-to-Nation basis.

The Premier announced the Province's \$10 million investment to bring the Red River Métis Heritage Centre to life, noting it remains committed to walking the path of reconciliation with Red River Métis.

Wab Kinew, Leader of the National Democratic Party (NDP) of Manitoba

Wab Kinew praised the continued economic strength and self-determination practiced by President Chartrand and the MMF Cabinet. The Manitoba NDP brought a bill forward to the Manitoba Legislature to have Louis Riel properly recognized

as the first premier of Manitoba, and although not all parties accepted this bill, the journey of reconciliation is long and involves education.

In reference to the MMF's childcare centres and senior's housing, Wab Kinew acknowledged the MMF as an example of a government that builds, serves, and employs its people for the betterment of all.

Dougald Lamont, Leader of the Liberal Party of Manitoba

Dougald Lamont reflected on recent years, extended condolences to those who had lost loved ones, and praised the MMF and the federal government for assisting citizens during the pandemic.

In regard to the elections, Dougald Lamont commented on the rhetoric occurring and how provinces seek to act like independent countries. Government must not lead people astray and should shine a light on problems and seek to resolve them. Candidates for government should not use hate and fear to win elections and should instead focus on contributing to making Canada and the world a better place, and ensure people are seen as human beings first.

Louis Riel fought to bring Manitoba into Canada on the terms of the Métis people, he wanted laws and democracy and fought for amnesty. Riel died for democracy and for standing up for Métis rights. It is the duty of all Manitobans to act in service to something greater than themselves and to live together in peace and prosperity.

Stan Delorme, Chair, and Harold Blind, Vice Chair, Buffalo Lake Métis Settlements, Alberta

Stan Delorme recalled a recent visit from President Chartrand in which they spoke of harvesting and the initiatives the MMF is working on, and commended the President and the MMF for doing the right thing for Métis people.

A snapshot of the governance and structure of the land ownership of the Métis Settlements, located 1.5 hours northeast of Edmonton near Lac La Biche, was provided. The Métis have had fee-simple title ownership of 1.4 million acres since 1990, and within those boundaries, the Métis are the government, they make the laws and tax the industries operating in the community.

Brian Bowman, Mayor, City of Winnipeg

Mayor Brian Bowman commented it was a pleasure to be in attendance to represent the City of Winnipeg in his last days as Mayor. The Mayor recognized the leadership and advocacy of President Chartrand and the MMF Cabinet and all they have achieved and delivered for Winnipeg and for Métis citizens.

During reflections on some of the intersections of work with the Red River Métis, Mayor Bowman highlighted a visit to Juno Beach on the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, the reconciliation work at the City of Winnipeg, the substantive economic development and symbolic actions, such as the permanent raising of the Métis flag outside Winnipeg City Hall, and the introduction of Métis symbols, including a Métis Sash and cart, on the floor of the Council Chamber.

President Chartrand works from a place of caring for his people and his work benefits all in Winnipeg and the investments of the

MMF are building a better future for Winnipeg citizens. Mayor Bowman added that he had recently submitted his application to become a Métis citizen.

Superintendent Scott McMurchy, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)

Superintendent Scott McMurchy noted the MMF and the RCMP have had a long-standing relationship, which continues to grow. They have common goals and the RCMP is committed to working with partners to ensure communities remain safe and to find solutions and build relationships between the RCMP and the communities it serves. The RCMP will ensure the MMF is informed and consulted on policing activities and a new identified Métis Liaison Officer will continue to work with the MMF and the Métis Justice Institute (MJI). The RCMP has additionally partnered with the IWS, on the "Love Bomb Program" aimed to tackle sexual exploitation and human trafficking.

As the RCMP continues its journey toward reconciliation, it seeks guidance from the MMF to ensure the actions of the RCMP are meaningful to the Indigenous peoples of Manitoba, and referred to the recent raising of the Infinity Flag at the RCMP headquarters in Winnipeg.

Chair LeClair announced the names of Métis citizens running for municipal office in the province.

Minister Anita Campbell, Infinity Women Secretariat Spokeswoman

Minister Anita Campbell noted it was a blessing to do the work Métis citizens have allowed her to do and strives each day to ensure the voices of Métis women are heard. The work is made easier with a President, Cabinet, and community that supports the work of the IWS.

The IWS recently held its 10th AGA "Celebrating 10 Years Founded in Métis Sisterhood", an event that was attended by some members of the IWS who are not residing in Manitoba but are Red River Métis citizens. The IWS is growing every day.

The IWS' work over the past decade has focused on ensuring the rights of Métis citizens are at the table and issues are discussed and resolved. The IWS continues to learn from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and practice the correct terminology to ensure all citizens feel included.

IWS membership doubled during the pandemic and recent surveys conducted with members provided vital data on the demographic of Red River Métis women, their needs, issues, and concerns. Respondents received a wellness package of which they were greatly appreciative of. The survey data identified three key areas to focus on: 92% of women struggle to find affordable housing, 88% of women have experienced gender-based violence, and 77% of women face challenges with affording and accessing childcare. The MMF will support the IWS to address these issues and offer support to Métis women.

Gratitude was extended to President Chartrand for the support for the "Bring me Home Program" for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG).

Chair LeClair added the MMF is the most gender-based natural government in the country with a composition of 50% women. Co-Chair Fleming introduced and welcomed to the stage the

Ministers of the MMF Cabinet. A video presentation was shared of the MMF's Delegation to the Vatican in Italy, to meet with Pope Francis.

8. STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS – President Chartrand

President Chartrand noted the attendance of representatives from the NDP and Liberal parties, a show of respect to Red River Métis citizens. Those that do not show respect to Métis are foolish, as the Red River Métis are getting stronger and more organized and play an important role in society. Métis people will vote on the municipal candidates and there are many Métis citizens running in the elections.

There are notable changes in the Province and Premier Stephenson showed support for the Métis by wearing a sash. The Province committed a \$10 million investment into the MMF. The Métis are showing their place within Confederation and are healing from past injustices. The MMF is building its economic engine and land acquisitions and working to resolve unfinished business with Canada in terms of land claims and with a deal with Manitoba Hydro. The MMF is progressive in its thinking and its people are business-minded, there are over 1,000 Métis businesses in Manitoba.

The Manitoba Métis are a maternal Nation and women play important roles within the MMF government and in communities. A recent study conducted by the IWS, indicated that women are suffering from gender-based violence. The MMF Cabinet authorized a building on West St. Paul's, originally slated for businesses, to be developed as a shelter from individuals fleeing violence.

President Chartrand further touched on:

- ∞ Pressing forward on re-establishing Métis harvesting regimes
- ∞ Participation of 1,000 families in the First Time Home Buyers Program and economic benefits
- ∞ Strong effort needed to ensure Métis culture is promoted broadly
- ∞ A 30% increase in individuals seeking MMF citizenship, including 2,600 living outside Manitoba
- ∞ Pride in the acclamation of the entire MMF Cabinet
- ∞ Motivating Métis students to take advantage of the MMF's employment opportunities
- ∞ Investment in an elite sports program recognizing Métis athletes
- ∞ A MMF contribution of \$50,000 to the James Smith Cree Nation.

Kerrie Einarson, a Canadian Métis curler and World Champion was in attendance and offered words of inspiration to young Métis children to work hard to achieve their goals and dreams.

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 12:25 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

6. PORTFOLIO / DEPARTMENT REPORTS (Continued)

6.11 Human Resources and Information and Technology – Minister Anita Campbell

Minister Campbell provided an update on the Human Resources (HR) Department staffing levels, employment opportunities, and implementation of a program to attract and retain staff as the MMF grows. The MMF is an inclusive and equal opportunity employer and this is reflected in the diverse staff representation, including a strong number of women in leadership.

Through the pandemic, the department, as an essential service, continued to operate with staff working in the offices and from home, and all under COVID-19 policies and safety procedures.

The department implemented a HR Information System (HRIS), which will make payroll administration more efficient and reduce the occurrence of errors. A review of HR policies has been completed and reflects employee regulations and gender-neutral and inclusive language.

Adam Blanchard, Director of Information and Technology (IT), spoke of the important role IT plays in support of all departments, including with:

- ∞ Using Starlink to connect remote communities and ensure all citizens have access to internet
- ∞ Renewal and expansion of support services for remote workers and development of solutions and hardware to improve those services
- ∞ Ensure government IT needs are met
- ∞ Hiring more IT department staff to keep up with demand and growth.

MOTION 15 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Frances Chartrand, Northwest Region) and SECONDED (Barbara Bruce, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Human Resources and Information Technology Report as presented by Minister Anita Campbell.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.12 Métis Community Liaison Department, Residential and Day Schools, French and Michif Language Protection – Minister Andrew Carrier

Minister Andrew Carrier reported on the department's work in regard to the French and Michif Language protection, including:

- ∞ Working with the MMF Hamper Program and other COVID-19 initiatives; more than 14,776 hampers delivered to date
- ∞ Hiring a Métis Community Liaison Department (MCLD) Coordinator and MCLD Worker
- ∞ Development of a MMF memorial service financial support program providing up to \$5,000 to support funeral home expenses
- ∞ Working with the Health and Wellness department on a dental program for seniors
- ∞ Work with the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) on archiving and indexing Michif language documents
- ∞ Michif language symposiums and a Métis language Community Engagement Project

- ∞ Involvement with the Riel House National Historic site where students looked at the historical value of the house; 437 guests visited the site through July-August 2022
 - o The Riel House provided 1,000 lbs of vegetables to local Elders
- ∞ Translation of documents from English to French and work toward a fully bilingual service to Michif and Francophone Métis communities.

In regard to Residential and Day Schools, Minister Carrier informed the department covers provincial and national activities relating to the search for missing children who were part of the Residential and Day School systems. The MMF is working with other Indigenous organizations and a First Nation, Inuit, and Red River Métis Council was formed to provide guidance, share best practices, and support Indigenous-led searches for children who died in residential schools.

A National Advisory Committee on Indigenous Residential Schools Missing Children and Unmarked Burials was created to ensure that Indigenous communities have access to independent and trusted experts in their efforts to locate, identify, and commemorate their missing children. Elder Verna DeMontigny is representing the MMF on the 13-membered committee.

A Red River Metis Residential and Day School Recognition Sash was commissioned and sashes will be given to the families of the lost children and to organizations assisting in the search for closure and healing. A Red River Métis Residential and Day School Advisory Committee is being established with representation from each region. Minister Carrier invited Delegates to speak with their regional Vice President if they are interested in being part of the committee.

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ Efforts required to incorporate Michif language in all Post-Secondary Education (PSE) institutions and grade schools
- ∞ Work with Pemmican Publications to bring a number of Michif children's books into print
- ∞ Teaching of the Michif language should start at home with parents and grandparents
- ∞ Work continues to capture the Michif language from the remaining Michif speakers
- ∞ An online Zoom weekly Michif education session should be developed:
 - o There is online Michif programming through the University of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg, and potentially through Brandon University
- ∞ More Michif programming is needed for all citizens and not just for children and Elders:
 - o The MMF will explore opening the Métis 101 course more broadly
- ∞ Elders were taught to be ashamed of their Michif language; the MMF must support them to share their knowledge and see the value in what they carry
- ∞ The MMF will support all its citizens that have or are

experiencing trauma and the multi-generational impacts of the Residential and Day School systems.

MOTION 16 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister JoAnne Remilard, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Scott Norquay, Interlake Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Community Liaison Department, Residential and Day Schools, French and Michif Language Protection Report as presented by Minister Andrew Carrier.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.13 Métis Employment and Training / Indigenous Skills and Employment Training – Minister John Fleury

Minister John Fleury reported on the 2022 \$15 million budget and a one-year increase of an additional \$5.6 million for a total of \$21.4 million. Métis Employment and Training (MET) utilizes a collaborative structure to develop services that increase employability and Métis participation in the labour market and provide inclusive employment and training opportunities. MET additionally assists citizens with employment and career counselling and job searches.

In support of the ELCC strategy, MET assisted ECE initiatives across the province. During COVID-19, MET students were provided extraordinary support, including financial, emergency, and for enhanced travel. Despite the pandemic, MET was able to surpass its annual targets, and recently celebrated 14 Métis graduates completion of their two-year Practical Nursing Program.

During discussion, a Delegate raised the issue that citizens living in other regions should be allowed to serve on Local Advisory Committee (LAC) boards, particularly in light of the Beyond Borders initiative. The policy should be reviewed.

MOTION 17 10 22

It was MOVED (Wes Hannah, Portal Local) and SECONDED (Linda Chartrand, The Pas Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Employment and Training Report as presented by Minister John Fleury.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.14 Métis Justice Institute and Pemmican Publications – Minister Julyda Lagimodiere

Minister Julyda Lagimodiere reported on the activities and accomplishments of the MJI during the last fiscal year and highlighted:

- ∞ Successfully negotiated funding from the governments of Manitoba and Canada to develop and deliver a wide range of justice programs and services to meet the needs of citizens, including restorative justice, reintegration, departmental programming, community resource assistance, community safety sessions, and policing
- ∞ The Métis Community Justice Program (MCJP) and Thompson Community Justice Program (TCJP) use

methods such as community service, restitution, and addiction assessment

- ∞ Providing clients with recourses to deal with underlying issues that may have contributed to their involvement in the criminal justice system and reduce future involvement in the system
- ∞ Justice Support Programs (JSP) provide efficient and effective supports for reintegration into communities upon release from a correctional facility; during the 2021-22 fiscal year the JSP provided support and resources to 103 individuals
- ∞ A Métis Community Safety Session survey obtained feedback from Métis citizens on community safety issues to identify needed programs and services
- ∞ Enhancing working relations with the RCMP “D” Division Indigenous Policing Services and communities.

MOTION 18 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Alfred Anderson, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Associate Minister Mildred Dorion, Thompson Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Justice Institute and Pemmican Publications Report as presented by Minister Judyda Lagimodiere.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.15 Mining – Minister Vincent Mark Parenteau

Minister Mark Parenteau spoke of the work in managing mining projects, which often include opposing and intersecting opinions, and to identify how mining projects could least impact the environment and Métis rights while providing the greatest economic benefits. Mining projects can provide well-paid and long-term employment but also impact communities and environments.

Additional presentation highlights included:

- ∞ The MMF is disputing its exclusion from the 2017 Manitoba – First Nations Mineral Development Protocol
- ∞ Active projects at the Potash and Agri-Development Corporation of Manitoba (PADCOM) Potash Mine, Vivian Silica Sand Project, and Wanipigow Silica Sand Mine
- ∞ MMF continues to engage the Province and proponent regarding inclusion of information specific to the impact of Métis rights
- ∞ Exploring economic partnership opportunities with the Lynn Lake Gold project
- ∞ Ongoing concerns with the Sherridon Mine pollution and impact to the citizens of Cold Lake:
 - o Engaged a team to test waters and lakes and make recommendations to address impacts.

MOTION 19 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Angie Antonio, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual

General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Mining Report as presented by Minister Mark Parenteau.

CARRIED

(one online abstention noted)

6.16 Provincial Education and Louis Riel Institute (LRI) – Minister Joan Ledoux

Minister Joan Ledoux noted the positive impact the 2019 federal Provincial Education funding had on PSE institutes and student graduates increased to 2,000 in the past three years. The department provides \$5,000 for each student enrolled in PSE and a database has been developed of students and the degrees they are obtaining. This will assist the MMF in the recruitment of these graduates into related areas within the federation.

Minister Ledoux offered further comments on:

- ∞ Métis Inclusion Workers in PSE institutes support Métis students
- ∞ A pilot project in The Pas region involving a worker in high schools preparing students for PSE
- ∞ Supported 881 students with \$3.6 million to help them achieve their degrees
- ∞ LRI programs include K-12 support, Home School Programs, Métis history courses, and cultural workshops
- ∞ The LRI Bursary and Endowment is over \$28 million
- ∞ Louis Riel Vocational College (LRVC) diploma programs include Medical Office Assistant and Indigenous-focused ECE.

Minister Ledoux presented the MMF's Distinguished Leadership in Education Award to David Parent for outstanding contributions or achievements in education for Métis people in Manitoba.

MOTION 20 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Mona Buors, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Barbara Bruce, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Provincial Education and Louis Riel Institute Report as presented by Minister Joan Ledoux.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ The pilot program in The Pas should be expanded to other regions
- ∞ Many Metis land based educators are looking to work with the MMF and provide education.

6.17 Métis Veterans – Minister Shawn Nault

Minister Shawn Nault reported on the purpose of the Métis Veterans' Department to recognize Red River Métis veterans, provide them with services and supports, and raise public awareness of their contributions.

Department activities include:

- ∞ Attendance at the August 14, 2022, Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association Ceremony recognizing the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Hong Kong
- ∞ Attendance at the 80th Anniversary of the raid of Dieppe

in France:

- o Attended ceremonies and stood on the beaches that young Métis soldiers landed at
- o Laid a wreath at the Royal Regiment of Canada Square monument
- o A Black Watch Pipe and Drum Band performed in honour of the Canada Square Ceremony
- ∞ Attended a ceremony of the Dufferin Gang Commemorative Ceremony in Selkirk
- ∞ MMF partnered with the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada and will host an Indigenous Veterans' Day event on November 8, 2022, featuring a flyby of Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) aircraft
- ∞ Surveyed citizens during the Beyond Borders engagement to get information on the needs of Métis veterans; this will help inform the development of the department's goals
- ∞ Strategic planning session to foster ideas to keep Métis veterans top of mind of all Canadians.

MOTION 21 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Julyda Lagimodiere, Thompson Region) and SECONDED (Scott Norquay, Interlake Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Veterans Report as presented by Minister Shawn Nault.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly scheduled October 14-16, 2022, adjourned on October 15, 2022, at 4:32 p.m. after agreeing to convene on October 16, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

DAY THREE - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2022

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly scheduled October 14-16, 2022, reconvened on October 16, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. Chair Goodon welcomed delegates.

MOTION 22 10 22

It was MOVED (April Dale, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Shaun Rocan, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the State of the Nation Address as presented by President David Chartrand.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. PORTFOLIO / DEPARTMENT REPORTS (Continued)

6.17 Sports and Youth – Minister Richard Genaille

Minister Richard Genaille provided an update on the activities of the department and highlighted:

- ∞ Funding sources include Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP) and Indigenous Skills and

Employment Training Program (ISET)

- ∞ Enhancing the knowledge, skills, and experiences of Métis youth through cultural learning and awareness workshops and training and connecting youth with Elders
- ∞ Provincial Youth Advisory Committee (PYAC) provides programming ideas and support strategies for youth engagement and shares insights and solutions to programming and services:
 - o The PYAC Chair position is vacant for any interested Métis youth
- ∞ The Believe Program supporting elite athletic and artistic Métis youth to support their skills and professional development.

Videos were shown highlighting Métis athletes, including Conor Church (wrestler), Jocelyn Larocque (member of Canada's National Ice Hockey Team), and of a Hockey Camp held in August 2022.

Minister Genaille presented gifts to Kyra De La Ronde, Métis Youth Representative and Tyler Thomas, outgoing Chair of the PYAC, for their services to the MMF in their roles.

A Delegate from the Kinew Métis Council raised concerns that funding proposals submitted through the UPIP had not been approved or considered by the Sports and Youth Department. This has put programming in jeopardy as monies raised through fundraising are depleting and the programs cannot continue to be supported. Minister Genaille agreed to follow up with the Delegate during the AGA to obtain more information and resolve the issue.

Additionally, it was suggested that the MMF has not followed up on a funding request for a Hunter Safety Program for which the Kinew Métis Council had secured an instructor, a venue, and had eight youth signed up. President Chartrand responded directly to the Delegate and committed to following up on the proposal to ensure it is funded. Ron Burlash, a Delegate from The Pas Region, offered to teach the Hunter Safety Program.

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ Challenges with securing Métis instructors for programming and the need to expand recruitment to non-Métis/Indigenous instructors:
 - o Minister Genaille agreed to look into the requirement that program instructors be Métis
- ∞ The benefit of having a database of qualified Métis instructors for Locals to access:
 - o The Sports and Youth Department is building a database on Métis youth and instructors
- ∞ Citizens encouraged to submit resumes into the regions and the MMF to address the staff shortage across the province; the MMF will find work for them.

MOTION 23 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Denise Thomas, The Pas Region) and SECONDED (Vin Kirkwood, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Sports and Youth Report as presented by Minister Richard Genaille.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.18 Traditional Economies – Minister Darrel Ferland

Minister Darrel Ferland noted the purpose of the department to restore Red River Metis economies and conserve natural ecosystems. Key developments include:

- ∞ Launch of the Commercial Fishers Net program assisted more than 150 Métis fishers with provision of commercial grade fishing nets
- ∞ A Walleye Spawning Ground Study to identify spawning locations on Lake Winnipegosis
- ∞ Providing Red River Métis-specific awareness training on aquatic and invasive species
- ∞ Researching ways to restore rearing ponds and fish hatcheries to help fish stocks in Manitoba lakes and provide training and employment opportunities for citizens
- ∞ Consulting and engaging on proposed forestry projects to ensure impacts are minimized and ensure accommodation and migration strategies are fully explored
- ∞ New Arctic Region Community Participation and Co-Development Agreement to improve program and service delivery in the north and ensure Indigenous Nations are directly involved in decisions that impact their resources and environment.

Concerns were raised by a Delegate with the state of Manitoba fisheries and with the charging system shift from “by the pound” to “by the hour” which has resulted in slow production and less revenue for Métis fishers. President Chartrand reported on the ongoing efforts of the MMF to press the federal government to support freshwater fisheries, including with subsidies. The MMF must also consider Métis citizens who own co-operatives and not quash their businesses. With an open market particularly to casinos and Tribes in the US, fishery sales would be far better. President Chartrand encouraged fishers not to sell their licenses to keep the industry alive.

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ Powerview Local expressed concerns that First Nations were seeking to apprehend a Forest Management License (FML) for logging in the region; the Powerview, Manigatogan, Lac du Bonnet, and Grand Marais Locals would benefit from this FML
- ∞ There is interest in running Firearm Safety Courses for youth and adults
- ∞ The need for the Province to be more actively involved in checking boats and counting fish.

Specific to the Trapping portfolio, Minister Ferland provided an update on the MMF's \$1 million investment in the establishment of the Red River Métis Fur Company to support responsible and conservation-minded approaches to trapping and help Métis trappers make a sustainable income while keeping the wildlife population in balance.

In Phase 1 of the project, the MMF will purchase furs from harvesters and provide hides to Métis artisans. In Phase 2, the MMF will expand the market access to fur harvesters to sell their product.

In response to a question as to whether the MMF would buy furs from Métis trappers, the Minister confirmed that as long as the furs were in good condition, the MMF would purchase them and at a good rate. It was additionally clarified that broken or useless traps/snares could be brought into the department for replacement at no cost.

MOTION 24 10 22

It was MOVED (Russ Halton, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Ron Burwash, The Pas Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Traditional Economies Report as presented by Minister Darrel Ferland.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. AUDIT/FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Minister Anita Campbell introduced the members of the Finance Committee and noted plans to expand the Committee to keep up with the growth of the MMF. Significant growth within the Finance department will continue and an announcement in regard to a new Chief Financial Officer is imminent.

Terryl Luhowy, Meyers Norris Penny (MNP), presented the “MMF Inc. Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, March 31, 2022” and reviewed the Non-Consolidated Statements of Financial Position, Operations, Net Assets and Cash Flows. The Auditor noted that although the MMF controls a number of business entities, the financial information of these entities are not provided as part of the MMF statements. All information included in the statements are reflected fairly under the Not-for-Profit (NFP) standards. Notes are included in the statements to provide further clarity on the information.

MOTION 25 10 22

It was MOVED (Barbara Bruce, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Janice Ellis Joseph, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the MMF Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 26 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Anita Campbell, Infinity Women Secretariat) and SECONDED (Minister Jack Park, Interlake Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis appoint the Auditors Meyers Norris Penny for the MMF Audit for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. PORTFOLIO / DEPARTMENT REPORTS (Continued)

6.19 Louis Riel Capital Corporation – Minister Leah LaPlante

Minister Leah LaPlante recognized that the LRCC is celebrating its 30th Anniversary in October 2022 and reported the LRCC had distributed \$70 million in commercial loans to Métis-owned businesses in Manitoba and provided support to more than 1,400 businesses equal to an estimated 4,000 jobs. The LRCC provides up to \$99,999 as non-repayable equity contribution to individuals and up to 75% of the cost of hiring a consultant for a business plan.

The LRCC provides financing and support for existing small businesses and new start-up funding up to \$25,000. A program launched in 2022 will help Métis women with businesses in the form of up to \$20,000 in financing of which up to 45% may be a non-repayable grant.

Additional LRCC programs include:

- ∞ First Time Home Purchase Program helping Métis citizens with their down payment with 5% of the home purchase costs up to \$15,000
- ∞ COVID-19 pandemic supports through Métis Emergency Business loans and the MMF COVID-19 business support program
- ∞ The LRCC works closely with the Métis Employment and Development Fund (MEDF) and MET
- ∞ LRCC provides business advisory services, access to the Métis Business Directory for procurement opportunities, and Property Management services.

MOTION 27 10 22

It was MOVED (Steve Prudent, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Russ Altman, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Métis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Louis Riel Capital Corporation Report as presented by Minister Leah LaPlante.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.20 Métis Child and Family Services – Minister Mona Buors

Minister Mona Buors reported on the Métis Child and Family Services' (CFS) work to support children, youth, families and communities on obtaining citizenship and ensure that when they leave care they have access to the available MMF programs and services.

During the pandemic, the Métis CFS found innovative ways to look after children and youth and ensure for their safety. With financial assistance from the MMF, agencies were able to ensure children had necessary technology to continue remote learning and retain that social connection.

The MMF invested \$1.2 million in Registered Education Savings Plans (RESP), on behalf of all Métis children in care. When children reach the age of majority and exit the system they can use the RESP for PSE. An additional Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) for children in care who qualify for disability services can access \$12,000 per year (per child) when they reach the age

of majority. The program has created \$600,000 for 31 children to date.

In relation to Bill C-92, An Act respecting *First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*, the MMF and the two Métis CFS agencies continue to work in developing laws, policies and standards that honour and celebrate Métis youth. Bill C-92 gives Indigenous communities the opportunity to make meaningful reform to their CFS systems.

Further comments were offered on:

- ∞ Children's Special Allowance means millions will be returned to children in and formerly in care
- ∞ Métis Community Addictions Recovery Team (CART) services can be accessed quickly and include connection to cultural programming
- ∞ Métis Connect helps children become reconnected to family, extended family, and community
- ∞ Community consultation held in March 2021 to discuss the current structure of the Métis CFS and experience of youth in care.

MOTION 28 10 22

It was MOVED (Associate Minister Marielle Gauthier, Southeast Region) and SECONDED (Shirley Langan, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Métis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Child and Family Services Report as presented by Minister Mona Buors.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ Unused RESP funds will be returned to the federal government; however, youth are able to keep the interest earned on their allocation
- ∞ Services and programs are available to all youth, children, and families
- ∞ The Métis CFS does not limit the number of Métis foster families that wish to register
- ∞ There is a correlation of women suffering with gender-based violence and children in care.

Health Break

Meeting recessed at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

6.21 Economic Development – President David Chartrand

President Chartrand, Minister of the Economic Development Portfolio, provided an update on:

- ∞ The MMF being in a different era of economic success and the need to be responsible
- ∞ The unbreakable pride of Red River Métis citizens and how this pride was historically used to control crime in communities
- ∞ A \$1 million investment in the Red River Fur Company supporting Métis artisans and trappers

- ∞ \$4.2 million from Canada to build greenhouses and grow two million trees annually; these trees will reduce carbon and the MMF will receive carbon credits
- ∞ Provided \$285,000 in nets to Métis fishers
- ∞ Success of the LRCC in providing \$72 million in loans to 1,400 Métis businesses
- ∞ Negotiations with the Province to eliminate government involvement and release \$9 million in monies to expand the MEDF
- ∞ Potential partnership with a financial institute on providing mortgages to Métis citizens
- ∞ \$3.4 million to hire economic officers to support small businesses and entrepreneurs
- ∞ The opening of the MMF golf course, with club house, pro shop, and tiny homes
- ∞ Other business ventures and property purchases, including a 55+ seniors housing complex, a women's heart clinic, MEDOCare pharmacies, and warehouse and storage units
- ∞ Plan for approximately \$178 million in investments
- ∞ Cabinet approved \$5 million in the budget to subsidize Elders (\$100/month), students (\$75/month), families (\$125-\$150/month depending on number of children) until March 2023, to support with increasing costs of living.

A video was shown of the MMF MEDO golf course in St. Laurent.

During discussion and in response to questions, comments were offered regarding:

- ∞ Concerns MEDOCare pharmacy hours do not accommodate citizens who work past 5:00 p.m.:
 - o MEDOCare pharmacies deliver prescriptions to a citizens to their homes
 - o If prescription refills are falling behind, citizens were asked to contact the MMF
 - o In order to extend pharmacy hours, more pharmacists are needed
 - o Citizens were welcomed to the MEDOCare pharmacy booth on site for more information
- ∞ Other pharmacies offer points programs, which could be used toward buying groceries:
 - o The MMF cannot compete with giant pharmaceutical companies
 - o Citizens should support their Métis pharmacies and they will receive free prescription drugs when they turn 55 years of age
- ∞ Whether the MMF is interested in purchasing a Medi-Van to transport Elders to appointments:
 - o The MMF currently has two vans with five staff members; more vans will be purchased in the future
- ∞ Concerns with the \$29,000 income limit to receive PharmaCare:
 - o The Minister of Health and Wellness will review income threshold limits and deductible rates
- ∞ An increase in Old Age Security of \$100 could impact citizen's ability to receive free care
- ∞ The MMF continues to press government for access to

Jordan's Principle

- ∞ The Southeast Region Knights of Columbus seek to be recognized for their property donation
- ∞ Locals seeking membership lists in order to contact members:
 - o Lists were shared prior to the election, some information was withheld due to privacy concerns
 - o The CRO booth on-site could provide the Local contact list
- ∞ Concerns that citizens were being treated unfairly as a result of choosing not to get vaccinated against COVID-19:
 - o The MMF responded to the developing crisis as was recommended by provincial, federal, and international health experts
 - o Citizens are entitled to their opinions on the matter but it is the MMF's job to protect its citizens.

A book titled "Portraits of the North" by Winnipeg artist, Gerald Kuehl, was shared and included portraits of Elders.

MOTION 29 10 22

It was MOVED (Minister Denise Thomas, Southeast Region) and SECONDED (Gary Reeker, Winnipeg Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Economic Development Report as presented by President David Chartrand.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Genevieve Benoit, MMF Legal Counsel and newly elected Chair of the St. Norbert Local, presented a gift to Glorian Chartrand for her efforts in the preparation of the MMF October 14-16, 2022, AGA.

Introductions were made to the members of the St. Norbert Executive and the St. Norbert Youth representative, Caitlyn Clark an IWS Summer Student, shared the story and colour meanings of a sash to represent the strong history of St. Norbert. A sash was presented to the President and Glorian Chartrand on behalf of the St. Norbert membership, for their work in bringing forward the Red River Métis and acting in the best interest of citizens at all times.

The President and Glorian Chartrand shared thanks and appreciation for the sash and pins.

A video was shared of the Ste. Madeleine Days celebration held July 15-17, 2022. The lands were taken by violent means and the Red River Métis remember and honour the legacy of Ste. Madeleine families and respect their memory.

It was clarified that delegates attending the AGA in person needed to provide proof of being vaccinated against COVID-19; however, President Chartrand and Cabinet will discuss that future MMF events be more inclusive of citizens choosing not been vaccinated. It was noted that it is because of the vaccine's ability to protect against severe illness, that Red River Métis citizens were able to meet in person for the AGA.

10. RESOLUTIONS

Chair LeClair introduced and welcomed the members of the Resolutions Committee:

- ∞ Greg Balmer (Interlake Region).
- ∞ Jeannette Brown-Porter (Northwest Region)
- ∞ Bertha Buote (Southwest Region)
- ∞ Adrienne Carrier, IWS
- ∞ Janna Fowles-Joseph (Winnipeg Region)
- ∞ James Fyke (Thompson Region)
- ∞ Albert Linfitt (The Pas Region), Chair
- ∞ Ken Lodge (Southeast Region).

Resolution Committee Chair Albert Linfitt, honoured previous Resolutions Committee member, Associate Minister Peter Fleming, for his work on the committee.

Chair Linfitt advised that three resolutions were put forward to the Resolutions Committee

Resolution #1

Resolution of the Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly – October 14-16, 2022 The National Government of the Red River Métis Declaration.

The resolution was read into the record.

RESOLUTION 01 10 22

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

WHEREAS the Red River Settlement, now Winnipeg, Manitoba, is the birthplace of the Red River Métis and the heart of the Red River Métis Homeland;

AND WHEREAS the historic Métis Nation, the Red River Métis, and the Manitoba Métis are the same Indigenous Community for which the names have been used interchangeably;

AND WHEREAS for over two centuries the Red River Métis has exercised its rights of self-determination and self-government, and protected its rights and its identity with the 1816 Victory of Frog Plain, the 1816 unveiling of the Red River Métis Flag, the 1849 Sayer Trial, the 1869 Red River Resistance, and the 1885 Battle of Batoche, and in recent times, several court decisions including the Supreme Court of Canada's 2013 decision in *MMF v Canada*;

AND WHEREAS in 1870 the Red River Métis became the Founder of Manitoba and Canada's Negotiating Partner in Confederation and, after governing their province peacefully, they then faced a Reign of Terror resulting in many Red River Métis dispersing throughout their Homeland, and beyond, in search of peace and security;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") is the successor of our ancestors' Métis self-government structures growing for over two hundred years from roots deep in the late 1700s and early 1800s at the beginnings of the historic Métis Nation;

AND WHEREAS since its inception, the MMF has defended

the historic Métis Nation rooted in the Red River Settlement, its traditional territory in the historic Northwest, its national identity, its right to self-determination and self-government, and the Michif language;

AND WHEREAS in *MMF v Canada*, the Supreme Court of Canada recognized that the Red River Métis' section 31 *Manitoba Act* claim was a "collective claim for declaratory relief for the purposes of reconciliation between the descendants of the Métis people of the Red River Valley and Canada" and granted the MMF standing by concluding "[t]his collective claim merits allowing the body representing the collective Métis interest to come before the court";

AND WHEREAS the Delegates of the 2014 MMF Annual General Assembly, refusing to allow the Red River Métis to be defined by boundaries which are not Métis-made, nor of Métis-choosing, and which arbitrarily and artificially divide the Red River Métis, its Citizens, settlements, and traditional territories, declared it is not necessary to be a resident of Manitoba to be a Red River Métis Citizen;

AND WHEREAS on September 22, 2019, the MMF Annual General Assembly endorsed the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Declaration Resolution passed by Cabinet on July 19, 2019 affirming and declaring our right of self-determination and our exercise of self-government, and directed the MMF President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement the Declaration;

AND WHEREAS the same MMF Annual General Assembly, concerned by the failure of the Métis National Council ("MNC") Board of Governors to sanction the Métis Nation of Ontario ("MNO") for its failure to meet the criteria for citizenship in the Métis Nation, endorsed the Authorization for the MMF to Withdraw from the MNC Resolution previously adopted by the MMF Cabinet and directed the President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement the resolution if the MNO continued to defy the Métis Nation's citizenship criteria;

AND WHEREAS the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement* between MMF and Canada on July 6, 2021, immediately recognized the MMF as the existing government of the Red River Métis and that Red River Métis Citizens and individuals entitled to become Citizens may live in Manitoba or elsewhere inside Canada and outside of Canada;

AND WHEREAS based on the failure of the MNC to uphold the Métis Nation's citizenship criteria, the MMF President informed the MNC of MMF's withdrawal from that body effective September 29, 2021 and its intention to provide national leadership for the descendants of the historic Red River Métis across western Canada;

AND WHEREAS the MMF President, in separate letters, informed the Prime Minister of Canada of the MMF's withdrawal from the MNC and from the 2017 Canada-Métis Nation Accord and its desire to enter into a separate bilateral mechanism with Canada to advance joint policy development based on MMF priorities;

AND WHEREAS the MMF established a Beyond Borders Task Force to consult Red River Métis on citizenship and governance matters;

AND WHEREAS consultation engagements were held during the summer of 2022 in various locations across Canada and in the United States, primarily held within the Red River Métis Homeland;

AND WHEREAS at the Beyond Borders Task Force sessions, MMF Citizens and other Red River Métis living outside Manitoba expressed their desire to fully participate in the rights and benefits of MMF Citizens including the delivery of programs and services;

AND WHEREAS a resolution in substantially the same form as this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of August 25, 2022 on the basis that this resolution was to be presented to the Annual General Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The MMF Annual General Assembly hereby declares that:
 - a. The MMF has a legally recognized mandate to represent the Manitoba Métis historically known as the Red River Métis in respect of its collectively held rights and interests, and in particular to implement and exercise the Manitoba Métis' right to self-determination, its inherent right to self-government, and its rights in respect of section 31 of the *Manitoba Act, 1870*;
 - b. the Red River Métis is not bound or defined by provincial or international Boundaries, its Citizens and individuals entitled to become Citizens today are located within what is now Manitoba as well as elsewhere inside and outside of Canada;
 - c. the MMF, the recognized democratic representative government of the Red River Métis, is the National Government of the Red River Métis in order to:
 - o strengthen its representation of the Red River Métis living within and outside of Manitoba to enable all Citizens to fully participate in the Self-Governing Red River Métis;
 - o strengthen its relationship with the Government of Canada and Provincial Governments in order to advance the rights, interests, and needs of its Citizens;
 - o strengthen its relationship with other Indigenous peoples and governments in Canada to promote mutual recognition and benefits; and strengthen its participation in intergovernmental and international relations in order to protect and promote the rights and interests of its Citizens.
1. The MMF Annual General Assembly, as an integral part of the Red River Métis Government structure and process, directs the MMF President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement this Declaration including:
 - a. furthering outreach efforts which may include establishing offices outside of Manitoba to facilitate the participation of its Citizens in self-government matters such as Citizenship applications, rights, and programs and services;
 - b. establishing an Ottawa office to work on the bilateral relationship and joint policy development with the federal government and participation in the federal budgetary process;
 - c. pursuing relations and agreements with other Indigenous peoples and governments in Canada through instruments including MOUs, protocols, accords, and treaties;

- d. participating in international affairs and institutions to advance Red River Métis interests in matters such as rights, trade relations and agreements, and relations with Indigenous peoples outside of Canada; and
- e. pursuing resourcing of the activities of the National Government of the Red River Métis.

CARRIED (*two online abstentions noted*)

During discussion on the resolution, comments were offered related to:

- ∞ The resolution builds upon Métis history and provides broader assertion of Métis rights
- ∞ Canada recognizes the Red River Métis' right to self-government and the resolution affirms this with other organizations
- ∞ Question as to whether this resolution requires a constitutional amendment and therefore should be reviewed by Locals in advance of the meeting:
 - o The resolution is a declaration and would not require amendments to the Constitution
 - o Clarification that when a constitutional amendment is required, specific sections and wording changes are presented
- ∞ Delegates requested that in future, resolutions are provided in hard copy prior to their consideration so Delegates are better prepared to vote
- ∞ Whether the MMF is opening offices in other provinces:
 - o There is a national office of the MMF in Ottawa to support meetings with the federal government
 - o Offices could potentially be opened in other areas based on the need to support Red River Métis citizens and support the growth of the MMF.

Resolution #2

Resolution of the Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly – October 14-16, 2022 Prescription Drug Program Pharmaceutical Support.

The resolution was read into the record.

RESOLUTION 02 10 22

It was MOVED (Diane Burelle, Southeast Region) and SECONDED (Andrea Clark, Interlake Region)

WHEREAS the MMF provides pharmaceutical support for its Citizens aged 55+;

AND WHEREAS Red River Métis Citizens of all ages need access to affordable pharmaceuticals;

AND WHEREAS the hardest hit, exacerbated by the pandemic, are single parents as these costs for much needed medicines are a big portion of their budgets;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. This Assembly requests that the MMF Cabinet review the eligibility criteria for the Prescription Drug Program and consider expanding it, as may be appropriate.

CARRIED (*one vote in opposition*)

Resolution #3
Resolution of the Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly – October 14-16, 2022 Local Executive Participation.

The resolution was read into the record.

RESOLUTION 03 10 22

It was MOVED (Andrea Clark, Interlake Region) and SECONDED (Giselle Ferland), Southeast Region

WHEREAS Active Locals have been defined by the MMF;

AND WHEREAS active Executives are the backbone of the Red River Métis Community;

AND WHEREAS Executives are the future leaders within the Red River Métis Government;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. This Assembly requests that the MMF Cabinet consider developing appropriate criteria for Local Executive members regarding their attendance and participation in Local and community events while serving as a Local Executive member.

CARRIED (one online abstention noted)

Chair Goodon expressed gratitude to the Resolutions Committee for its work.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Minister Anita Campbell and Wenda Watteyne, MMF Chief Operating Officer, presented a watch to the following individuals in recognition of their 10-Years of service to the MMF:

- ∞ Carol Benn, Southwest Region
- ∞ Hilda Bushy, MET
- ∞ Stacey Campbell, Métis CFS
- ∞ Dennis Chartrand, Michif CFS Agency
- ∞ Tammy Chief, Northwest Region
- ∞ Harold De La Ronde, Michif CFS Agency
- ∞ John Richard Cory Donald, Métis CFS
- ∞ Wesley Fleck, Operations
- ∞ Danalda Laval, MET
- ∞ Scott Maximick, Métis CFS
- ∞ Candice Metsima, Métis CFS
- ∞ Rhonda Stone, Métis CFS
- ∞ Jenna Unger, Métis CFS.

President Chartrand announced the winners of the contests held on the AGA Day 2 evening events and of the 2nd Annual Pickler Contest. It was noted that \$1,800 had been raised for the Bereavement Fund. The President and Chairs conducted a prize draw and announced the winners of the prizes donated from Trade Show booths, MMF affiliates, regions, and departments.

12. CONCLUDING REMARKS and CLOSING PRAYER

President Chartrand advised participants that food hampers were available for Delegates, one per household. MMF staff would

serve Elders first and deliver their hampers to their vehicles. The President thanked Glorian Chartrand for planning and organizing the AGA and all the staff and volunteers who worked supported the AGA. Chair LeClair provided a gift to Elder Linda St. Cyr who offered a closing prayer.

13. CONCLUSION

MOTION 30 10 22

It was MOVED (Laura Spring, Winnipeg Region) and SECONDED (Camile Berthwistle, The Pas Region)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis be now concluded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Time: October 16, 2022 at 6:23 p.m.)

* * *

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly scheduled October 14-16, 2022, and incorporates any and all corrections made at the time of adoption at the General Assembly held _____.

William Goodon, Chair

Marc LeClair, Chair

LIST OF APPENDICES

The following were referenced in the Minutes and are appended accordingly:

Appendix A:	List of Acronyms
Appendix B:	List of Motions and Resolutions

APPENDIX A – List of Acronyms

Used in the Minutes of the Manitoba Metis Federation
October 14-16, 2022 Annual General Assembly

AGA	Annual General Assembly
CRO	Central Registry Office
CFS	Child and Family Services
CWD	Chronic Wasting Disease
CART	Community Addictions Recovery Team
CTF	Conservation Trust Fund
ECE	Early Childhood Education
ELCC	Early Learning and Child Care
EIRM	Energy Infrastructure and Resource Management
FML	Forest Management License
GHA	Game Hunting Area
GA	General Assembly
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HR	Human Resources
HRIS	Human Resources Information System
IPCA	Indigenous Protected and Conservation Areas
ISET	Indigenous Skills and Employment Training
IWS	Infinity Women Secretariat
IT	Information Technology
JSP	Justice Support Program
LAC	Local Advisory Committee
LRCC	Louis Riel Capital Corporation
LRI	Louis Riel Institute
LRVC	Louis Riel Vocational College
MMSGRIA	Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement
MP	Member of Parliament
MCJP	Métis Community Justice Program
MCLD	Métis Community Liaison Department
MEDF	Métis Employment and Development Fund
MET	Métis Employment and Training
MELT	Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow
MJI	Métis Justice Institute
MMF	Manitoba Metis Federation
MNO	Métis Nation of Ontario
MNC	Métis National Council
MNP	Meyers Norris Penny
MMIWG	Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
NDP	New Democratic Party
NFP	Not-for-Profit
PADCOM	Potash and Agri-Development Corporation of Manitoba
PSE	Post-Secondary Education
PYAC	Provincial Youth Advisory Committee
RDSP	Registered Disability Savings Plan
RESP	Registered Education Savings Plan
RCAF	Royal Canadian Air Force
RCMP	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
RHMA	Recognized Métis Harvesting Areas
TCJP	Thompson Community Justice Program
TKLOUS	Traditional Knowledge Land Use and Occupancy Studies

UN	United Nations
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
US	United States
UIPI	Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples

APPENDIX B – List of Motions and Resolutions

Resolved at the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly

MOTION 01 10 22

To appoint Will Goodon and Marc LeClair as Chairpersons and to appoint Sydney Fleming as Co-Chair for the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis.

MOTION 02 10 22

To accept the Agenda for the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly (AGA) with the following amendment:

- The Financial Review to be held on Day 3, October 16, 2022.

MOTION 03 10 22

To accept the following appointments to the Resolutions Committee for the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis:

- ∞ Greg Balmer, Interlake Region
- ∞ Bertha Bouet, Southwest Region
- ∞ Jeannette Brown Porter, Northwest Region
- ∞ Adrienne Carrier, Infinity Women Secretariat
- ∞ James Fight, Thompson Region
- ∞ Jana Fowles Joseph, Winnipeg Region
- ∞ Albert Linfitt, The Pas Region
- ∞ Ken Lodge, Southeast Region.

MOTION 04 10 22

To accept the Minutes of the Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly held March 25-27, 2022, with the following amendments:

- ∞ Correct the spelling of Keith Ginther throughout
- ∞ Clarification that Motion 17-03-22 was moved by Sydney Fleming, Northwest Region.

MOTION 05 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Agriculture Report as presented by Minister David Beaudin.

MOTION 06 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Metis accept the Central Registry Office and Natural Resource Report as presented by Minister Leah LaPlante.

MOTION 07 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Constitution, Rights and Governance and Red River Métis Beyond Borders report as presented by Minister Judy Mayer.

MOTION 08 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Culture and Heritage report as presented by Minister Alfred Anderson.
MOTION 09 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Early Learning and Child Care and Health and Wellness Report as presented by Minister Frances Chartrand.

MOTION 10 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Energy and Infrastructure Report as presented by Minister Jack Park.

MOTION 11 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Sixties Scoop Report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.

MOTION 12 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Engagement and Consultation Report as presented by Minister Denise Thomas.

MOTION 13 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Environment and Climate Change Report as presented by Minister JoAnne Remillard.

MOTION 14 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Housing and Property Management Report as presented by Minister Will Goodon.

MOTION 15 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Human Resources and Information Technology Report as presented by Minister Anita Campbell.
MOTION 16 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Community Liaison Department, Residential and Day Schools, French and Michif Language Protection Report as presented by Minister Andrew Carrier.

MOTION 17 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Employment and Training Report as presented by Minister John Fleury.

MOTION 18 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Justice Institute and Pemmican Publications Report as presented by Minister Judyda Lagimodiere.

MOTION 19 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Mining Report as presented by Minister Mark Parenteau.

MOTION 20 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Provincial Education and Louis Riel Institute Report as presented by Minister Joan Ledoux.

MOTION 21 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Veterans Report as presented by Minister Shawn Nault.

MOTION 22 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the State of the Nation Address as presented by President David Chartrand.

MOTION 23 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Sports and Youth Report as presented by Minister Richard Genaille.

MOTION 24 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Traditional Economies Report as presented by Minister Darrel Ferland.

MOTION 25 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the MMF Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2022, as presented.

MOTION 26 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis appoint the Auditors Meyers Norris Penny for the MMF Audit for Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2022.

MOTION 27 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Louis Riel Capital Corporation Report as presented by Minister Leah LaPlante.

MOTION 28 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Métis Child and Family Services Report as presented by Minister Mona Buors.

MOTION 29 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis accept the Economic Development Report as presented by President David Chartrand.

RESOLUTION 01 10 22

WHEREAS the Red River Settlement, now Winnipeg, Manitoba, is the birthplace of the Red River Métis and the heart of the Red River Métis Homeland;

AND WHEREAS the historic Métis Nation, the Red River Métis, and the Manitoba Métis are the same Indigenous Community for which the names have been used interchangeably;

AND WHEREAS for over two centuries the Red River Métis has exercised its rights of self-determination and self-government, and protected its rights and its identity with the 1816 Victory of Frog Plain, the 1816 unveiling of the Red River Métis Flag, the 1849 Sayer Trial, the 1869 Red River Resistance, and the 1885 Battle of Batoche, and in recent times, several court decisions including the Supreme Court of Canada's 2013 decision in *MMF v Canada*;

AND WHEREAS in 1870 the Red River Métis became the Founder of Manitoba and Canada's Negotiating Partner in Confederation and, after governing their province peacefully, they then faced a Reign of Terror resulting in many Red River Métis dispersing throughout their Homeland, and beyond, in search of peace and security;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") is the successor of our ancestors' Métis self-government structures growing for over two hundred years from roots deep in the late 1700s and early 1800s at the beginnings of the historic Métis Nation;

AND WHEREAS since its inception, the MMF has defended the historic Métis Nation rooted in the Red River Settlement, its traditional territory in the historic Northwest, its national identity, its right to self-determination and self-government, and the Michif language;

AND WHEREAS in *MMF v Canada*, the Supreme Court of Canada recognized that the Red River Métis' section 31 Manitoba Act claim was a "collective claim for declaratory relief for the purposes of reconciliation between the descendants of the Métis people of the Red River Valley and Canada" and granted the MMF standing by concluding "[t]his collective claim merits allowing the body representing the collective Métis interest to come before the court";

AND WHEREAS the Delegates of the 2014 MMF Annual General Assembly, refusing to allow the Red River Métis to be defined by boundaries which are not Métis-made, nor of Métis-choosing, and which arbitrarily and artificially divide the Red River Métis, its Citizens, settlements, and traditional territories, declared it is not necessary to be a resident of Manitoba to be a Red River Métis Citizen;

AND WHEREAS on September 22, 2019, the MMF Annual General Assembly endorsed the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Declaration Resolution passed by Cabinet on July 19, 2019 affirming and declaring our right of self-determination and our exercise of self-government, and directed the MMF President

and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement the Declaration;

AND WHEREAS the same MMF Annual General Assembly, concerned by the failure of the Métis National Council ("MNC") Board of Governors to sanction the Métis Nation of Ontario ("MNO") for its failure to meet the criteria for citizenship in the Métis Nation, endorsed the Authorization for the MMF to Withdraw from the MNC Resolution previously adopted by the MMF Cabinet and directed the President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement the resolution if the MNO continued to defy the Métis Nation's citizenship criteria;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement between MMF and Canada on July 6, 2021, immediately recognized the MMF as the existing government of the Red River Métis and that Red River Métis Citizens and individuals entitled to become Citizens may live in Manitoba or elsewhere inside Canada and outside of Canada;

AND WHEREAS based on the failure of the MNC to uphold the Métis Nation's citizenship criteria, the MMF President informed the MNC of MMF's withdrawal from that body effective September 29, 2021 and its intention to provide national leadership for the descendants of the historic Red River Métis across western Canada;

AND WHEREAS the MMF President, in separate letters, informed the Prime Minister of Canada of the MMF's withdrawal from the MNC and from the 2017 Canada-Métis Nation Accord and its desire to enter into a separate bilateral mechanism with Canada to advance joint policy development based on MMF priorities;

AND WHEREAS the MMF established a Beyond Borders Task Force to consult Red River Métis on citizenship and governance matters;

AND WHEREAS consultation engagements were held during the summer of 2022 in various locations across Canada and in the United States, primarily held within the Red River Métis Homeland;

AND WHEREAS at the Beyond Borders Task Force sessions, MMF Citizens and other Red River Métis living outside Manitoba expressed their desire to fully participate in the rights and benefits of MMF Citizens including the delivery of programs and services;

AND WHEREAS a resolution in substantially the same form as this resolution was adopted and approved by the MMF Cabinet at a meeting of August 25, 2022 on the basis that this resolution was to be presented to the Annual General Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The MMF Annual General Assembly hereby declares that:
 - a. The MMF has a legally recognized mandate to represent the Manitoba Métis historically known as the Red River Métis in respect of its collectively held rights and interests, and in particular to implement and exercise the Manitoba Métis' right to self-determination, its inherent right to self-government, and its rights in respect of section 31 of the Manitoba Act, 1870;

- b. the Red River Métis is not bound or defined by provincial or international Boundaries, its Citizens and individuals entitled to become Citizens today are located within what is now Manitoba as well as elsewhere inside and outside of Canada;
- c. the MMF, the recognized democratic representative government of the Red River Métis, is the National Government of the Red River Métis in order to:
 - o strengthen its representation of the Red River Métis living within and outside of Manitoba to enable all Citizens to fully participate in the Self-Governing Red River Métis;
 - o strengthen its relationship with the Government of Canada and Provincial Governments in order to advance the rights, interests, and needs of its Citizens;
 - o strengthen its relationship with other Indigenous peoples and governments in Canada to promote mutual recognition and benefits; and strengthen its participation in intergovernmental and international relations in order to protect and promote the rights and interests of its Citizens.
- 2. The MMF Annual General Assembly, as an integral part of the Red River Métis Government structure and process, directs the MMF President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement this Declaration including:
 - a. Furthering outreach efforts which may include establishing offices outside of Manitoba to facilitate the participation of its Citizens in self-government matters such as Citizenship applications, rights, and programs and services;
 - b. establishing an Ottawa office to work on the bilateral relationship and joint policy development with the federal government and participation in the federal budgetary process;
 - c. pursuing relations and agreements with other Indigenous peoples and governments in Canada through instruments including MOUs, protocols, accords, and treaties;
 - d. participating in international affairs and institutions to advance Red River Métis interests in matters such as rights, trade relations and agreements, and relations with Indigenous peoples outside of Canada; and
 - e. pursuing resourcing of the activities of the National Government of the Red River Métis.

RESOLUTION 02 10 22

WHEREAS the MMF provides pharmaceutical support for its Citizens aged 55+;

AND WHEREAS Red River Métis Citizens of all ages need access to affordable pharmaceuticals;

AND WHEREAS the hardest hit, exacerbated by the pandemic, are single parents as these costs for much needed medicines are a big portion of their budgets;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. This Assembly requests that the MMF Cabinet review the eligibility criteria for the Prescription Drug Program and consider expanding it, as may be appropriate.

RESOLUTION 03 10 22

WHEREAS Active Locals have been defined by the MMF;

AND WHEREAS active Executives are the backbone of the Red River Métis Community;

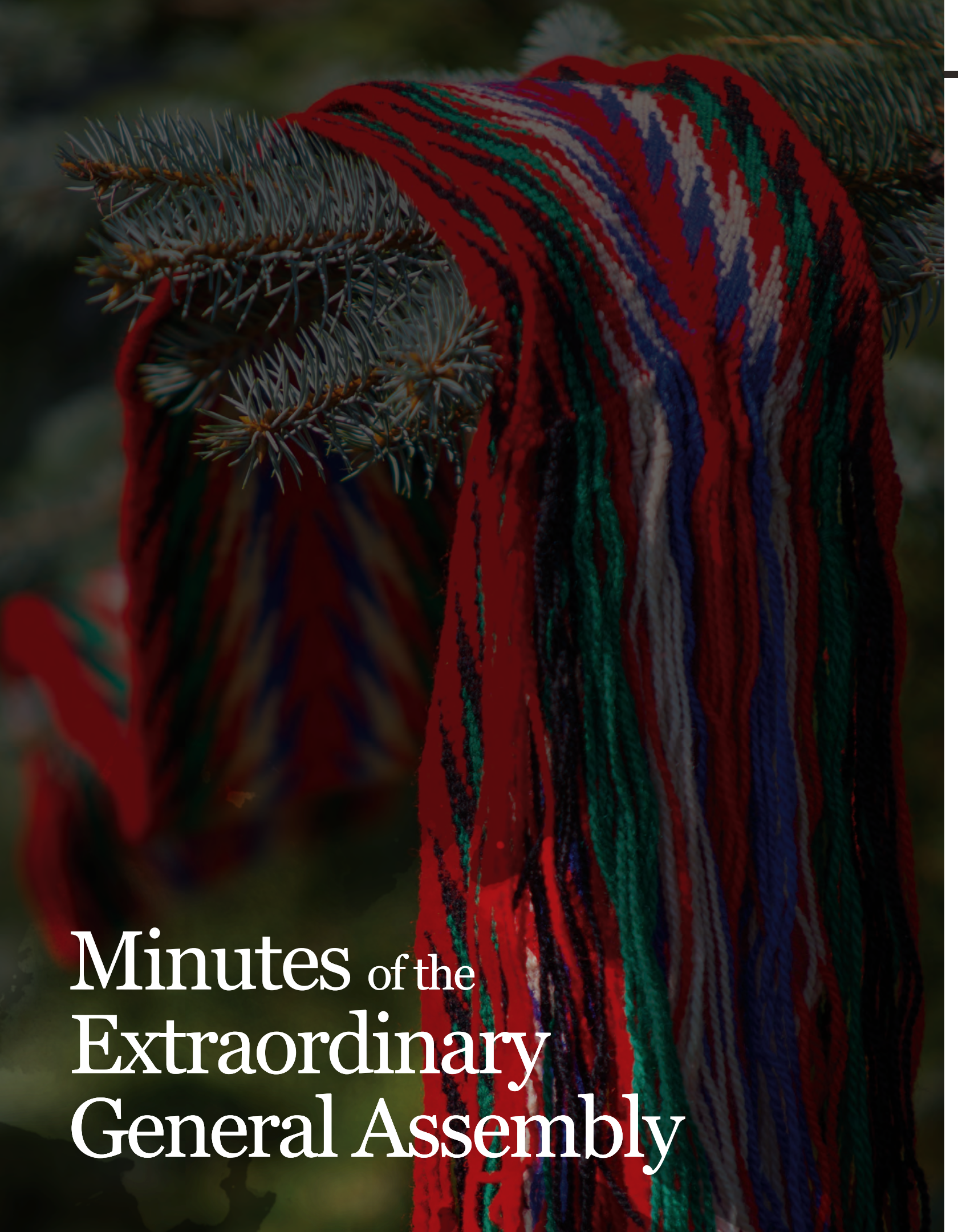
AND WHEREAS Executives are the future leaders within the Red River Métis Government;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. This Assembly requests that the MMF Cabinet consider developing appropriate criteria for Local Executive members regarding their attendance and participation in Local and community events while serving as a Local Executive member.

MOTION 30 10 22

That the Manitoba Metis Federation October 14-16, 2022, Annual General Assembly of the Red River Métis be now concluded.



Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly

Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly

Assiniboia Downs

June 3-4, 2023

Minutes of the Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis held June 3-4, 2023, at the Assiniboia Downs, 3975 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, prepared by Megan Krempel, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

DAY ONE – SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023

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.

Minister Will Goodon, Housing and Property Management, welcomed delegates to the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) at 9:39 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Elder Verna Demontigny provided an Opening Prayer in Michif and in English.

Minister Goodon confirmed that the EGA was the largest Red River Métis event since the Buffalo Hunt and citizens were participating in person, virtually, and through satellite locations in Toronto, Vancouver, Ottawa, Victoria, Thompson, Selkirk, The Pas, and Winnipeg.

The Red River Métis' relationship with the church goes back over 200 years and the church has been a consistent partner through both the challenging times and the good times. In 1870, Louis Riel was not able to go to Ottawa to negotiate the first Red River Métis treaty and sent Father Joseph-Noël Ritchot to negotiate with Canada on behalf of the Métis. The Métis have never forgotten the support of Father Ritchot nor their relationship with the church.

Video Presentation

A short video was shown of the Red River Métis delegation's trip to the Vatican in 2022, in which members placed a Métis sash and flag at the tomb of St. Peter.

Archbishop Richard Gagnon offered a prayer and asked the Lord to keep the Red River Métis safe, to give them strength and guide them to make the wise decisions for the benefit of all citizens. The Archbishop was presented with a beaded cross, crafted by Jennine Krauchi.

1. APPOINTMENT OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRS

Minister Anita Campbell, Finance and Human Resources, introduced the EGA Chairs, Will Goodon, Marc LeClair, and David Gray, and read the motion to appoint them as EGA Chairs into the record. Quorum was confirmed.

MOTION 01-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer) and SECONDED (Minister John Fleury)

To appoint Will Goodon, Chair, Marc LeClair Co-Chair, and David Gray, Virtual Co-Chair for the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA AND RULES OF ORDER

MOTION 02-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Anita Campbell) and SECONDED (Associate Minister Peter Fleming)

To accept the Agenda for the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 03-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer) and SECONDED (Minister JoAnne Remillard)

That the Rules of Order for the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 2022

Chair Will Goodon advised that in the interest of time, the approval of the Minutes from the October 22-24, 2022, MMF Annual General Assembly (AGA) would be postponed to the Annual General Assembly (AGA) scheduled September 15-17, 2023.

MOTION 04-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Anita Campbell) and SECONDED (Minister David Beaudin)

That the Minutes of the October 22-24, 2022, Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Following the approval of the minutes, the Chair Will Goodon acknowledged the intention to suspend consideration of the minutes of the October 22-24, 2022 AGA until the September 2023 AGA.

MOTION 05-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Anita Campbell) and SECONDED (Minister David Beaudin)

That Motion EGA-04-06-23 be suspended as a Special Order and that the Minutes of the October 22-24, 2022, Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) Annual General Assembly (AGA) be postponed until the September 15-17, 2023, MMF AGA.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Co-Chair Marc LeClair welcomed the Ministers of the MMF Cabinet to the stage. Glorian Chartrand introduced MMF President David Chartrand and paid tribute to the President with a quote from Peter Gabriel *“From the pain come the dream, from the dream come the vision, from the vision come the people, from the people come the power, from this power come the change.”*

Video Presentation

A video tribute was shared of President Chartrand’s journey as the elected MMF President for the past 26 years.

4. OPENING REMARKS – PRESIDENT DAVID CHARTRAND

President Chartrand thanked Elder Verna Demontigny for the prayer and for keeping the Michif language alive. Elder Verna Demontigny, like all Métis citizens, was a strong thread of the Métis sash. Further thanks were extended to Archbishop Gagnon, who had ensured that the Red River Métis delegation was able to meet the Pope on their visit to Rome.

Louis Riel, the Métis’ great leader, was murdered young, he lost his children and never got to see them become adults. He fought for rights and for the Métis people to fit in the newly forming country. Riel trusted the relationship with the church. Father Joseph-Noël Ritchot led the negotiations on behalf of Louis Riel when Riel was prevented from having a seat at the table of parliament. Father Ritchot travelled from the Red River Valley to Ottawa, a journey that would have taken months, to send the message that the Métis were there and they were not afraid. The Red River Métis owe a great gratitude to Father Ritchot, and President Chartrand was recently able to extend thanks on behalf of the Red River Métis to the Father’s family.

Canada had made a promise that they would settle a treaty with Louis Riel and Red River Métis families, and they did not fulfill that promise, they dismissed it and instead sent an army to chase the Métis off of their lands. That “Reign of Terror” included the torturing of families, the burning of houses, and the raping of women.

The Métis were forced to hide their beadwork and it was a positive sign to see the beadwork coming back.

President Chartrand shared that a Métis citizen working for the federal government had expressed fear of losing their employment if they attended the EGA and voted in support of the Treaty. President Chartrand explained to this individual that the Métis had once been afraid when they were facing down guns, but that those days of being afraid were gone and the Métis would fear no one and would fight anyone who intended to hurt them. President Chartrand encouraged this individual to vote and if there were any repercussions of that action, the Red River Métis government would fight for them.

If the Red River Métis had not been on cheated in 1870, it would have changed the lives of Métis people today; they would have been much better off. However, deceit never took the Métis spirit. Seeing the tears being shed and the faces filled with pride motivated the President to fight harder.

Over the past 200 years, the Métis continued to fight to protect their culture and traditions, they never gave up. The President encouraged citizens to share that history with their children and grandchildren and tell them to be proud to be Métis.

The Red River Métis were bringing a treaty that was once stolen from Louis Riel into law. The Treaty would change the future of the Métis for generations. The MMF recently fought and won a determination in court against the Province of Manitoba from clawing back monies owed to Métis and First Nations children through the Children’s Special Allowance. This was a demonstration of how far the Métis have come.

The citizens taking part in the EGA are family, they may have different last names but they are part of the Red River Métis family. By voting to adopt the Treaty, the Métis were once again making history and realizing a dream that had been stolen from their ancestors.

Upon ratification of the Treaty, negotiations would continue in the areas and priorities of the Red River Métis, including in health, education, and economic development. The MMF would continue to make investments in technology, businesses, and lands to generate revenues to support citizens.

President Chartrand extended heartfelt gratitude to the Locals and citizens for supporting their President and Cabinet; the Cabinet works hard for the people. The staff of the MMF were acknowledged, the MMF is the largest Métis employer in the country. The President closed by thanking his children, grandchildren, and wife.

Meeting Paused

A power outage caused by the high usage of bandwidth from the amount of participants attending virtually occurred. The EGA paused at 11:08 a.m. and returned at 11:34 a.m.

Chair Will Goodon encouraged participants at the Assiniboia Downs to visit the Red River Métis marketplace and introduced J.D. Hawk, who was taking photos of participants and creating portraits for display on site.

Chair Will Goodon noted that only participants holding Red River Métis citizenship cards could participate in the Treaty presentation.

Video Presentation

A video was shared reflecting the 17 Treaty consultations held across the Homeland during spring 2023. Gratitude was extended to all who participated in the consultations and to the MMF team for their work in coordinating the events. Special thanks was offered to Minister Judy Mayer, Constitution, Rights and Governance, for attending each of the consultations.

5. REVIEW OF THE TREATY

Al Benoit, Chief of Staff, MMF

Al Benoit shared some key events of the history of the Red River Métis, including:

- ∞ Red River Métis culture and attributes including beadwork, the Red River cart, the national flag, and a Red River Métis government
 - ∞ 1869 – The National Committee of the Red River Métis was a major step towards Treaty, and led to the provisional government that brought Manitoba into Confederation:
 - o The National Committee of the Red River Métis ordered Mr. W. McDougall not to enter into the Northwest Territory without permission
 - ∞ The symbolic colours of the Red River Métis sash: red (Red River); blue, white and red (the colours of the Red River national flag); green (the prairies/homeland) and black (the dark times)
 - ∞ 2013 – *MMF v. Canada* Decision:
 - o The Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) stated “... for the purpose of reconciliation between the descendants of the Métis people of the Red River Valley and Canada...this collective claim merits allowing the body representing the collective Métis interest to come before the court. We would grant the MMF standing.”
 - ∞ 2016 – Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) advancing reconciliation:
 - o To develop a mutually acceptable framework agreement to advance reconciliation in a manner consistent with the SCC (MMF) decision
 - ∞ 2016 – The Framework Agreement for advancing reconciliation was signed and:
 - o Recognized the role, functions, and jurisdiction of the MMF
 - o Would address core self-government functions and provisions establishing the new Nation-to-Nation (N2N), Government-to-Government (G2G) relationship
 - ∞ 2021 – The signing of the Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement (MMSGRIA):
 - o The MMSGRIA, the foundation and blueprint of the Treaty, recognizes the MMF’s roles, functions, and authorities and commits parties to negotiate toward the conclusion of the Treaty
 - o Recognizes that the MMF, also known as the Red River Métis, holds the rights of self-determination and self-government
 - o The MMF is the existing government and citizens are inside and outside of Canada (as affirmed through an MMF AGA Resolution of 2014)
 - o The Red River Métis act exclusively through the MMF
 - o Upon Treaty ratification, these are constitutionally protected by the *Constitution Act, 1982*
 - o Sets out the commitment by the MMF and Canada, that: “The parties will continue to negotiate to conclude the Treaty, which will include the provisions of this Agreement adapted as may be agreed”:
- Relationship of laws
 - Legal status and capacity of the Manitoba Métis
 - MMF jurisdiction in the enforcement and adjudication of laws
 - Negotiation of supplementary Self-Government Agreements
 - Negotiation of a Tax Treatment Agreement in relation to the MMF
 - Canada’s international legal obligations
 - Dispute resolution
 - Application of the Constitution of Canada, Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
 - The application of federal laws
 - MMF ratification of the Treaty
 - Such other matters as may be agreed.

∞ Treaty in summary:

∞ The Red River Métis is the legal body – not the MMF

∞ The MMF is the government of the Red River Métis

∞ Modern treaty protecting “core” self-government

∞ Treaty constitutionally protected

∞ Long-term secure and stable funding

∞ Process to negotiate future arrangements

∞ The Treaty:

o Is not a comprehensive treaty in the sense of First Nation modern treaty;

o Does not take away any of s. 35, *Constitution Act, 1982*, rights

o Does not make citizens subject to the *Indian Act* and does not make them First Nations

o Does not include tax exemptions for individuals which are found in the *Indian Act*

∞ Core self-government jurisdictions:

o Red River Métis citizenship

o Selection of MMF representatives (elections)

o MMF structures, operations, procedures, assets, financial management, and financial accountability

o Accountability

o Administration, enforcement, prosecution, and adjudication of Red River Métis laws

o Child and Family Services (CFS)

∞ Supplementary self-government areas:

∞ Language, culture, and heritage

∞ Education

∞ Health services

∞ Economic and social development

∞ CFS

∞ Administration of justice

∞ Wildlife and fish harvesting and management

∞ Any other matters reasonably related to the self-determination, self-government, rights, and interests.

Al Benoit reflected on the EGA, as citizens gathered to honour, practice, and protect Red River Métis ancestral customs and traditions and, as observed by Alexander Ross in a book titled, “Red River Métis”, “...assembled together in one place, with one common interest, one common object in view, they must soon become formidable either as friends or foes”.

Health Break

The EGA recessed at 12:25 p.m. and reconvened at 1:25 p.m. with the discussion of the Chief of Staff's Treaty review.

Chair Will Goodon reviewed the rules of participation in discussions and delegates were reminded they had one minute to speak to the Treaty and three minutes to speak for or against the resolution.

Discussion

During discussion, the following Questions/Comments (Q/C) were offered and *Responses (R)* provided:

Q/C: The MMF is responsible for the prosecution of violations of Red River Métis laws, what type of laws does that refer to? Is there an agreement with Canada or the provincial government for persecution and appeals?

R: *This is a treaty about self-government and self-government jurisdiction. If a citizen makes an infraction to Red River Métis voting or election laws, for example, then the MMF is responsible for the prosecution. The Red River Métis Assembly defines what the laws are and provides all logical consequences for an infraction.*

Q/C: Would the MMF enter into agreement with Canada or the provincial government with respect to conduction of persecution or an appeal? Would others be involved?

R: *That is not something we would do as regular practice. For instance, if the courts say that we do not have our tribunals in place yet, but the laws are there, we will have arrangements with government courts to follow our laws, in order to ensure they are being adhered to, but again, as directed by the Assembly.*

6. TREATY OVERVIEW

Murray Trachtenberg and Genevieve Benoit, MMF Legal Counsel

Murray Trachtenberg and Genevieve Benoit, MMF Legal Counsel, provided a high-level overview of the Treaty. It was noted that the version of the Treaty distributed to participants was dated May 26, 2023; however, the version the EGA would be asked to approve was dated May 30, 2023. Minor wording changes had been made and would be highlighted during the presentation.

During the review of the Treaty, the following was noted:

- ∞ The Treaty is between the Red River Métis and His Majesty the King in Right of Canada
- ∞ The Treaty's preamble sets the stage for what the Treaty agrees to
- ∞ On July 6, 2021, the MMF and Canada signed the MMSGRIA under which, among other things, they committed to continue to negotiate the Treaty

- ∞ The parties confirmed their commitment to a collaborative process to advance reconciliation and renew and enhance their N2N and G2G relationship
- ∞ Definition of jurisdiction as “the authority to make laws” in the areas of self-government identified in the Treaty
- ∞ Treaty Purpose:
 - ∞ To set out the Parties' agreement in respect of certain Red River Metis s. 35 rights of self-government
 - o Commit to negotiate and attempt to reach agreement on additional areas of Red River Métis self-government and jurisdiction
 - ∞ The Treaty will be constitutionally protected and is a treaty within the meaning of s.25 and s.35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*:
 - o s.35 speaks about existing Aboriginal and treaty rights being recognized and affirmed
 - o s.25 describes how the Charter of Rights and Freedoms cannot be used to take away from Aboriginal peoples
- ∞ The Treaty provides for the Red River Métis to act exclusively through the MMF
- ∞ The MMF has jurisdiction in relation to Red River Métis citizenship, including matters such as citizenship criteria, registration, renunciation or removal of citizenship, and review or appeals
- ∞ If there is an inconsistency or conflict between a Red River Métis law and a federal law, the Red River Métis law prevails to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict
- ∞ Red River Métis can choose and elect their own government as per the process and terms set out in the MMF Constitution
- ∞ The MMF has the jurisdiction in relation to its structures, operations, financial management and accountability, assets, and procedures
- ∞ The MMF's jurisdiction in relation to Particular Red River Métis Laws includes the authority to establish institutions, offices, or other bodies to administer Red River Métis Laws
- ∞ The MMF is responsible for the prosecution of any violation of Red River Métis laws and may appoint people to do the prosecution or enter into agreement with Canada or the provincial government in respect to how those prosecutions will be carried out
- ∞ Nothing restricts the right of Red River Métis citizens to resolve a dispute through a court of competent jurisdiction
- ∞ The MMF must maintain a public registry of Red River Métis laws on the MMF website
- ∞ The ongoing finances of the MMF is a shared responsibility of the Parties
- ∞ The Parties will work together to enter into and maintain fiscal arrangements
- ∞ A Tax Treatment will be an agreement dealt with after the Treaty is in effect:
 - o This will not include an individual tax break for citizens but for the government

- ∞ At the request of either party, the Parties will negotiate an agreement to reach Supplementary Arrangements, including jurisdiction in respect of language, culture and heritage, education, health services, economic and social development, CFS, administration of justice, wildlife and fish harvesting and management, and any other matter reasonably related to the self-determination and self-government of Red River Métis
- ∞ The Treaty contemplates future negotiations in regard to lands that may be held by the Red River Métis or the MMF
- ∞ The Treaty is not a comprehensive land claim agreement but a modern-day self-government treaty
- ∞ Nothing in the Treaty affects, recognizes, or provides any rights under s.35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* of any Indigenous people or collectivity other than the Red River Métis
- ∞ Section 31 of the *Manitoba Act, 1870*:
 - o The Parties will continue to negotiate and attempt to engage on an approach and schedule to address the remedying of the ongoing rift in the national fabric identified by the SCC in *MMF v Canada* caused by Canada's failure to act diligently to fulfill the obligation to the Red River Métis contained in section 31 of the *Manitoba Act* which denied the Red River Métis its promised head start, as contemplated in sections 4.5.2 and 5.3 of the Framework Agreement
- ∞ Disputes arising under the Treaty will be resolved in accordance with provisions of Appendix A
- ∞ The EGA will ratify the Treaty in accordance with Red River Métis laws, customs, and traditions of the Red River Métis
- ∞ Implementation Legislation and how it will be constitutionally protected
- ∞ Treaty comes into effect on the date the implementation legislation is given royal assent
- ∞ The Red River Métis ratification process sets out the rules to be followed at the EGA and in the Red River Métis process and the importance of the assembly and process moving forward.

The MMF Legal Counsel reviewed in detail each of the minor wording changes/additions from the May 26, 2023, version of the Treaty. Some wording had not been confirmed, particularly as it related to Canada's request for the MMF to sign a release from making possible claims in the future, as was done with First Nations comprehensive treaties. The Treaty is a self-government treaty, not a comprehensive treaty, and with no lands attached, it was the opinion of MMF Legal Counsel that a release would not be necessary. A request had been made to Canada to provide an example of what the release would be for and a response was pending.

Discussion

During discussion, the following Questions/Comments (Q/C) were offered and Responses (R) provided:

Q/C: A comment was made prior to the presentation about laws that could be enacted before our tribunals/mechanisms for adjudicating are stood up and could be delegated to

provincial or federal tribunals. This could undermine our self-determination. When or under what circumstances might we consider delegating our authority over our laws to provincial/federal mechanisms? This has not historically gone well for us.

R: The Treaty says that on the effective date we will not have a new court system in place and that until there is another court or body over adjudication, an individual would go to the provincial/territorial court for prosecution but at the direction of the MMF, as it has jurisdiction. That court would be used as the administration of the Red River Métis laws until there is another court or body in place. Without our own system in place, you may enter into agreement with processing service in the province but again under Métis laws.

Q/C: As I understand it, the Red River Métis is the collective and legal person and it will act through the MMF as a government. The treaty recognizes the Red River Métis as an entity and the holder of assets managed through the MMF. How does that relationship work? Do the Red River Métis own title to a property?

R: The legal entity is the collective Red River Métis and you, as Indigenous people, will exercise your collective s.35 rights through the government. On a practical day-to-day basis, business will be as usual. If your government buys property, the offer would now read "the Red River Métis agrees to purchase..." but this purchase would not require the Assembly to sign off on it, your MMF government, as the authorized elected representative, will authorize it but it will be in your name. Business will continue as it is but the name and legal principal will change.

Q/C: What is meant by "Métis registry of laws" in the Constitution? Will bylaws become laws?

R: The Registry of Laws is on the MMF website as are the Laws of the Harvest. Tomorrow when we go through the resolutions, there will be changes to remove the term "bylaw" from the Constitution and that our Constitution is the supreme law of all Red River Métis laws.

Q/C: What if a Member of Parliament decides that they do not like certain wording of the Treaty and want to change it, would that mean starting all over again?

R: The Treaty is being negotiated with the Government of Canada (the Crown) and signed and ratified by the Red River Métis. Parliament may want to change an 'and or a 'the' but not make any substantive changes to Treaty, that is not the deal being put to it. The bill, as we understand, is to implement the Treaty that will have been signed between the Parties. Parliament will not get into the nature of changing the Treaty as it has been negotiated in good faith. Once it goes to Parliament it is a negotiated treaty between Canada and the Red River Métis and Parliament will pass a bill to confirm it and implement it.

Q/C: On page 19, Section 24, how does the MMF ensure that people do not go back and forth between Métis and First Nation identity?

R: We will deal with this tomorrow in one of the resolutions to amend the MMF Constitution and include a provision where Cabinet will have the ability to make regulation around this provision specifically.

R: There is a different bill outside of our Treaty that speaks to citizens that had applied for Indian status and now want to be Métis. Canada has a policy that does not allow for that, once a person claims Indian status, they remain that way for life. This new bill would allow people that have Indigenous status to remove themselves and if they met our criteria, they could come home and be a citizen of the Red River Métis. Our concern is that the bill would then allow an individual to return back to Indian status, potentially after taking advantage of our programs and services. I have raised our concerns with the Honourable Minister David Lametti, Justice, and the Honourable Minister Marc Miller, Crown-Indigenous Relations. There must be a clause where the individual commits that they return any of our assets back if they reclaim Indian status.

Q/C: I want to express my appreciation to you, President Chartrand, and to Cabinet for getting us here today. I heard you say this morning that you “have our back” and the “backs of our descendants” and I heard from Legal Counsel about the word “release” and that scared me. A treaty should be in perpetuity and should not consider that word “release”.

R: It does not change the perpetuity of the Treaty. When they negotiate First Nations comprehensive treaties, there are lands involved. Under the Indian Act and for certain rights, such as taxation, there is tax exemption on reserves. In negotiations, they sign a release and they give up something. We have told them that we are not giving up a thing. A bureaucrat is likely thinking that we are part of the First Nations structure without understanding the Métis as a distinct people. The government wants us to sign a release possibly to ensure that we will not sue them for when they forced us to incorporate. Minister Miller was upset about this release. We will clear up the issue of the release.

President Chartrand presented a gift of a beaded vest to Murray Trachtenberg for his loyal service over the past 26 years. Minister Judy Mayer was additionally recognized with a gift for her work on the Constitution and Treaty.

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 2:45 p.m. until 2:55 p.m.

Prior to the introduction of the resolution, Chair Goodon reviewed the rules of order for discussion.

7. RESOLUTIONS

7.1 EGA RESOLUTION #1 – TO RATIFY THE RED RIVER MÉTIS SELF-GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION AND IMPLEMENTATION TREATY

Resolution of the Manitoba Métis Federation Extraordinary General Assembly June 3-4, 2023 To Ratify the *Red River Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty*, dated May 30, 2023, was read into the record.

The resolution was Moved by Minister Jack Park and Seconded by Minister Frances Chartrand. Minister Park commented it was an honour to support the resolution for all Red River Métis citizens. Minister Chartrand reflected that Louis Riel and Albert Chartrand would be proud of what had been accomplished.

Discussion

During discussion, the following Questions/Comments (Q/C) were offered and Responses (R) provided:

Q/C: Thank you to the Cabinet for their work and to Vice President Frances Chartrand. I speak in support for the resolution but what will happen if another federal government tries to overturn the Treaty?

R: The process could never allow for it, it will be protected by law of Royal Assent under the Constitution Act, 1982. They could try and they have tried to stop us before with the Daniels decision and with CFS and the child allowance, but we are prepared for anyone who comes against this Treaty.

Q/C: I speak in favour of the motion. I have been waiting for this for 50 years and I did not think I would see it happen. Thank you to the strong leadership of the MMF and to the Regions, without your hard work this could not have been accomplished. I cannot think that any Métis of sound mind would vote against something this significant and so great.

R: Ambassador Chartier, you are one of those giants that have fought for this for all of your life.

Q/C: It is an honour to be part of an historic vote. I think of my great grandparents and their time with Louis Riel and the birth of Manitoba. Thank you to all for your long years of work to bring us to this point.

Prior to the voting, President Chartrand took the stage and shared of his emotion of the historic event and the pride in knowing that the Treaty would result in positive changes to the lives of Red River Métis for generations to come. The Red River Métis had come together, united as one family, to realize the dream of Louis Riel.

Delegates participating in person, via satellite location or virtually, were asked to stand and using the distributed “red thumbs”, indicating their support for the motion, raise their hands in favour. The votes were tallied at all EGA venues and the motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 01-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Jack Park) and SECONDED (Minister Frances Chartrand)

WHEREAS the Red River Métis is a distinct Indigenous people which was historically known, and continues to be known as the Red River Métis – a vibrant Indigenous collectivity that was established with its own identity, language, culture, institutions, and way of life centered in the Red River Valley and expanding throughout the historic Northwest, and whose citizens and individuals entitled to become citizens are today located within what is now Manitoba as well as elsewhere inside and outside of Canada;

AND WHEREAS for over two centuries the Red River Métis has exercised its rights of self-determination and self-government, and protected its rights and its identity with the 1816 Victory of the Frog Plain / la Victoire de la Grenouillère, the 1816 unveiling of the Red River Métis Flag, the 1849 Sayer Trial, the 1869 Red River Resistance, the 1885 Battle of Batoche, and in recent times, several court decisions including the Supreme Court of Canada's 2013 decision in *MMF v Canada*;

AND WHEREAS in 1870 the Red River Métis, under the leadership of Louis Riel, became the Founder of Manitoba and Canada's Negotiating Partner in Confederation and, after governing our province peacefully, they then faced a Reign of Terror resulting in many Red River Métis dispersing throughout our Homeland, and beyond, in search of peace and security;

AND WHEREAS the Red River Métis has the inherent right to self-determination and self-government that is recognized, affirmed, and protected by sections 25 and 35 of Canada's *Constitution Act, 1982* that includes jurisdiction and law-making authority;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") is the representative self-government of the Red River Métis, which is a modern-day version of governance that has been growing for over two hundred years from roots deep in the late 1700s and early 1800s at the beginnings of *la nouvelle nation*;

AND WHEREAS the MMF is the Government of the Red River Métis, and is mandated to deal with all rights, freedoms, interests, or claims protected by sections 25 and 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* that Red River Métis Citizens collectively hold, including, but not limited to, the right to Crown consultation and accommodation, and the rights of self-determination and self-government;

AND WHEREAS the Governments of Canada and Manitoba historically required the MMF to incorporate in order to establish inter-governmental relationships with the MMF as the valid representative of the Self-Governing Red River Métis;

AND WHEREAS the MMF Assembly, both the Annual General Assembly and Extraordinary General Assembly, are an integral part of the Red River Métis government structure and process;

AND WHEREAS in 2013 *MMF v Canada*, the Supreme Court of Canada recognized that the Red River Métis section 31 *Manitoba Act* claim was a "collective claim for declaratory relief for the purposes of reconciliation between the descendants of the Métis people of the Red River Valley and Canada" and, under the leadership of President David Chartrand, granted the MMF standing by concluding "[t]his collective claim merits allowing the body representing the collective Métis interest to come before the court";

AND WHEREAS the MMF represents Red River Métis Citizens, a community not bound or defined by provincial or international boundaries, and the MMF is advancing the collective claim of the Red River Métis, further to the declaration of the Supreme Court of Canada in *MMF v Canada*;

AND WHEREAS on July 19, 2019, the MMF Cabinet unanimously passed the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Declaration Resolution*, which affirmed and declared our right

of self-determination and our exercise of self-government, acknowledging that our roots are in Winnipeg, Manitoba – the Heart of our Red River Métis Homeland;

AND WHEREAS on September 22, 2019, the MMF Annual General Assembly endorsed the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Declaration Resolution* passed by the MMF Cabinet on July 19, 2019, affirming and declaring our right of self-determination and our exercise of self-government (the "Declaration"), and directed the MMF President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement the Declaration which involves the conclusion of a constitutionally protected treaty;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the Declaration and direction received, the MMF and Canada signed the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement* ("MMSGRIA") on July 6, 2021, which immediately recognized the MMF as the existing democratic self-government of the Red River Métis;

AND WHEREAS in the MMSGRIA, the MMF and Canada committed to continue to negotiate to conclude a constitutionally protected treaty;

AND WHEREAS the MMF and Canada have completed the draft *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the "Treaty"), which is to be ratified by the Red River Métis, following which the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations will recommend Implementation Legislation to Parliament to ratify and give the force of law to the Treaty, to ensure that it is a treaty within the meaning of sections 25 and 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*;

AND WHEREAS the MMF has held Treaty Consultation and Engagement meetings with Red River Métis Regions, Locals, and Citizens in advance of this ratification vote;

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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THIS MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- ∞ Approves, adopts, and hereby ratifies the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* dated May 30, 2023, in the form presented at this Assembly and attached to this Resolution.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

- ∞ The MMF President is hereby authorized and directed to sign the final version of the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty*, and to accept changes from the version dated May 30, 2023 necessary to complete the Treaty, including the translation of a French language version, provided that such changes do not substantially change the provisions of the Treaty from those in the version attached to this Resolution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairs Will Goodon and Marc LeClair invited Delegates to the EGA celebratory dinner and entertainment event commencing at 6:00 p.m.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis, adjourned on June 3, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. after agreeing to convene on June 4, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

DAY TWO – SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis reconvened on June 4, 2023, at 9:43 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS

The meeting began with a replay of the videos of the MMF Delegation's visit to the Vatican and the Journey to the Treaty. President Chartrand encouraged delegates to take care in the hot weather and that although the conditions in the EGA event centre were incredibly hot, all delegates had remained to do the important work.

The heavy lifting work on Day One of the EGA had been completed and the emotions and pride of all in attendance could be felt in the room. There have always been the Red River Métis, and not the ones who claim to be Métis from Ontario, who try to claim Métis heroes, traditions, and culture. President Chartrand emphasized the Treaty would protect the identity of the Red River Métis and future generations to come.

The MMF will continue to fight for the rights of its citizens and was currently negotiating with First Nations leaders in BC on a treaty that would allow Red River Métis citizens to hunt and harvest in BC First Nations territories under s.35, *Constitution Act, 1982*, rights. Ambassador Clément Chartier has continually fought for Red River Métis rights, even sleeping in a van and getting paid with bologna and Bannock. The former Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Chuck Strahl, who defied his then boss at the time – Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and maintained a partnership with the Métis, had sent a message to President Chartrand saying how proud he was of the Red River Métis for approving the Treaty.

Following the business on the Day Two Agenda, President Chartrand reminded delegates there would be a presentation of Queen Elizabeth Jubilee medals honouring those who have played a significant role in the advancement of the Métis. At the AGA in September 2023, many more Red River Métis citizens would be honoured with a Jubilee Coin.

Co-Chair Marc LeClair offered the Lord's Prayer and shared of his first meeting with the President and their decades-long work toward self-government recognition for the Red River Métis.

Murray Trachtenberg, MMF Legal Counsel spoke of being overwhelmed with the gift of the beautiful vest created by the talented Métis artist, Amy McPherson; a gift that would be worn with immense pride and a deep sense of appreciation of the relationship he had with the Red River Métis.

Murray Trachtenberg MMF Legal Counsel advised of three "consequential resolutions" being presented to the EGA, meaning they were a "consequence" of the historical ratification of the Treaty and relate to the business that must be done in order to carry out the intent and give effect to the Treaty so that when it becomes law, these elements would already be in place.

It was explained the resolutions would be read into the record and the Movers and Seconders could offer their words of support for the resolution.

7.2 EGA RESOLUTION #2 – TO CONTINUE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION INC. INTO THE CANADA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATIONS ACT AND RESULTING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The Resolution of the Manitoba Métis Federation Extraordinary General Assembly June 3-4, 2023 To Continue Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. into the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act* and Resulting Constitutional Amendment, was read into the record. It was noted the resolution was Moved by Minister Judy Mayer and Seconded by Minister John Fleury, both of whom were in attendance to confirm their approval.

RESOLUTION 02-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer) and SECONDED (Minister John Fleury)

WHEREAS the Red River Métis anticipates entering into the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty*, which is to be ratified by the Red River Métis at an Extraordinary General Assembly and by the Canadian Parliament by Federal Implementation Legislation;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") was required to incorporate Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. ("MMF Inc.") under *The Corporations Act*, CCSM c C225 (the "Manitoba Corporations Act") in order to conduct financial and administrative affairs of the Red River Métis;

AND WHEREAS the MMF Inc. is governed by existing by-laws titled the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution ("MMF Constitution") which includes By-Law No. 1, the Election By-Law (By-Law No. 2), and the Local By-Law (By-Law No. 3);

AND WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Red River Métis that MMF Inc. be continued into the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*, SC 2009 c 23, (the "Federal NFP Act") under section 211 to facilitate the transfer of assets from MMF Inc. to the Red River Métis;

AND WHEREAS the MMF Constitution, as amended, will continue to constitute the by-laws of MMF Inc. under the Federal NFP Act, which is anticipated to be temporary pending the completion of the Treaty and the transfer of assets 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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION INC., THAT THIS MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- ∞ Directs and authorizes the MMF Cabinet take all necessary steps pursuant to section 182 of the Manitoba Corporations Act to continue MMF Inc. into the Federal NFP Act.
- ∞ Approves the Articles of Continuance in the form attached to this Resolution.
- ∞ Directs and authorizes the MMF Cabinet, for and on behalf of MMF Inc., to do any and all acts and execute such documents as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and give effect to the continuance of MMF Inc., the execution of any such document or the doing of any such other act being conclusive evidence of such determination.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- ∞ The MMF Constitution is hereby affirmed as the by-laws of the MMF Inc.
- ∞ The following amendment to the MMF Constitution be enacted effective as of the date of the continuance into the Federal NFP Act: Article II, subsection 4(d) of the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution, By-Law No. 1 be revised to replace “*The Corporations Act*” with “*the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*”, so that it reads as follows:
 ““Citizens” and “Members” described in Articles IV 4(a) and 4(b) are the members of the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. as referred to in the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*; and”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minister Andrew Carrier proposed an amendment to the resolution for the word “substantially” to be inserted in the sixth Whereas statement to read, “Whereas a resolution in substantially the same form...”.

Both the Mover and the Seconder approved the friendly amendment. There was no further discussion on the motion. The Virtual Co-Chair confirmed the online vote was unanimous in support for the resolution.

MOTION 06-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Andrew Carrier) and SECONDED (Minister Joan Ledoux)

That Resolution of the Manitoba Métis Federation Extraordinary General Assembly June 3-4, 2023 To Continue Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. into the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act* and Resulting Constitutional Amendment be amended to insert the word “substantially” in the sixth Whereas statement to read, “Whereas a resolution in substantially the same form...”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Under the Treaty, the Red River Métis is the legal entity and all assets currently held under MMF Inc. must be transferred to the new legal entity, the Red River Métis. MMF Inc. was currently incorporated under Manitoba provincial incorporation laws but as Manitoba was not a party to the Treaty, a vehicle was needed to help with the movement of assets. Subject matter experts were consulted with and it was determined that MMF Inc. be taken out of provincial jurisdiction and placed temporarily into federal corporation jurisdiction. When under federal jurisdiction and

on the effective date by operation of law and in accordance with jurisdiction that Parliament has over federal corporations, all assets, claims, etc. vested by operation of law, will move into the Red River Métis and MMF Inc. will have served its purpose and cease to exist.

7.3 EGA RESOLUTION #3 – TO AMEND THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION CONSTITUTION TO REFLECT THE RED RIVER MÉTIS SELF-GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION AND IMPLEMENTATION TREATY

MMF Legal Counsel advised that the resolution would not take effect until the effective date of the Treaty. The resolution was read into the record. It was noted that the resolution had been Moved by Minister Judy Mayer and Seconded by Minister Andrew Carrier, both of whom were in attendance and confirmed their approval.

Discussion

During discussion, the following Questions/Comments (Q/C) were offered and *Responses (R)* provided:

Q/C: Why are we leaving the language of “associate members” in the MMF Constitution?

R: This is language that will be reviewed at a later date. The changes presented today are consequential of the ratification of the Treaty.

RESOLUTION 03-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Judy Mayer) and SECONDED (Minister Andrew Carrier)

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 recognized the MMF as the pre-existing democratic representative government of the Red River Métis, which has the responsibility of providing responsible and accountable self-government to its Citizens;

AND WHEREAS the MMSGRIA recognized that the Red River Métis have an existing constitution titled the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution (“MMF Constitution”) which includes By-Law No. 1, the Election By-Law (By-Law No. 2), and the Local By-Law (By-Law No. 3);

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

AND WHEREAS the Red River Métis anticipates entering into the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the “Treaty”), which is to be ratified by the Red River Métis at an Extraordinary General Assembly and by the Parliament of Canada by federal implementation legislation;

AND WHEREAS the MMF Constitution will require changes to reflect the Treaty;

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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- ∞ Affirms that the MMF Constitution is the Constitution of the Red River Métis as developed by the people, subject to the following amendments which will take effect on the Effective Date of the Treaty:
- ∞ The title of the MMF Constitution which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution”, is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: **“Manitoba Métis Federation Constitution”**.
- ∞ The Preamble in its entirety is hereby deleted, and the following is therefore substituted:

“WHEREAS the Red River Métis is one of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada referred to in section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*; WHEREAS the Red River Métis emerged from, and lived in, the historic Northwest, and this territory is referred to today as the Red River Métis Homeland; WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Federation is the democratic and self-governing representative body of the Red River Métis; and WHEREAS the Red River Métis comprises Citizens, settlements also known as local communities, and traditional territories, and is defined by a common identity, culture, language, history and, among other things, social and kinship relationships;”.
- ∞ The title of By-Law No. 1 which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution, By-Law No. 1”, is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: **“Part 1 – General”**. All references throughout the Constitution to By-Law No. 1 will be amended to reflect this change.
- ∞ The title of By-Law No.2 which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Election By-Law, By-Law No. 2” is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: **“Part 2 – Elections”**. All references throughout the Constitution to By-Law No. 2 will be amended to reflect this change.
- ∞ The title of By-Law No.3 which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Local By-Law, By-Law No. 3” is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: **“Part 3 – Locals”**. All references throughout the Constitution to By-Law No. 3 will be amended to reflect this change.
- ∞ Throughout the MMF Constitution, the words “by-law” and “by-laws” wherever they appear are replaced with the word “Constitution”, except as follows:
 - o Part I – General, Article IV, subsection 4(a), where it is replaced with the words “Red River Métis laws”;
 - o Part I – General, Article XIII, subsection 2(e), where it is replaced with the words “parts of this Constitution”;
 - o Throughout where there is reference to the Constitution and the by-laws or a by-law of the MMF, the reference to by-law(s) will be deleted; and
 - o iv. Throughout Part 2 – Elections where the words “this by-law” have been replaced with “this Part” other than

in Article II, subsections 6, 7, and 17, and Article XXXI, subsection 2.

- ∞ Part1, Article II in its entirety is hereby deleted, and the following is therefore substituted:

“ARTICLE II FUNDAMENTAL PROVISIONS

- o This Manitoba Métis Federation Constitution (“MMF Constitution” or the “Constitution”) is the supreme law of all Red River Métis laws.
- o In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between this Constitution and the provisions of any Red River Métis law, the Red River Métis law is, to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict, of no force or effect.”.
- ∞ The title of Part 1, Article V which states: “ARTICLE V TERMINATION OF CITIZENSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP” is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: “ARTICLE V DISQUALIFICATION OF CITIZENSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP”.
- ∞ Part 1, Article V, subsection 1, in its entirety is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:

“1. Citizenship or Membership will (1) not be issued to an individual who would otherwise be eligible, or (2) terminate, if they are:

 - (a) enrolled as a citizen or member on the register or list of another Indigenous collectivity, government or Organization – as defined in the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the “Treaty”) – that is recognized by Canada;
 - (b) enrolled as a participant, citizen, or member under any treaty or land claims agreement within the meaning of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, to which the Red River Métis is not a party;
 - (c) included in a Band list or in the Indian Register under the provisions of the *Indian Act*; or
 - (d) included in a register or list of citizens or members of an Indigenous people outside of Canada.”.
- ∞ A new Part 1, Article V, subsection 2 be added as follows:

“2. Part 1, Article V, subsection 1 does not apply if an individual is unable to revoke their participation, citizenship, or membership in another Indigenous collectivity, government, or Organization. The MMF Cabinet will develop regulations to govern the application and implementation of this subsection.
- ∞ A new Part 1, Article V, subsection 3 be added as follows:

“3. Citizenship or Membership will also terminate on the happening of one or more of the following events:

 - (a) Death;
 - (b) It is determined by the MMF that Citizenship or Membership was granted as a result of the Citizen or Member:
- ∞ misrepresenting that they are Métis; or
- ∞ providing false information or documentation related to the application for Citizenship or Membership; or
- ∞ concealing information which was required to be provided to the MMF as part of the application process.”.
- As a result of the new Article V, subsections 2 and 3 being added, the current Article V 2 and 3 be renumbered to 4 and 5.

- Part 1, Article VIII, is amended to add the following sections:

“3. Executive powers of the Red River Métis will be exercised by the MMF Cabinet.

4. The MMF Cabinet has sole jurisdiction over all revenues, assets, expenditures, and liabilities, and the MMF Cabinet will be accountable to the Assembly.”.

- Part 1, Article XIII, section 2(e) be revised to delete “for the regulation of the affairs of the MMF” so that it reads as follows:

“(e) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, Citizens may by resolution of 60% of the Citizens in actual attendance at the AGA make and approve, change, or revoke parts of this Constitution.”.

∞ Part 1, Article XVI be repealed, and replaced with the following new Article XVI:

“ARTICLE XVI LEGISLATIVE POWERS

- “Assembly” means an Annual General Assembly or an Extraordinary General Assembly.

- Subject to this Constitution, Legislative powers of the Red River Métis shall be exercised by the Assembly except as may be delegated by the Assembly from time to time.

- The Assembly may make rules and orders concerning the carrying out of its business and the business of its committees, including the issue of a tie and duration of sittings and meetings.

- The procedures set out in Article XV apply to enactment of legislation as if the proposed legislation were a proposed amendment to the Constitution.

- Legislation is enacted by the Assembly when:

- (a) the legislation has been introduced and considered by the Assembly in accordance with any applicable rules of the Assembly; and
- (b) the legislation has been passed by the Assembly in accordance with any applicable rules, but those rules must require at least a simple majority of attendees at the Assembly who vote on the proposed legislation to vote in favour of the legislation.

- o All Red River Métis laws will be posted in a public registry of Red River Métis laws.

- o A copy of a Red River Métis law deposited at the public registry of Red River Métis laws is conclusive evidence of the provisions of that law.

- o The Assembly may pass resolutions advising the MMF Cabinet of its wishes in respect of the MMF Cabinet’s exercise of executive powers.”.

∞ A new Article XIX is added to the end of Part 1 of the MMF Constitution:

“ARTICLE XIX TRANSITION

∞ On the Effective Date of the Treaty, those MMF Cabinet members, MMF Regional and Local Executives, tribunal and committee members, and MMF officers and appointees will continue to act in those roles until expiry of their current terms in accordance with this Constitution and Red River Métis laws.

∞ The laws of the Red River Métis posted in the Red River Métis Registry of Laws as of the Effective Date of the Treaty continue as the laws of the Red River Métis until amendment, repeal, or replacement in accordance with this Constitution.”.

∞ Part 2, Article II, section 19 is amended to delete the word “seven” so that the paragraph reads as follows:

“19. “Region” – means one of the Regions of the MMF created in accordance with the Constitution of the MMF.”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.4 EGA RESOLUTION #4 – TO ENACT THE RED RIVER MÉTIS FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION ACT

Murray Trachtenberg advised the resolution would be read into the record. Schedule A, *Red River Métis Finance and Administration Act*, distributed with the EGA meeting materials and previously distributed during Treaty consultations, was referenced but not read into the record.

As the Red River government transitioned from the corporation world into true self-government, and in keeping with the MMF’s responsibility to its citizens in terms of providing audited financial statements, the *Red River Métis Finance and Administration Act* would provide the protection of auditors and continuance of the MMF’s financial accountability during the transition.

The resolution was into the record. It was noted the resolution had been Moved by Minister Anita Campbell and Seconded by Minister Denise Thomas, both of whom were in attendance to confirm their approval.

Discussion

During discussion, the following Questions/Comments (Q/C) were offered and Responses (R) provided:

Q/C: When coming out of the Treaty and not under a federal corporations act, will the power to decide the financial reporting procedures be held solely by the MMF President and Cabinet of the day? This could leave the door open to choose substandard reporting procedures and give little authority to the Assembly to balance that power. It seems like we are leaving the financial future up to chance. Why have we not chosen to consider a minimum financial accounting standard in this law and why does it not reaffirm our government to uphold the national standards? Future Red River Métis are deserving of the highest recording standards and not be up to the whim of future government. I will not approve that.

R: *The intent of the Red River Finance and Administration Act is to ensure there is no break in our reporting system or in our accountability with our finances. The MMF has always been accountable to its citizens and this will not change. I am not sure if the speaker is trying to imply that Cabinet never recorded its finances? This Act will ensure that nothing breaks in terms of our reporting. We have always been accountable financially to the Assembly and we will continue to report to the AGA every year. This money does not belong to us, it is for your children and future generations. The MMF Cabinet is not going to benefit from this, you are. The Red River Finance and Administration Act is a start for us to assure we are accountable financially and administratively. The Assembly will approve the money and how it is spent. These last years, we focused on our citizens and what we could provide to them and this will continue for years to come whether it is us or anyone else in the seats of Cabinet.*

Point of Order

Co-Chair Marc LeClair advised the Point of Order put forward by the Delegate would be addressed.

R: The question raised is out of order. I want to be clear and I am not sure how long the speaker has been with the federation, but since I have been president, 26 years, the MMF has always made its financial statements available to the Assembly. The MMF's accountability is next to none. It is good to ask these questions but I hope your question is to make it better and not to find fault. The MMF Constitution states that we have to put our audit on the website and that we have to report it to the Assembly. What we have done with this Act is shown again our responsibility, under the corporation branches there are rules to how financial statements are to be reported. We are leaving a corporation and the MMF had to put an interim system in place in order to not be without any financial rules while we continue to grow. We are taking an entire corporation and throwing it out and must develop new rules and systems. Canada wanted us to get rid of our Constitution and we fought hard to keep it, our people built our Constitution, it is our governing institution. The financial system is interim and it will continue to evolve and grow as we do.

Q/Current Unapproved Market Value (CUMV): I am in favour of the direction we are going but as we are not under the *Canada Corporations Act*, this interim measure does not specifically say we are going to follow internationally accepted accounting principles.

R: When using an external auditor, all powers lie with them to review all financial documents and statements and report their findings. The auditors are an independent external body and they have the right to look at everything.

Point of Order

Co-Chair Marc LeClair advised the delegate's Point of Order had been addressed.

Q/C: Thank you to the MMF government for doing what once seemed impossible and taking us one step closer to realizing the conclusion of the vision of Louis Riel. Our ancestors would be proud of us today, although they may have a slight heartache because we have not heard one word of French spoken. It is a day of joy and pride but I would like for the record to show that someone stood up and raised this and thanked the national government of the Red River Métis in French. Our government tells us that you have our backs and will not give up and I pledge to work with government and with my Local to ensure our language, culture, heritage, and contributions of French speaking Métis are recognized and that French speaking Métis can come out of the darkness into the light. Vive la Métis!

R: Oui, oui! The French speaking Métis are of great importance. Louis Riel fought to defend the French language from the settlers and we defend that still today. We have pushed Canada for support for us to translate all our work into French but so far, they have not assisted us. We submitted another application for over \$3 million to get as many pieces of our website into French as possible. We are continually pushing and making it clear that they have a legal, moral, and political responsibility to our people. The Treaty and the

MMSGRIA will be translated into Michif and also into braille. The government has a fiduciary responsibility to give us resources to put that language back.

Question was called and voting on the resolution proceeded. The resolution was carried with one delegate abstaining from the vote.

Minister Anita Campbell appreciated the discussions and the support for the resolution for the MMF to continue to do the work and be accountable to Red River Métis citizens.

RESOLUTION 04-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister Anita Campbell) and SECONDED (Minister Denise Thomas)

WHEREAS the Red River Métis anticipates entering into the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the "Treaty"), which will be ratified by the Red River Métis at an Extraordinary General Assembly and by the Parliament of Canada by federal implementation legislation;

AND WHEREAS the Treaty will take the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") out of the *Manitoba Corporations Act* such that its rules respecting finance and administration will no longer apply to the MMF;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to ensure that certain rules respecting finance and administration continue to apply to the MMF as the government of the Red River Métis, with such changes as are appropriate for self-government;

AND WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Red River Métis that these rules be set out in the Red River Métis laws;

AND WHEREAS the *MMF Finance and Administration Act* may be revised or expanded as the needs of the Red River Métis evolve over time;

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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

o Adopts and approves the *Red River Métis Finance and Administration Act* as attached hereto as Schedule "A" to become effective on the effective date of the Treaty.

CARRIED
(with one abstention)

8. CONCLUSION

Co-Chair Marc LeClair confirmed that the business of the EGA as outlined in the Notice of the EGA was complete.

Elder Linda St. Cyr - Saric offered a Closing Prayer and expressed gratitude to MMF President and Cabinet for their dedication and effort in realizing the Treaty.

MOTION 07-06-23

It was MOVED (Minister John Fleury) and SECONDED (Ambassador Clément Chartier)

That the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis be now concluded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Time: June 4, 2023 at 1:04 p.m.)

* * *

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly scheduled June 3-4, 2023, and incorporates any and all corrections made at the time of adoption at the General Assembly held _____.

William Goodon, Chair

Marc LeClair, Co-Chair

LIST OF APPENDICES

The following were referenced in the Minutes and are appended accordingly:

Appendix A: List of Acronyms
Appendix B: List of Motions and Resolutions

APPENDIX A – List of Acronyms

Used in the Minutes of the Manitoba Métis Federation Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis held June 3-4, 2023

AGA	Annual General Assembly
CFS	Child and Family Services
EGA	Extraordinary General Assembly
G2G	Government-to-Government
MMF	Manitoba Métis Federation
MMSGRIA	Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
N2N	Nation-to-Nation
SCC	Supreme Court of Canada

APPENDIX B – List of Motions and Resolutions

Resolved at the June 3-4, 2023, Manitoba Métis Federation Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis.

MOTION 01-06-23

To appoint Will Goodon, Chair, Marc LeClair Co-Chair, and David Gray, Virtual Co-Chair for the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis.

MOTION 02-06-23

To accept the Agenda for the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly as presented.

MOTION 03-06-23

That the Rules of Order for the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly be approved as presented.

MOTION 04-06-23

That the Minutes of the October 22-24, 2022, Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly be approved as presented.

MOTION 05-06-23

That Motion EGA-04-06-23 be suspended as a Special Order and that the Minutes of the October 22-24, 2022, Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) Annual General Assembly (AGA) be postponed until the September 15-17, 2023, MMF AGA.

RESOLUTION 01-06-23

WHEREAS the Red River Métis is a distinct Indigenous people which was historically known, and continues to be known as the Red River Métis – a vibrant Indigenous collectivity that was established with its own identity, language, culture, institutions, and way of life centered in the Red River Valley and expanding throughout the historic Northwest, and whose citizens and individuals entitled to become citizens are today located within what is now Manitoba as well as elsewhere inside and outside of Canada;

AND WHEREAS for over two centuries the Red River Métis has exercised its rights of self-determination and self-government, and protected its rights and its identity with the 1816 Victory of the Frog Plain / la Victoire de la Grenouillère, the 1816 unveiling of the Red River Métis Flag, the 1849 Sayer Trial, the 1869 Red River Resistance, the 1885 Battle of Batoche, and in recent times, several court decisions including the Supreme Court of Canada's 2013 decision in *MMF v Canada*;

AND WHEREAS in 1870 the Red River Métis, under the leadership of Louis Riel, became the Founder of Manitoba and Canada's Negotiating Partner in Confederation and, after governing our province peacefully, they then faced a Reign of Terror resulting in many Red River Métis dispersing throughout our Homeland, and beyond, in search of peace and security;

AND WHEREAS the Red River Métis has the inherent right to self-determination and self-government that is recognized, affirmed, and protected by sections 25 and 35 of Canada's *Constitution Act, 1982* that includes jurisdiction and law-making authority;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Federation ("MMF") is the representative self-government of the Red River Métis, which is a modern-day version of governance that has been growing for over two hundred years from roots deep in the late 1700s and early 1800s at the beginnings of *la nouvelle nation*;

AND WHEREAS the MMF is the Government of the Red River Métis, and is mandated to deal with all rights, freedoms, interests, or claims protected by sections 25 and 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* that Red River Métis Citizens collectively hold, including, but not limited to, the right to Crown consultation and accommodation, and the rights of self-determination and self-government;

AND WHEREAS the Governments of Canada and Manitoba historically required the MMF to incorporate in order to establish inter-governmental relationships with the MMF as the valid representative of the Self-Governing Red River Métis;

AND WHEREAS the MMF Assembly, both the Annual General Assembly and Extraordinary General Assembly, are an integral part of the Red River Métis government structure and process;

AND WHEREAS in 2013 *MMF v Canada*, the Supreme Court of Canada recognized that the Red River Métis section 31 *Manitoba Act* claim was a “collective claim for declaratory relief for the purposes of reconciliation between the descendants of the Métis people of the Red River Valley and Canada” and, under the leadership of President David Chartrand, granted the MMF standing by concluding “[t]his collective claim merits allowing the body representing the collective Métis interest to come before the court”;

AND WHEREAS the MMF represents Red River Métis Citizens, a community not bound or defined by provincial or international boundaries, and the MMF is advancing the collective claim of the Red River Métis, further to the declaration of the Supreme Court of Canada in *MMF v Canada*;

AND WHEREAS on July 19, 2019, the MMF Cabinet unanimously passed the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Declaration Resolution*, which affirmed and declared our right of self-determination and our exercise of self-government, acknowledging that our roots are in Winnipeg, Manitoba – the Heart of our Red River Métis Homeland;

AND WHEREAS on September 22, 2019, the MMF Annual General Assembly endorsed the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Declaration Resolution* passed by the MMF Cabinet on July 19, 2019, affirming and declaring our right of self-determination and our exercise of self-government (the “Declaration”), and directed the MMF President and Cabinet to take all necessary actions to fully implement the Declaration which involves the conclusion of a constitutionally protected treaty;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the Declaration and direction received, the MMF and Canada signed the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement* (“MMSGRIA”) on July 6, 2021, which immediately recognized the MMF as the existing democratic self-government of the Red River Métis;

AND WHEREAS in the MMSGRIA, the MMF and Canada committed to continue to negotiate to conclude a constitutionally protected treaty;

AND WHEREAS the MMF and Canada have completed the draft *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the “Treaty”), which is to be ratified by the Red River Métis, following which the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations will recommend Implementation Legislation to Parliament to ratify and give the force of law to the Treaty, to ensure that it is a treaty within the meaning of sections 25 and 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*;

AND WHEREAS the MMF has held Treaty Consultation and Engagement meetings with Red River Métis Regions, Locals, and Citizens in advance of this ratification vote;

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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THIS MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

o Approves, adopts, and hereby ratifies the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* dated May 30, 2023, in the form presented at this Assembly and attached to this Resolution.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

o The MMF President is hereby authorized and directed to sign the final version of the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty*, and to accept changes from the version dated May 30, 2023 necessary to complete the Treaty, including the translation of a French language version, provided that such changes do not substantially change the provisions of the Treaty from those in the version attached to this Resolution.

RESOLUTION 02-06-23

WHEREAS the Red River Métis anticipates entering into the *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty*, which is to be ratified by the Red River Métis at an Extraordinary General Assembly and by the Canadian Parliament by Federal Implementation Legislation;

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

AND WHEREAS the MMF Inc. is governed by existing by-laws titled the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution (“MMF Constitution”) which includes By-Law No. 1, the Election By-Law (By-Law No. 2), and the Local By-Law (By-Law No. 3);

AND WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Red River Métis that MMF Inc. be continued into the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*, SC 2009 c 23, (the “Federal NFP Act”) under section 211 to facilitate the transfer of assets from MMF Inc. to the Red River Métis;

AND WHEREAS the MMF Constitution, as amended, will continue to constitute the by-laws of MMF Inc. under the Federal NFP Act, which is anticipated to be temporary pending the completion of the Treaty and the transfer of assets 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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE VOTING MEMBERS OF THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION INC., THAT THIS MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- o Directs and authorizes the MMF Cabinet take all necessary steps pursuant to section 182 of the *Manitoba Corporations Act* to continue MMF Inc. into the Federal NFP Act.
- o Approves the Articles of Continuance in the form attached to this Resolution.
- o Directs and authorizes the MMF Cabinet, for and on behalf of MMF Inc., to do any and all acts and execute such documents as may be necessary or desirable to carry out and give effect to the continuance of MMF Inc., the execution of any such document or the doing of any such other act being conclusive evidence of such determination.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- o The MMF Constitution is hereby affirmed as the by-laws of the MMF Inc.
- o The following amendment to the MMF Constitution be enacted effective as of the date of the continuance into the *Federal NFP Act*:

Article II, subsection 4(d) of the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution, By-Law No. 1 be revised to replace “The Corporations Act” with “the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*”, so that it reads as follows:

““Citizens” and “Members” described in Articles IV 4(a) and 4(b) are the members of the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. as referred to in the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*; and”.

MOTION 06-06-23

That Resolution of the Manitoba Métis Federation Extraordinary General Assembly June 3-4, 2023 To Continue Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. into the *Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act* and Resulting Constitutional Amendment be amended to insert the word “substantially” in the sixth Whereas statement to read, “Whereas a resolution in substantially the same form...”.

RESOLUTION 03-06-23

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 recognized the MMF as the pre-existing democratic representative government of the Red River Métis, which has the responsibility of providing responsible and accountable self-government to its Citizens;

AND WHEREAS the MMSGRIA recognized that the Red River Métis have an existing constitution titled the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution (“MMF Constitution”) which includes By-Law No. 1, the Election By-Law (By-Law No. 2), and the Local By-Law (By-Law No. 3);

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

AND WHEREAS the Red River Métis anticipates entering into the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the “Treaty”), which is to be ratified by

the Red River Métis at an Extraordinary General Assembly and by the Parliament of Canada by federal implementation legislation;

AND WHEREAS the MMF Constitution will require changes to reflect the Treaty;

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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

∞ Affirms that the MMF Constitution is the Constitution of the Red River Métis as developed by the people, subject to the following amendments which will take effect on the Effective Date of the Treaty:

o The title of the MMF Constitution which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution”, is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: “**Manitoba Métis Federation Constitution**”.

o The Preamble in its entirety is hereby deleted, and the following is therefore substituted:

“WHEREAS the Red River Métis is one of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada referred to in section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982; WHEREAS the Red River Métis emerged from, and lived in, the historic Northwest, and this territory is referred to today as the Red River Métis Homeland; WHEREAS the Manitoba Métis Federation is the democratic and self-governing representative body of the Red River Métis; and WHEREAS the Red River Métis comprises Citizens, settlements also known as local communities, and traditional territories, and is defined by a common identity, culture, language, history and, among other things, social and kinship relationships;”.

o The title of By-Law No. 1 which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Constitution, By-Law No. 1”, is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: “**Part 1 – General**”. All references throughout the Constitution to By-Law No. 1 will be amended to reflect this change.

o The title of By-Law No.2 which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Election By-Law, By-Law No. 2” is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: “**Part 2 – Elections**”. All references throughout the Constitution to By-Law No. 2 will be amended to reflect this change.

o The title of By-Law No.3 which states: “Manitoba Métis Federation and the Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. Local By-Law, By-Law No. 3” is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: “**Part 3 – Locals**”. All references throughout the Constitution to By-Law No. 3 will be amended to reflect this change.

o Throughout the MMF Constitution, the words “by-law” and “by-laws” wherever they appear are replaced with the word “Constitution”, except as follows:

- Part I – General, Article IV, subsection 4(a), where it is replaced with the words "Red River Métis laws";
- Part I – General, Article XIII, subsection 2(e), where it is replaced with the words "parts of this Constitution";
- Throughout where there is reference to the Constitution and the by-laws or a by-law of the MMF, the reference to by-law(s) will be deleted; and
- Throughout Part 2 – Elections where the words "this by-law" have been replaced with "this Part" other than in Article II, subsections 6, 7, and 17, and Article XXXI, subsection 2.

6 Part I, Article II in its entirety is hereby deleted, and the following is therefore substituted:

"ARTICLE II FUNDAMENTAL PROVISIONS"

- o This Manitoba Métis Federation Constitution ("MMF Constitution" or the "Constitution") is the supreme law of all Red River Métis laws.
- o In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between this Constitution and the provisions of any Red River Métis law, the Red River Métis law is, to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict, of no force or effect."
- o The title of Part 1, Article V which states: "ARTICLE V TERMINATION OF CITIZENSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP" is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted: "ARTICLE V DISQUALIFICATION OF CITIZENSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP".
- o Part 1, Article V, subsection 1, in its entirety is hereby deleted and the following is therefore substituted:

"1. Citizenship or Membership will (1) not be issued to an individual who would otherwise be eligible, or (2) terminate, if they are:

- (a) enrolled as a citizen or member on the register or list of another Indigenous collectivity, government or Organization – as defined in the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the "Treaty") – that is recognized by Canada;
- (b) enrolled as a participant, citizen, or member under any treaty or land claims agreement within the meaning of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, to which the Red River Métis is not a party;
- (c) included in a Band list or in the Indian Register under the provisions of the *Indian Act*; or
- (d) included in a register or list of citizens or members of an Indigenous people outside of Canada."

o A new Part 1, Article V, subsection 2 be added as follows:

"2. Part 1, Article V, subsection 1 does not apply if an individual is unable to revoke their participation, citizenship, or membership in another Indigenous collectivity, government, or Organization. The MMF Cabinet will develop regulations to govern the application and implementation of this subsection.

o A new Part 1, Article V, subsection 3 be added as follows:

"3. Citizenship or Membership will also terminate on the happening of one or more of the following events:

- (a) Death;
- (b) It is determined by the MMF that Citizenship or Membership was granted as a result of the Citizen or Member:
 - o misrepresenting that they are Métis; or

o providing false information or documentation related to the application for Citizenship or Membership; or

o concealing information which was required to be provided to the MMF as part of the application process."

o As a result of the new Article V, subsections 2 and 3 being added, the current Article V 2 and 3 be renumbered to 4 and 5.

o Part 1, Article VIII, is amended to add the following sections:

"3. Executive powers of the Red River Métis will be exercised by the MMF Cabinet.

4. The MMF Cabinet has sole jurisdiction over all revenues, assets, expenditures, and liabilities, and the MMF Cabinet will be accountable to the Assembly."

o Part 1, Article XIII, section 2(e) be revised to delete "for the regulation of the affairs of the MMF" so that it reads as follows:

"(e) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, Citizens may by resolution of 60% of the Citizens in actual attendance at the AGA make and approve, change, or revoke parts of this Constitution."

o Part I, Article XVI be repealed, and replaced with the following new Article XVI:

"ARTICLE XVI LEGISLATIVE POWERS"

- "Assembly" means an Annual General Assembly or an Extraordinary General Assembly.
- Subject to this Constitution, Legislative powers of the Red River Métis shall be exercised by the Assembly except as may be delegated by the Assembly from time to time.
- The Assembly may make rules and orders concerning the carrying out of its business and the business of its committees, including the issue of a tie and duration of sittings and meetings.
- The procedures set out in Article XV apply to enactment of legislation as if the proposed legislation were a proposed amendment to the Constitution.
- Legislation is enacted by the Assembly when:

(a) the legislation has been introduced and considered by the Assembly in accordance with any applicable rules of the Assembly; and

(b) the legislation has been passed by the Assembly in accordance with any applicable rules, but those rules must require at least a simple majority of attendees at the Assembly who vote on the proposed legislation to vote in favour of the legislation.

o All Red River Métis laws will be posted in a public registry of Red River Métis laws.

o A copy of a Red River Métis law deposited at the public registry of Red River Métis laws is conclusive evidence of the provisions of that law.

o The Assembly may pass resolutions advising the MMF Cabinet of its wishes in respect of the MMF Cabinet's exercise of executive powers."

o A new Article XIX is added to the end of Part 1 of the MMF Constitution:

"ARTICLE XIX TRANSITION"

o On the Effective Date of the Treaty, those MMF Cabinet members, MMF Regional and Local Executives, tribunal and committee members, and MMF officers

and appointees will continue to act in those roles until expiry of their current terms in accordance with this Constitution and Red River Métis laws.

- o The laws of the Red River Métis posted in the Red River Métis Registry of Laws as of the Effective Date of the Treaty continue as the laws of the Red River Métis until amendment, repeal, or replacement in accordance with this Constitution.”.

- a. Part 2, Article II, section 19 is amended to delete the word “seven” so that the paragraph reads as follows:

“19. “Region” – means one of the Regions of the MMF created in accordance with the Constitution of the MMF.”.

RESOLUTION 04-06-23

WHEREAS the Red River Métis anticipates entering into the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty* (the “Treaty”), which will be ratified by the Red River Métis at an Extraordinary General Assembly and by the Parliament of Canada by federal implementation legislation;

AND WHEREAS the Treaty will take the Manitoba Métis Federation (“MMF”) out of the *Manitoba Corporations Act* such that its rules respecting finance and administration will no longer apply to the MMF;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to ensure that certain rules respecting finance and administration continue to apply to the MMF as the government of the Red River Métis, with such changes as are appropriate for self-government;

AND WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the Red River Métis that these rules be set out in the Red River Métis laws;

AND WHEREAS the *MMF Finance and Administration Act* may be revised or expanded as the needs of the Red River Métis evolve over time;

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 27, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- ∞ Adopts and approves the *Red River Métis Finance and Administration Act* as attached hereto as Schedule “A” to become effective on the effective date of the Treaty.

MOTION 07-06-23

That the Manitoba Metis Federation June 3-4, 2023, Extraordinary General Assembly of the Red River Métis be now concluded.



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 previously revitalized in 2020 and has flourished since the appointment of the Minister of Agriculture David Beaudin in spring 2021, and now includes an Agriculture Coordinator, Food Security Coordinator, and two Agricultural Specialists.

The 2022-2023 fiscal year achieved significant progress towards the expansion of the Agriculture Portfolio by prioritizing core development centred on:

- ∞ Programming for Métis agricultural producers;
- ∞ Support for all Citizens towards achieving Métis food security;
- ∞ Addressing the driving economic and social barriers causing food insecurity;
- ∞ Supporting the sustainable management of lands and waters being threatened by a changing climate;
- ∞ Successfully received funding to expand capacity and support Red River Métis Citizens;
- ∞ Expanded technical staff to assist with portfolio initiatives; and
- ∞ Continuing to expand database of Red River Métis agricultural producers.

Red River Métis On-Farm Climate Action Program

The MMF secured \$7.2 million in funding through Agricultural Climate Solutions: On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF), administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. This two-year program provides Red River Métis agricultural producers

across the National Homeland with funding of up to \$75,000 to implement eligible on-farm beneficial management practices (BMPs). Eligible BMPs focus on three categories: nitrogen management, cover cropping, and rotational grazing.

For more information on this program, and to apply, please use the link to MMF's Agriculture website located on page two.

Food Security Initiative

Your Red River Métis Government has committed to establishing a network of food security greenhouses, community gardens, and edible forests across the National Homeland to help tackle food insecurity – a direct impact of climate change. In other words, providing fresh and healthy produce to Métis Citizens. The greenhouses, community gardens, and edible forests will flourish a variety of traditional fruit, vegetables, and herbs for the unrepresented Red River Métis Nation. The initiative will also focus on traditional practices, knowledge, and education to Youth, creating an intergenerational learning experience. This will include various workshops, events, markets, and more to create community inclusion and involvement for generations to come.

The MMF secured an initial \$500,000 in funding through Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF), administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, \$25,000 in funding through Farm Credit Canada, and \$85,000 from Enbridge Enterprises, towards the Food Security Initiative.

In 2023, greenhouses have been constructed and produce is growing in the greenhouses for harvest in late 2023.



The MMF announced historic funding for the On-Farm Climate Action Program and Local Food Infrastructure Fund.

Bison

Since May 2020, the MMF's EIRM Department has partnered with Iron Head Bison Ranch to provide professional care for the MMF-owned bison herd. Iron Head Bison Ranch is a 100% Métis-owned business located near Richer, MB.

The MMF bison herd consists of 15 bison, including 11 cows (female) and four calves. Newborn calves born in 2023 will continue to grow the size of our herd.

The MMF continued to look at ways to utilize the MMF herd for traditional food distribution to Elders and Citizens in need, as well as educational, economic, and, most recently, research opportunities.

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 3,000-lbs of bison meat was made available.

In 2023, The MMF's EIRM Department received funding through the Indigenous Peoples Resilience Fund, and a total of 3,000-lbs of bison ground meat was again purchased from Métis bison ranchers and distributed equitably to Métis Elders and Citizens in need throughout each MMF Region.

Additional meat distributions including bison and beef are currently being considered for late 2023 or early 2024.

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 continues to remain under significant stress.

Previous amendments to the Agricultural Crown Lands Leases and Permits Regulation, and the *Crown Land Dispositions Act*, continue to cause severe hardship for many Métis Crown Land Leaseholders. As a result, the MMF continues to connect with our Métis farmers and ranchers to address the impacts associated with the amendments to the Crown Lands Leasing Program.



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 employs Métis Youth in summertime to care for the garden, which focuses on planting, maintaining, and harvesting dozens of heirloom varieties to then distribute among Citizens in need.

In 2022, over 1,000 pounds of fresh produce was distributed to Elders and Citizens in need. In 2023, Métis Youth were employed to care for the garden. The MMF looks forward to distributing a large quantity of produce to Elders and Citizens in need, as well as demonstrating traditional Métis agricultural practices for public and research considerations.



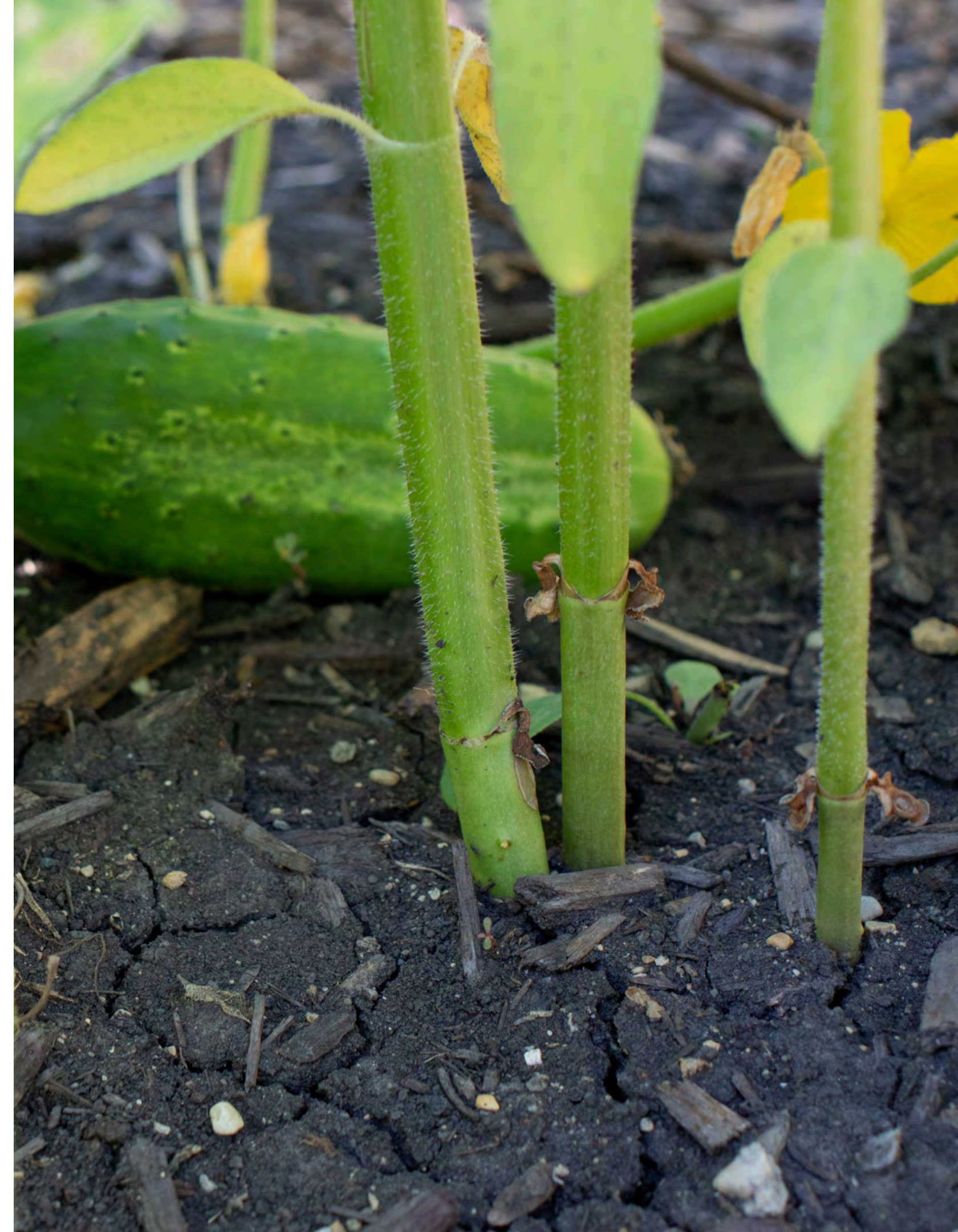
At-Home Garden Project

The MMF announced an At-Home Garden Project, which will assist in further tackling food insecurity across the National Homeland of the Red River Métis by providing garden boxes to Citizens. The initiative is now accepting applications from Red River Métis Citizens and the application can be found on the MMF website.

The initiative has received a large quantity of applications and is preparing to distribute the garden boxes for the 2024 growing season.

For questions concerning the Agriculture Portfolio, please use the following link to contact technical staff:

<https://www.mmf.mb.ca/agriculture>





Central Registry Office

Central Registry Office

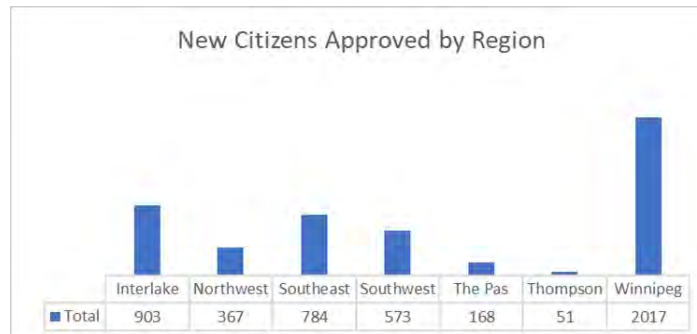


Leah LaPlante
Minister

The Central Registry Office (CRO) has been busier than ever during this fiscal year, with increased interest from our Beyond Borders Citizens living outside of Manitoba. The CRO has worked hard to meet all of the demand, especially with the June 2023 Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) occurring. The CRO recognizes we are at an incredibly important time in our Métis history, and more Red River Métis people want to participate by obtaining their Citizenship. The CRO takes this responsibility seriously and are honoured to do the work we do for our Métis Citizens.

2022-23 Citizen Application Stats

- ∞ Approved New Applications: 4,863
- ∞ Approved New Male Citizens: 2,301
- ∞ Approved New Female Citizens: 2,550
- ∞ Approved New Non-Binary Citizens: 12
- ∞ Approved New Youth: 1,496
- ∞ Approved New Adults: 3,367
- ∞ Approved New Harvesters: 2,860
- ∞ Approved New Citizens Living Outside of Manitoba: 600
- ∞ Total Approved Citizens: 47,374
- ∞ Total Approved Harvesters: 27,203



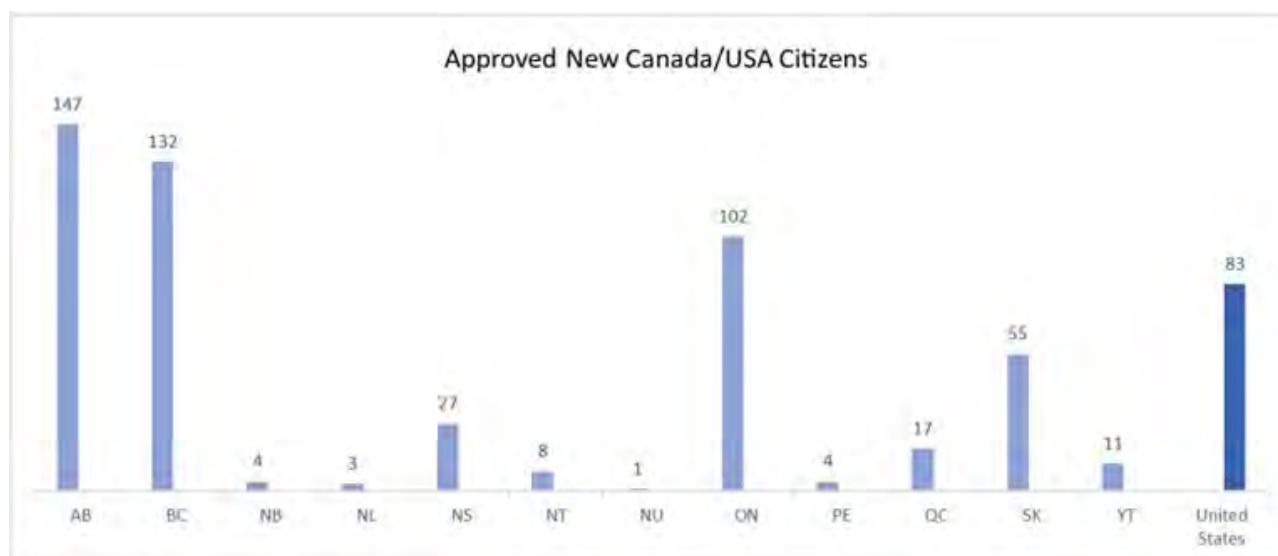
The Hub Database

Current Status

Over the past few years, the CRO has dedicated focused work on increasing data management capabilities and providing more online resources for Citizens. Since the new Citizenship Database was implemented in January 2022, it has proven to be successful in enhancing our ability to process applications. By the end of 2022, the CRO processed 4,764 applications, which is the highest amount ever processed by CRO in a year. By the end of March 2023, CRO is already on track to surpass that number of applications for the 2023 calendar year. As we continue to enhance our technological capabilities, the CRO will be better equipped to meet increased workload demands.

Upcoming

As part of the 2023 EGA, the CRO has been working with the MMF's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) to implement card scanning capabilities. When registered Citizens arrive at a meeting and present their Métis Citizenship card, the barcode on the card can be scanned by staff. The barcode opens an electronic profile for the Citizen that records their attendance at the meeting and receiving their voting ballot. These tools will provide more sophisticated and accurate methods to ensure that only registered Métis Citizens are entitled to participate in voting activities.



Since the beginning of 2023, the CRO has also started to meet with other MMF departments to discuss initiatives where we can work together on efficient data management strategies to better serve Citizens. The CRO has been working closely with the MMF Housing Department to assist with enhanced data management and Citizenship verification. This initiative is part of a larger work plan to have MMF departments access an internal global database that can be used to provide enhanced service to Citizens. As part of our larger strategic planning, the CRO is also working with internal departments and leadership to develop a Citizen portal where our Citizens can access their personal profiles to make applications for different MMF services, update contact information, and receive current news.

Beyond Borders Citizenship

During Summer of 2022, CRO staff were invited to travel with the MMF Beyond Borders team to conduct consultation meetings across the Red River Métis Homeland. The Beyond Borders staff travelled to various locations over multiple months to converse with our Métis Citizens who live outside of Manitoba. The CRO was able to connect with many Citizens during these meetings and assist them with Citizenship questions. There was a lot of positive feedback and excitement expressed by the Citizens CRO met, many who expressed gratitude to have their Red River Métis Citizenship card even though they don't live in Manitoba.

The CRO has seen an increased interest from Citizens who live outside Manitoba to apply for a Citizenship card, and in 2022 we saw our highest number of applications from Citizens outside of Manitoba to date. In the start of 2023, this interest has remained consistent, and we are on track to potentially intake even more Citizens from outside of Manitoba than we did in 2022.

2022 MMF Election

The 2022 MMF election occurred in June 2022, and the CRO worked closely with the Chief Electoral Office to implement tools to ensure access to voting. An online application was created for Citizens to verify their names on the voter list, along with information on where their polling location would be. This provides an easy way for Citizens to verify their information and ensure they are registered to vote in an MMF election. Please visit the MMF Election website at <http://mmfelections.ca> for more information about the 2022 election results, or to use the Citizen voter application to verify your Local.

The 2022 MMF election was historic as all positions were filled by acclamation, demonstrating the trust Citizens have in our current Red River Métis Government. As a result, the CRO was not required to perform many of the planned functions of the election voting, such as utilizing our new Citizenship card scanning features. As part of the work done to prepare for the 2022 MMF Election, CRO also produced a Citizen voter scanning application, which allows staff to scan the barcode on a Métis Citizenship card to record attendance and the issuance of a voting ballot. This new tool will be beneficial for future MMF elections, but also for various other meetings.

We are excited to implement these new tools, and Citizens will start experiencing some of these new features during the 2023 Red River Métis Treaty Consultations and Extraordinary General Assembly. CRO looks forward to continuing work on enhanced voting and meeting attendance tools to provide improved experiences for Citizens and staff alike.

Mobile Citizenship Office and Local Support

The CRO was very excited to have our Mobile Citizenship Office (MCO) back out for travel during Summer 2022. The department travelled across Manitoba to various communities to offer Citizenship and Harvester card services. CRO was proud to provide mobile services, and would like to thank MMF Locals for their partnerships. MCO often travels to communities at the request of our hard-working Locals, and CRO is always happy to receive an invitation to provide services at Local meetings and events.

As part of our supports to MMF Regions and Locals, the CRO has also been working on incorporating new communication resources. One example of this is the implementation of providing Local Citizenship lists to Local Executives so they may contact Local members about news and events. CRO recognizes the importance of Citizens receiving updated information about their Local and MMF, and we are working with Regions to ensure this is done securely. The protection of privacy is also incredibly important in the work we do, and the process we have incorporated with Locals ensures that is upheld. We will be continuing work with Regions and Locals to further improve communication resources and provide support for the important work they do.

Another way CRO works with Locals is to administer the MMF's Local Capacity Grant Program. Through this grant, MMF Locals can apply to receive \$5,000 each fiscal year for use toward events and meetings. During the 2022-23 year, the MMF provided 37 Locals that applied for the grant a total of \$128,097.99

Online Harvester Survey and Online Citizenship Application

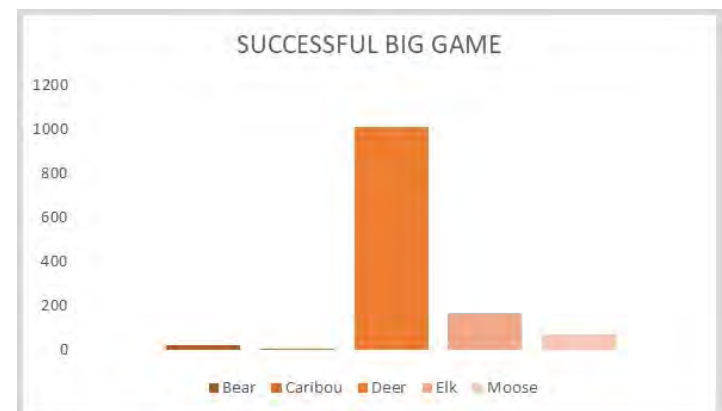
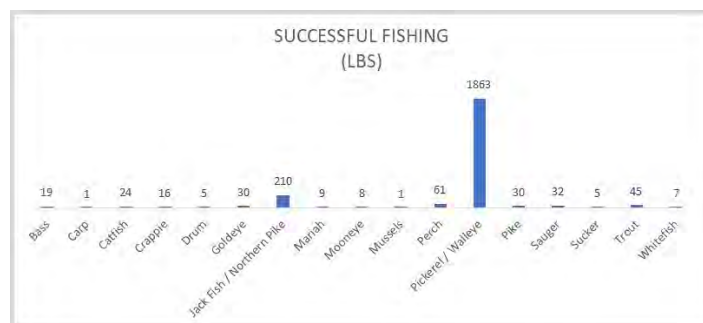
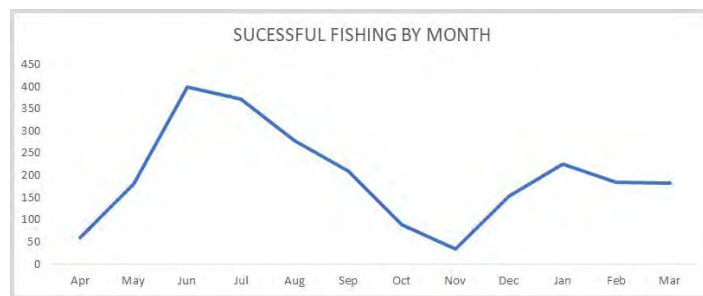
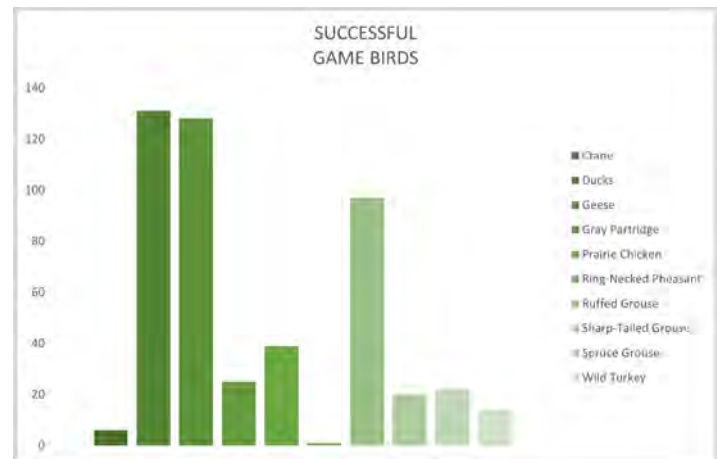
As part of the work CRO is doing to upgrade our electronic systems, we have introduced an online application form and an online Harvester survey. Both tools give Citizens the ease of submitting information from anywhere via an online method. These resources have proven to be very beneficial, and we have seen a great increase in the amount of people using these systems.

The average number of online applications received through the 2022 year was around 65, but we have seen a rise in this number in 2023. During the months of January – March 2023, the average number of online applications was over 100. The online applications received are streamlined directly into our database system queue, which provides easier access for staff to process. We encourage new Canadian citizens to utilize the online application form to apply for citizenship, but our original paper version is still available if preferred.

In June 2022, the CRO was also excited to announce the introduction of our new online Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) sticker & Big Game Tags request form. This new online application allows Harvesters to request, and pay for, their annual CTF sticker and Big Game Tags online. When a Harvester makes a request in this manner, they will receive an email that contains a temporary CTF that can be used immediately. This provides Harvesters the ability to access harvesting, such as fishing or timber, when MMF offices are closed or not available. The Big Game Tags and the physical CTF sticker will then be mailed to the address on file, which alleviates the Harvester from having to come to a Regional Office. The Big Game Tags and the physical CTF sticker can also be held at the applicable Regional Office for pickup if preferred, at the request of the Harvester.

We have also seen a continued increase in the number of completed Harvester surveys with the introduction of the online Harvester survey tool. In the 2022 season, we received a total of 5,551 completed Harvester surveys, which is higher than any previous year recorded. The important data that our Harvesters offer has allowed the CRO to provide more comprehensive reporting, which gives the Red River Métis government the most up-to-date information that is crucial to protect Métis harvesting rights. The CRO would like to remind Harvesters that the annual harvesting survey is mandatory to complete in order to receive a new annual 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 or website.

With the new Harvester 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 2021/22 season:





Communications

Communications

The Communications department is responsible for keeping our Citizens, partners, and the general public informed about the important work being done by the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF). 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, our *Le Métis* newsletter and other print materials, as well as advertising campaigns such as billboards, newspaper ads, and radio and television spots.

To keep up with the increased demand from fellow growing departments, and to expand our content across our platforms, the Communications department has nearly doubled in personnel over the last fiscal year, establishing sectors for Social Media, Writers, Graphic Design, and Website staff.

This past year, the Communications department increased the output of *Citizen Spotlight* and *MMF Spotlight* articles on our website. In addition to our page of ad space, we integrated space for regions to promote their local events in our *Le Métis* newsletter, offered as a print insert in *Grassroots News* and sent digitally to thousands of Citizens. We also acquired the task of writing commercial and *Métis Minute* scripts, airing on CTV. As the distributor of key communications such as press releases and advisories, Letters to Citizens, and special statements, we were also able to expand our reach, with over 9,000 net new contacts, nearly 1,700 of which are located beyond our provincial borders.

Over 219,000 people visited our website at mmf.mb.ca, with top pages including viewing our available jobs, Citizenship application FAQs, news, information for Harvesters, and our Home Enhancement Loan Program. Along with our annual print billboard visible at 17 locations across the province, we designed 23 different digital billboards displayed at 7 locations, including an animated billboard in the Ottawa airport.

We worked hard to keep Citizens up to date on your Red River Métis Government through our social media platforms: Facebook (**@Manitoba Métis Federation**), Instagram (**@manitobametisfederation**), Twitter (**@MBMetis_MMf**), YouTube (**@ManitobaMetisMMF**), LinkedIn (**Manitoba Métis Federation**) and TikTok (**@manitobametisfederation**). Beyond posting content regarding department, affiliate, Region and Local initiatives, and government proceedings, we also had the opportunity to celebrate Citizen accomplishments and cover events live. Citizens were most engaged by videos teaching viewers how to make bannock,

the opportunity to see Red River Métis performers live, exciting announcements like the opening of Fre Maachi, and available programming and services.

Communications supports MMF-hosted and sponsored events by providing photography, videography, as well as livestream, social media, and written coverage. MMF events take our Communications staff across all seven Regions, but this past year, with our Beyond Borders meetings, our Communications staff provided photo and video coverage as far as British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, the Northwest Territories, and the United States.

Here are some of the major events the Communications team supported this past year:

- ∞ Red River Métis pilgrimage to Rome
- ∞ Graduation acknowledgement ceremonies
- ∞ Indigenous Peoples Day in Selkirk
- ∞ Cabinet inauguration
- ∞ Papal visit in Edmonton
- ∞ Coin launch at the Mint
- ∞ Regional Meetings
- ∞ Infinity Women Secretariat Annual General Assembly
- ∞ MMF Annual General Assembly
- ∞ Ribbon cutting and groundbreaking events for Housing, Early Learning Child Care, and other projects
- ∞ Selkirk's Holiday Alley
- ∞ Tree lighting ceremony at Portage and Main
- ∞ Christmas at Portage and Main
- ∞ Treaty consultations

As we look back on a fulfilling year of event coverage, social media and advertising campaigns, and growing our hardworking team, the Communications department aims to continue to expand our sectors, and in turn our content, in the upcoming year.

Citizens can stay engaged through our social media platforms, our website at mmf.mb.ca, our *Le Métis* newsletter, and more. Have a question? Email communications@mmf.mb.ca.



Communications supports MMF-hosted and sponsored events by providing photography, videography, as well as livestream, social media, and written coverage.



COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT
BY THE **NUMBERS**

APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

EMAIL CAMPAIGNS:

9,240 NEW
CONTACTS

1,677 **BEYOND**
BORDERS **WITH**

146

Emails Sent

13,784

Clicks

792,222
Opened

OPEN RATE INCREASED BY 8% SINCE PREVIOUS YEAR



COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT
BY THE **NUMBERS**

APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

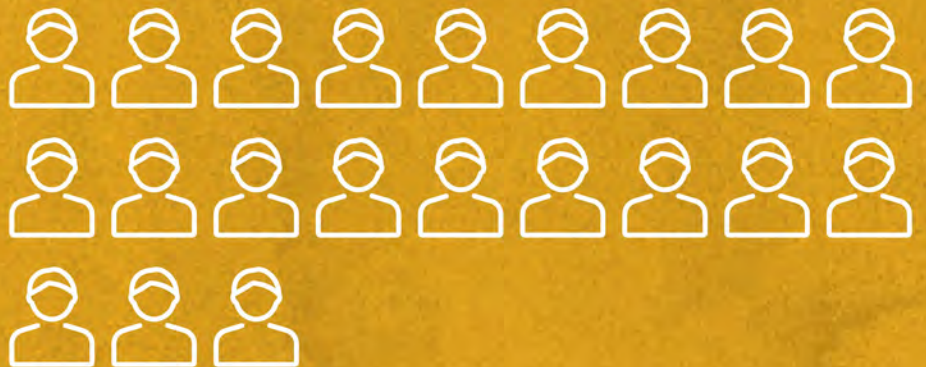
25

Le Metis issues



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Citizen Spotlights



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MMF Spotlights





COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT
BY THE **NUMBERS**

APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023

23

Digital Billboards

On Display In



7

Locations

219,398 WEBSITE VISITORS

40+

**BILLBOARDS
ACROSS THE
RED RIVER METIS
HOMELAND**





Culture & Heritage

Culture & Heritage



Alfred Anderson
Minister

The 2022-2023 fiscal saw the Red River Métis return to their cultural gatherings in full force. With the global pandemic receding, the Culture & Heritage Department began once again planning and participating in events that brought Citizens together to celebrate our shared culture, heritage, and sense of community. Minister Anderson kept busy promoting Métis culture and history in the Interlake Region and beyond, sharing his love for our music, dance, and symbols via the Métis Music Van, parades, and school presentations. While the Culture & Heritage Department only consisted of one to two full-time staff members over the 2022-2023 fiscal year, this small but mighty department supported the Minister's efforts by planning and coordinating events and collaborating with other departments on initiatives that celebrate Red River Métis culture and history.

Events

2022-2023 saw the return of several wonderful in-person events that highlight the unique culture and history of the Red River Métis. The commemoration of the Battle of Seven Oaks once again took place on June 19, 2022. This commemoration marked one of the first times the Métis infinity flag was flown, an important moment in Métis history.

On June 21, 2022, the Manitoba Métis Federation's (MMF) National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration returned to Selkirk with live music, jigging, a pancake breakfast, as well as hamburgers and hot dogs for attendees, and plenty of Red River Métis pride! Minister Anderson has been coordinating this event for 17 years and it is always a popular event, attracting people from all cultures and backgrounds.

Culture & Heritage teamed up with the Ste. Madeleine Métis Local and the South-West Region to put on the Ste. Madeleine Métis Days event, July 15-17, 2022. Ste. Madeleine Métis Days is a weekend-long camp-out that celebrates not only Métis culture but the resilience of the Métis people from that community who were forcibly pushed out of their homes and off the land from 1938 – 1940 to make way for cattle grazing. The event included competitions and games and an impressive roster of musicians and jiggers performing on the main stage.

In August 2022, Culture & Heritage collaborated with Métis Employment & Training (MET) and the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) for the MMF Elder-Youth gathering, which had not been held since 2019. The gathering was held in Selkirk and brought together Youth and Elders from all regions for intergenerational teachings and a celebration of Métis culture.

The commemoration of Louis Riel's death was held on November 16, 2022, at the St. Boniface Cathedral Cemetery and included the participation of the Premier and other dignitaries. After the formal ceremony at Louis Riel's grave, participants gathered at the St. Boniface Museum for refreshments and an opportunity to tour the museum which has an incredible display of Métis history and artifacts.

In November 2022, Culture & Heritage teamed up with LRI and the departments of Early Learning & Child Care and MET to once again enter an MMF float in the annual Santa Claus Parade. This parade is always an excellent opportunity for the MMF to share the joy of the holiday season while showcasing Métis culture.



Minister Anderson was pleased to provide opening remarks at the Festival du Voyageur jigging and fiddling contests in Winnipeg, on February 25 and 26, 2023. This was an excellent opportunity to work with the Manitoba Francophone community as we build positive collaborations to celebrate the historic and contemporary relationships between our two cultures.

Michif Language

In 2022-2023, the Culture & Heritage Department contracted LRI to obtain 20 high-quality language documentation equipment kits for field language documentation in each region. This will allow the Regions to connect with local Michif speakers and capture interviews, information, and teachings via audio and video technology.

Additionally, Culture & Heritage contracted LRI to procure Michif Educational Resource Kits for each Region. The Kits were designed to aid in the teaching, learning, and promotion of the Michif language within local communities. The kits contained a range of educational Michif language resources, including children's books with CD's, interactive tools for all ages, and culturally relevant teaching aids and props. The Michif Word of the Day continues to run on MMF social media as a way to expose Red River Citizens and others to Michif vocabulary. It is anticipated that in the coming years, this initiative will evolve to provide additional context around the words and highlight more regional dialects.

Métis Music Van (MMV)

2022-2023 was a busy year for Minister Anderson's Métis Music Van! The MMV toured the Interlake Region and beyond and was in high demand. The MMV was featured in various parades, community events and festivals as well as graduations and other celebrations. In conjunction with the MMV, Minister Anderson and staff from the Culture & Heritage Department made presentations on Métis culture and history to numerous elementary and junior high school classes throughout the year.

Since its inception during the pandemic, the MMV has become a well-known and essential part of the Culture & Heritage Department's efforts to spread Red River Métis culture, pride, and joy. It has become such an integral initiative within the Interlake Region that in 2022, Minister Anderson and the MMV were featured in a prominent Selkirk mural titled "The Beat Goes On".

Minister Anderson and the Culture & Heritage Department are poised to embark on a path of growth and expansion; building on the successes of 2022-2023 they will continue to promote Métis culture and history through existing initiatives while finding new and exciting opportunities to ensure that the Red River Métis are celebrated for their role in Canada's past, present, and future. The department is exploring the idea of procuring a mobile events trailer that will include tents, tables, chairs, and everything else MMF communities might need to host their cultural events. It is also looking into building a Culture & Heritage float that can be used for parades and other events. For further information or if there are any questions or concerns, please contact Erin McGregor, Director of Culture & Heritage: erin.mcgregor@mmf.mb.ca or **431-334-6882**.







Early Learning & Child Care

Early Learning & Child Care



Frances Chartrand
Minister

The Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Department mandates that all Red River Métis children should be entitled to affordable and accessible ELCC programs and services. Our Métis Government continued to build and grow a strong presence of child care centres within the Red River Métis Homeland with the construction of new centres underway and eight operational child care centre facilities: Michif Children's Place, Li Chi Shevru, partnership with Abinoje Head Start in Duck Bay, Keewatinowi Awasisak Opi-Ki-Wak (KAO) Child Care Centre, Elbert Chartrand Child Care Centre, and Li Pchi Pwayson School Age Child Care Centre, as well as a partnership with Little Stars PLAYhouse.

The department's Licensed Home Child Care Program continued to build momentum as we opened another six Licensed Home Child Care programs this year. We look forward to next year with much expectation.

Providing culturally competent and trained early childhood educators in healthy, equitable, and supportive work environments are the goal of your Red River Métis Government. The department partnered with the Louis Riel Vocational College, Infinity Women Secretariat, Assiniboine Community College, and other reputable non-profit and 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 to assist students with a 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 Red River Métis, the rights to self-determination include the right to control the design, delivery, and administration of an early learning and child care system that reflects our unique needs, priorities, and aspirations. These actions will be met through ongoing child-direct programming, parenting, and community support. The ELCC celebrated our second successful summer of the Early Learning & Child Care Mobile family program. The department looks forward to growing this program next year to reach more families across our Red River Métis Homeland. 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, ELCC will embark on the first Early Learning and Child Care Métis Longitudinal Study. The 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.

As the department continued dealing with COVID-19, community outreach continued with the delivery of our third round of the My Little Métis Box. The box is designed for Métis children between zero to six years of age. The components of the box focus on the 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 Red River 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 culture, Elders, authors, and publishers. The Culture Kits were a way to keep children engaged while sharing our rich Red River Métis culture and language during a tough financial time due to the pandemic.

As ELCC celebrates 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 our Red River Métis Citizens. 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.



BANK OF MONTREAL FOUNDED MDCCCXVII
INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT
ESTABLISHED IN WINNIPEG MDCCCLXXVII
THIS BUILDING ERECTED MDCCCXIII

BANK OF MONTREAL

Economic Development

Economic Development



David Chartrand
President

The Economic Development Department (Economic Development) led, coordinated, and supported economic development initiatives across the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF). The Department worked closely and collaboratively with MMF Policy, and all Departments and Affiliates to advance MMF economic development interests and promote Red River Métis businesses and entrepreneurship.

Economic Development emphasized and supported Red River Métis economic and community development in traditional economies, business development and growth, procurement, major projects, business ventures and partnerships, international trade, as well as in lands and properties and other commercial interests.

Traditional Economies

Economic Development provided direction and support to a variety of activities in traditional economic sectors such as fisheries, forestry, trapping, and the arts. Some examples of activities included ongoing consideration of a multi-year Red River Métis fisheries strategy, assessment of business opportunities in domestic and international fish markets, and the advancement of tree nursery business development.

The Red River Métis Fur Company (RRMF Co.), an MMF affiliated company, held seven regional events buying furs from Red River Métis Citizens for 25% or more over market value to support the livelihood of trappers and reinforce traditional trapping practices. Since its launch in February 2022, the RRMF Co. has bought 2,350 pelts for over \$125,000 from 73 Red River Métis trappers.

ESGS Inc., an MMF affiliated company that operates the Red River Métis Marketplace, continued to support Red River Métis artists and artisans. Since the MMF started its Red River Métis Artists Market Access Initiative in November 2021, ESGS Inc. has bought over \$265,000 in products from 70 Red River Métis artists and artisans. Over \$161,000 worth of these products have been sold and distributed to domestic and international markets.



Business Development and Growth

Economic Development continued to work with the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) in the delivery of supports to Red River Métis-owned businesses and entrepreneurs. The MMF provided input and financial support to updating the Red River Métis Business Directory, a key tool that continues to support Red River Métis business participation in procurement opportunities and contracting.

The Department supported preparations in advance of the transfer of full control of the Métis Economic Development Fund (MEDF) from the Manitoba Government to the MMF. Input and support were provided to help ensure a smooth transition for Red River Métis investee companies as well as for staff. Economic Development equally participated in MEDF-led activities analyzing Red River Métis business and entrepreneur needs and opportunities and examined future program and service options as part of MEDF's transition.

In February 2023, Economic Development collaborated with LRCC and MEDF to conduct the second Red River Métis-owned business survey. Probe Research administered the survey and invited 966 Red River Métis-owned businesses to apply, of which 259 (26.8%) did. Survey results noted that Red River Métis



Since its launch in February 2022, the RRMF Co. has bought 2,350 pelts for over \$125,000 from 73 Red River Métis trappers.

businesses were not recovering from the impacts of the pandemic as well as all Manitoba businesses in terms of being fully opened for business or financially. The survey results also reinforced the need to establish additional collective supports for Red River Métis businesses and entrepreneurs. In response, Economic Development began preparations to create a distinct Red River Métis Business Network.

Procurement and Participation in Major Projects

The MMF continues to apply its Métis Equitable Participation Plan to several of its major capital projects, including the Home Office Energy Efficiency Retrofit Project, the 55+ Housing Development in Selkirk, and other Métis N4 Construction-led projects.

ESGS Inc., as the MMF's procurement lead, continued to maximize its purchases of goods and services from Red River Métis-owned businesses and entrepreneurs. Overall purchase values and the number of purchases continued to grow, contributing to new opportunities and increased revenue for Red River Métis businesses.

Economic Development continued to advance Red River Métis interest in federal procurement and began preparations for increased supports in this area in response to Canada's commitment to a minimum of 5% of its procurement from Indigenous businesses established in August 2021. The MMF continued to coordinate and align activities related to the Canadian Forces' Future Aircrew Training Program, the Royal Canadian Air Force's next 25-year pilot training program to be delivered in our Homeland, specifically in Winnipeg, Southport (Portage la Prairie), and Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.



Economic Development provided input into the objectives of Manitoba's Indigenous Economic Development Fund related to the proposed Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels. In emphasizing the preservation and protection of harvester rights and Red River Métis commercial fisheries, the MMF advocated for a specific Red River Métis set aside and began preparations in anticipation of the fund's launch in 2023-24.

Business Ventures, Partnerships, and Investments

Economic Development continued to assess and evaluate a number of business development, partnership, and investment opportunities to enhance services to Red River Métis as well as to contribute to the long-term sustainability of the MMF. While some business opportunities were assessed as not suitable or viable, several continue in exploratory and evaluation stages. Examples of businesses developments and partnerships that were and/or continue to be under consideration include a tree nursery, data centre, transportation services, recreational services, and a variety of fisheries sector-related businesses.

International Trade

In September 2022, an MMF delegation went to southern California to meet with Native American Tribal leaders as well as with civic and business leaders to discuss Indigenous Nation-to-Nation trade, future partnerships, and economic opportunities. During the trade mission, the MMF was the first Indigenous Nation from Canada to be officially recognized by the City of Los Angeles.

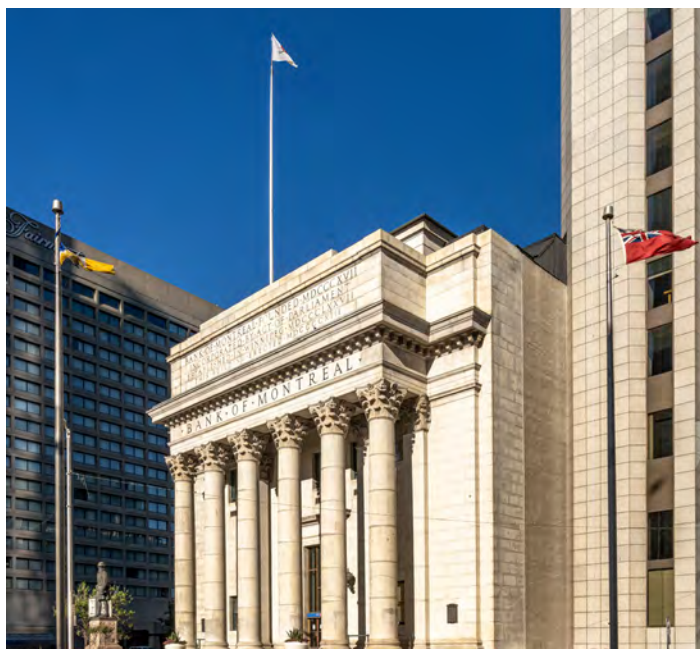
The MMF equally continued to advance its trade and economic relationships with Indigenous tribes and communities in Colombia. Working with Colombian-based Ancestry and Development, the MMF trade delegation met with Indigenous community leaders and attended the World Indigenous Business Forum held in Villavicencio, Colombia in October 2022.

Lands and Properties Portfolio Coordination

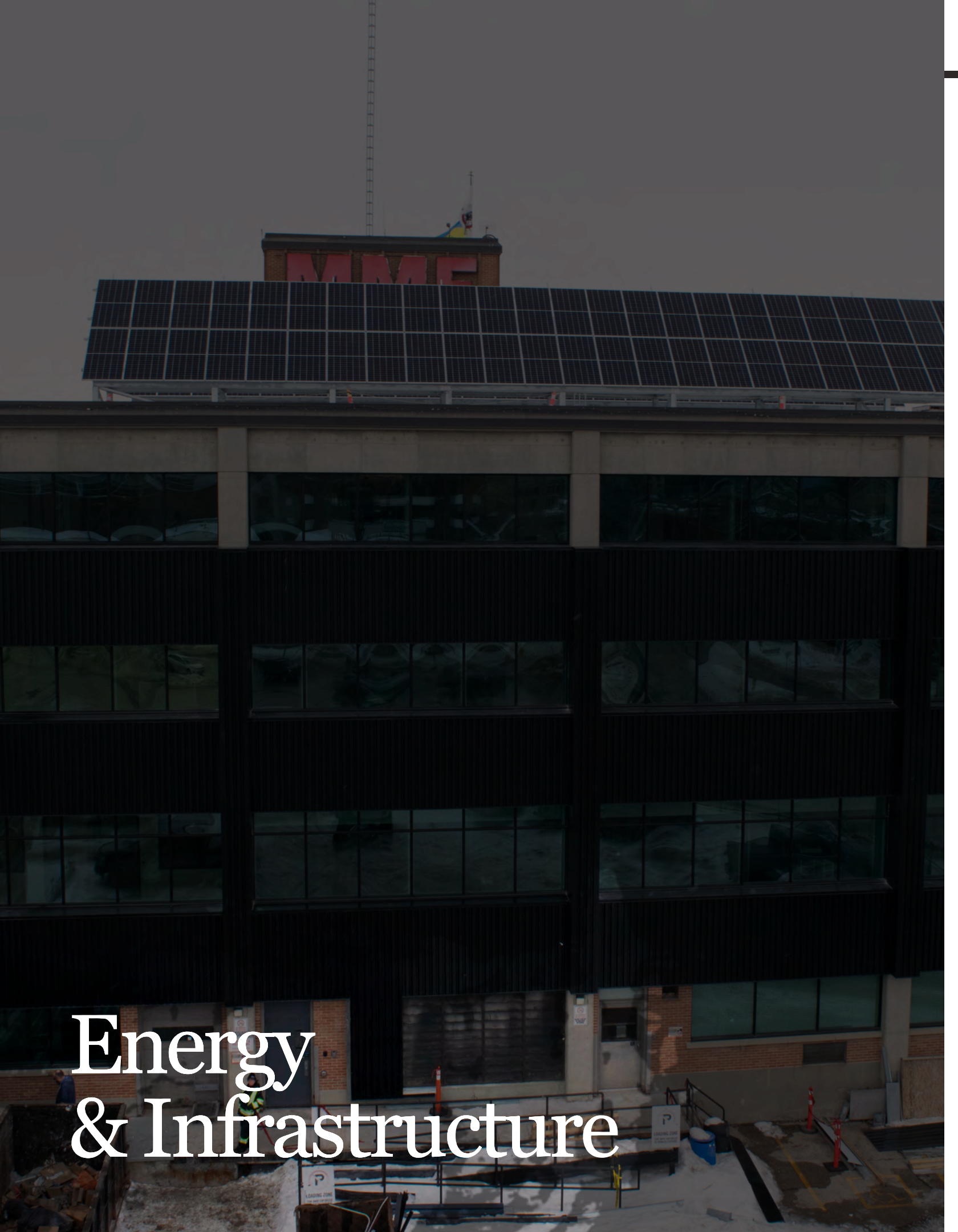
Economic Development – working with MMF Policy, Finance, Housing and Property Management, LRCC, Métis N4 Construction, and others – continued to coordinate and support the planning, acquisition, development, and use of lands and properties owned and operated by the MMF, the Regions, and Affiliates. Some examples of land and property acquisitions in 2022-23 include harvesting lands (Duck Mountains), 205 Eaton (Selkirk), and 509 Harvard (Winnipeg).

Throughout 2022-23, Economic Development worked closely with MMF Finance, Human Resources, Operations, Information Technology, Housing and Property Management, LRCC, and Métis N4 Construction to assess, coordinate, and support capital development and redevelopment on government and commercial properties. Examples of major projects included the Home Office Energy Efficiency Retrofit Project, 335 Main (Winnipeg) Redevelopment, 280 Fort (Winnipeg) Redevelopment, 25-35 Ray Marius (Winnipeg) Warehouse Development, Lake Manitoba Resort Development and Redevelopment, and 1133-1147 Breezy Point (RM of St. Andrews) Redevelopment.

During the construction project at Home Office, Economic Development has also been leading the accommodations planning and coordination for all MMF Departments and Affiliates.







Energy & Infrastructure

Energy & Infrastructure



Jack Park
Minister

The Energy and Infrastructure (E&I) portfolio was created by the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the National Government of the Red River Métis, to protect the rights, claims and interests of our Citizens across the National Homeland. The E&I team manages engagement and consultation requests from a variety of proponents including the Provincial and Federal Government, Manitoba Hydro, SaskPower, and the private sector. The team manages project monitoring activities and actively seeks out new opportunities that benefit our Citizens.

By working in close partnership with other MMF departments such as Métis Employment and Training, Mining, Environment and Climate Change, Natural Resources and Housing, and with affiliates such as Métis N4 Construction, E&I has been able to help usher in new programs such as Métis Energy Efficiency Offers, and infrastructure projects like the home office energy retrofit of 150 Henry Avenue.

E&I works hard to bring about positive change within the engagement and consultation process of proponents. Whether these proponents are federal, provincial, or private, there is a lot of room to improve processes to ensure that Red River Métis are proportionally, appropriately, and sufficiently represented throughout the process. Some of the projects E&I is consulted on include energy projects like generating stations, transmission lines, pipelines, solar, wind, and nuclear power across the Homeland, as well as infrastructure projects such as roads, water treatment plants, bridges, dams, and outlet channels. The MMF is also consulted on small-scale projects such as community-led walking trails, bike paths, and river access points like public docks. An example of a beyond borders initiative is the ongoing engagement with SaskPower for siting of a possible small nuclear reactor in southern Saskatchewan.

The E&I assessment process seeks agreements with proponents that facilitate proper and meaningful engagement and consultation of Red River Métis Citizens. Community meetings are a cornerstone for gathering Citizen feedback, sharing information, and recording possible impacts. When necessary, E&I undertakes project technical reviews that allow the team to understand projects without proponent bias. Red River Métis knowledge, land-use, and occupancy studies use interviews to collect data from harvesters and knowledge holders. All this information is combined into a comprehensive report that Citizens can review and proponents can use to determine appropriate mitigation and compensation plans. As part of the MMF's privacy and information protection policy, all Red River Métis knowledge is gathered anonymously and only used to help further the rights, claims, and interests of Citizens throughout the Homeland.

Monitoring is a crucial component of MMF participation in projects on the ground level. E&I employs Red River Métis construction and environmental monitors as well as heritage specialists like archeologist Ross Boland. Heritage monitoring is crucial to the MMF because it reinforces connections to the past, to the National Homeland, and to the incredible collective history we share as Red River Métis.

After successfully negotiating agreements with the Enbridge Line 3 Replacement Project, the MMF was able to create a joint venture with MN4CI and Steel River Group, which completed decommissioning of the pipeline in fall 2022. The MMF continues 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.

As part of the agreed terms for L3RP, the Canada Energy Regulator created the Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC). 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, and she continues to represent the rights, claims, and interests of the Red River Métis.



The E&I team manages engagement and consultation requests from a variety of proponents including the Provincial and Federal Government, Manitoba Hydro, SaskPower, and the private sector.

E&I is working with Canada to refine consultation and engagement activities to further respect for Red River Métis rights, including mandatory consideration of impacts on rights and culture; engagement and partnership early and throughout the process; mandatory consideration of knowledge and land use; provisions for arrangements with Red River Métis to exercise powers and duties under the legislation; aiming to secure free, prior, and informed consent through processes based on mutual respect and dialogue.

Near Selkirk, Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) has resurfaced the St. Andrews Lock and Dam bridge and added wheelchair accessibility to the bridge walkway at the site. In the spring of 2021, the project uncovered 150-year-old human remains and subsequently engaged an archeological firm. To date they have uncovered thousands of artifacts from the soils of this historically Red River Métis settlement. A monitoring agreement with PSPC allowed E&I to hire a Red River Métis archeologist to work onsite for the duration of the construction phase and to assist with cataloguing artifacts for repatriation.

Manitoba Hydro (MBH) has had several projects in progress through 2022, including the St. Vital Transmission Line, preliminary engagement for the PW75 Pointe du Bois refurbishment of lines and generating station, Wash'ake Mayzoon Station near Portage la Prairie, and ongoing monitoring with the Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project. E&I continues to work closely with MBH through monitoring activities, Citizen engagement sessions, and through negotiations to refine MBH's engagement and consultation process so that it is representative of Red River Métis-specific requirements and properly facilitates the MMF to participate.

E&I completed a Métis traditional knowledge, land use, and occupancy study for the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels project in 2022. The study appropriately considers the potential impacts of the project on our Citizens use the land, water, and resources in and around the project area. At this time, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) refuses to provide the MMF with sufficient funding to meaningfully participate further. E&I will continue to pursue a mutually respectful, government-to-government relationship with MTI.

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.

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, and an assessment of the value components 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, monitor 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 has developed a testing program based on Red River Métis land use and harvesting in the area, which includes traditional foods, medicines, fish, game, and firewood.





Engagement & Consultation

Engagement & Consultation



Denise Thomas
Minister

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 follows Resolution No.8, a mandated “single-window” approach relating 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, Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) regions, locals, and Citizens to ensure any decision or project that may affect collective Métis rights, interests, and claims is addressed in matters related to engagement and consultation with the Red River Métis.

Department Overview

The department is the central point of contact for any project/plan that may impact the rights, interests, and/or claims of the Red River Métis. Consultation and engagement with the Red River Métis Community is vital to ensure Métis rights are protected and any impacts 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 included five distinct phases:

Phase I: Notice and Response;
Phase II: Research and Capacity;
Phase III: Engagement and Consultation;
Phase IV: Partnership and Accommodation; and,
Phase V: Implementation.

Throughout the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the department continued to undertake meaningful engagement and consultation on projects impacting the rights, interests, and/or claims of the Red River Métis. Subject matters included but were not limited

to governance, health, identity, housing, justice, and education. The department worked with various MMF departments, assisting with proposal writing and undertaking engagement and consultation activities. During the first quarter, the department was involved in approximately **370** files. By the last quarter of 2022-23, the department saw a 50%+ increase in notifications and department oversight on tallying **550** active files.

Citizens across the National Homeland should look forward to upcoming consultation and engagement activities over the coming years as the department develops plans for increased awareness, participation, and improvement of the current process for engagement and consultation with the MMF on behalf of the Red River Métis.

Beyond Borders

After years in the making, an agreement with Canada was signed on July 6, 2021, recognizing the MMF as the National Government of the Red River Métis. This agreement ensured that the MMF will continue to provide responsible and accountable self-government on behalf of Red River Métis Citizens.

To receive input, encourage participation, and relay vital information to Citizens outside of Manitoba, the Beyond Borders Task Force was established to engage Red River Métis Citizens at multi-city meetings across the Homeland to discuss MMF programs and services over the summer and into the fall of 2022.

The department played an integral part in assisting the task force with meeting facilitation and administering surveys to Citizens through which several issues were identified. Some of the topics included beyond borders Citizens accessing MMF funds for educational or health purposes, developing cultural programs for adults and Youth, accessibility for Elders, and strengthening



By the last quarter of 2022-23, the department saw a 50%+ increase in notifications and department oversight on tallying 550 active files.

their sense of Métis identity. Citizens indicated that mental health resources and disconnection between families and communities are of significant concerns.

Following the Beyond Borders Task Force meetings, the department assisted with planning 17 Red River Self-Government Treaty Consultations across the Homeland. The first meeting took place in early March 2023. Each consultation provided Citizens with the opportunity to listen to presentations, ask their Métis government questions directly, and take part in a survey facilitated by Probe Research prior to the ratification vote scheduled to take place at the Extraordinary General Assembly on June 3rd & 4th, 2023.

Pekeywaytahihnan nutr zanfaan leur zisprii - We are bringing our children's spirit home Consultation

Many Métis children who went to residential schools never returned home and were buried away from their families in long neglected, often unmarked, graves. On March 24th, 2023, the community meeting took place at the Fort Garry Hotel in Winnipeg to gather input and hear stories from survivors, their families, and those with knowledge of concealed burial grounds. The Engagement and Consultation Department facilitated breakout groups with Citizens from all MMF regions to work on bringing our children's spirit home.

During the breakout sessions, Red River Métis Citizens were asked key questions pertaining to missing Métis children. These questions have never been addressed by the schools, churches, law enforcement, medical practitioners, or comprehensively documented throughout the history of Canada's residential school system. The MMF proposed to answer these questions by implementing a series of initiatives over two years to find our missing children.

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples – Working Towards a Red River Métis Action Plan

The Department worked diligently with the Infinity Women Secretariat this past fall to consult on the *Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP). Compelling presentations were given by MMF Cabinet, leaders, and experts to ignite group discussions with Citizens on advancing Red River Métis rights related but not limited to the following matters:

- Environment, lands, territories and resources;
- Red River Métis languages;
- Education;
- Culture;
- Health;
- Justice;
- 2SLGBTQIA+, women, Elders, youth and children; and,
- The rights of Métis Citizens with disabilities.

The consultation was conducted through focused breakout groups within the associated topic areas. Elders and Youth were given the opportunity to voice their opinions and offer feedback on what should comprise the implementation of a Red River Métis Action Plan.

Overall, the consultations on Implementing UNDRIP were extremely successful, giving the Métis Government opportunities to address the direct needs of Citizens, particularly those who provided feedback on equality & discrimination, health and social development, and culture & education.

National Strategy on Indigenous, Physical Activity, Recreation and Traditional Cultural Practices

In January of 2023, the Engagement and Consultation Department received a notification from the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports & Recreation Council (MASRC) regarding in-person and virtual community-listening sessions to develop a national strategy for Indigenous sport, recreation, physical activity, and traditional cultural practices.

The strategy attempted to drive sustainable change in Canada's sport, physical activity, and health and wellness sectors and is a direct response to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action (No. 87-91) that honour the principles of UNDRIP. Leading the initiative, the Aboriginal Sport Circle (ASC) is "Canada's national voice for Aboriginal Sport, Physical Activity, and Recreation bringing together the interests of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples." The Canadian Heritage Department funds Sport Canada, and in turn, provides funding to ASC and 13 Provincial/Territorial Aboriginal Sport Bodies (PTASBs) for the development of sport-related community projects. MASRC is a PTASB member of ASC.

MASRC informed the department that Red River Métis Citizens had already participated in their "Indigenous community listening sessions" where they directed ASC and MASRC consultants to contact the Engagement and Consultation Department to properly begin the Resolution No. 8 process and subsequent engagement activities. As a result of the department's persistent efforts to correct ASC's engagement process, a review of the strategy's objectives, collection of data, and re-evaluation of the consultation and engagement process is underway.

Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy Consultation

On March 29 & 30, 2023, the MMF Housing and Engagement & Consultation Departments facilitated rewarding consultation meetings with Red River Métis Citizens from across the Homeland at the Fort Garry Hotel in Winnipeg, and virtually, where Citizens provided input on housing needs in their community. An Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous (URN) Housing Strategy is required to meet the housing needs of approximately 80% of Indigenous peoples not currently represented in the National Housing Strategy who do not live on-reserve. Currently, they experience a lack of specific and sufficient federal housing support, and a disproportionate number of Indigenous people, including Red River Métis, are homeless. According to the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association, "the most glaring omission in the 2017 National Housing Strategy and subsequent policy announcements has been the absence of a dedicated urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing strategy."

The consultations were facilitated through presentations providing valuable information and the opportunity to bring culturally appropriate insight into the guiding principles of the strategy and provide crucial input on its implementation. Additional information included Citizens' comment cards, input on missing services and programs, and housing areas that require prioritization, growth, and improvement.

Michif Language Revitalization Consultation

Due to the Michif language's ongoing endangerment, a community consultation regarding its revitalization took place November 6th, 2022 in Thompson. The motivation for facilitating this event stemmed from Michif's unique position as one of the most sparsely spoken Indigenous language and an original creation by the Red River Métis. Working alongside the Culture and Heritage Department, the facilitation of the meeting and the supporting breakout group discussions ensured Citizens enjoyed an accessible and informative consultation. The intention of the data collected from the breakout sessions, surveys, and one-on-one interviews is to inform ongoing Michif revitalization efforts within the MMF and affiliate entities. Initiatives like "Michif Word of the Day" and the creation of a directory of Michif speakers all served to fulfill this objective.

Red River Métis Justice Strategy

The MMF received funding from Justice Canada to support the development of a Red River Métis Justice Strategy. The Engagement and Consultation department partnered with the Métis Justice Institute (MJI) to obtain key information from Elders/Knowledge Keepers.

In reference to the Métis Elders Conference Book, UN Declaration articles, and the Laws of the Harvest, the department's research aimed to address systemic discrimination and the over-representation of Red River Métis in the Canadian justice system. One-on-one interview sessions took place with Elders providing insight into their exposure to the criminal justice system, incarcerated family members, their knowledge of the Laws of the Harvest, and more.

Currently, data is being compiled to ensure there is a Red River Métis specific representation within Canada's Indigenous Justice Strategy. By ensuring that Red River Métis and their interests are meaningfully reflected and federally represented, the department will continue to advance reconciliation as well as culturally appropriate, Métis-led, and community-based justice services.

The City of Winnipeg

Over the last fiscal year, the Department worked to enhance the MMF's relationship with the City of Winnipeg through stakeholder projects and opportunities to showcase Red River Métis interests, culture, and history.

The City's Indigenous Relations Department continued to ensure the MMF and its Citizens are engaged in any strategy, plan, or project being undertaken by the city or its partners. In the fall of 2022, collaboration with the city led to the permanent installation of Red River Métis symbolic items in the council chamber. As this relationship develops, the city continues to be an advocate for Red River Métis rights and recognition.

Land Acknowledgements

The department has been addressing outdated language in many organizations' land acknowledgements to accurately reflect the "National Homeland of the Red River Métis". Despite the signing of the MMF's Self-Government Agreement on July 6, 2021, many have not yet changed the language of their acknowledgment, prompting the drafting of numerous letters to school divisions, entertainment industries, private companies, etc. To date, the department has sent letters to over 80 organizations to update their land acknowledgement, which has resulted in many meaningful discussions and partnerships.





Environment & Climate Change

Environment & Climate Change



JoAnne Remillard
Minister



Peter Fleming
Associate Minister

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 Red River 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 MMF's Energy, Infrastructure & Resource Management Department (EIRM), 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 allocating of funding on this project. Initial objectives have included work on 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 inter-generational relationships between our Elders and Youth, as well as our Youth and Harvesters to provide educational and skill-developing opportunities remain key priorities for this Portfolio.

Métis Youth Boreal Forest Stewardship Program

The MMF's Métis Youth Boreal Forest Stewardship Program (MYBFSP) was funded under a commitment through Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) Indigenous Guardians Pilot Program.



It is imperative the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) works to ensure our environment is protected for ourselves and future generations.

The MYBFSP hosted various Red River Métis consultation meetings throughout 2018-2020. The MMF further consulted with the RRM on specific areas of concern with an Environmental Initiatives Survey throughout 2020-2021. All these consultations lead to the identification of priority areas of the Red River Métis:

1. water quality monitoring,
2. wildlife ecosystem conservation and management,
3. weather monitoring,
4. educational programming,
5. community resiliency,
6. habitat restoration, and
7. clean energy development.

It was not expected that there would be as many noticeable changes to the land already evident within the past 20-30 years. Citizens, Harvesters, Elders, and Youth engaged noted significant changes to the land and waters within their lifetime not only in historic areas of significance, but across the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

The MMF involved Citizens in this program by means of seed collection workshops, tree planting, clean-up initiatives, historic trail maintenance, assistance with a spawning study, and assistance with vegetation analysis in MMF-targeted Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. The MYBFSP also, in conjunction with the Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow and Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring Programs, hosted an annual end-of-year gathering entitled 'Métis Youth Climate Symposium'.

The MYBFSP has clear priorities as a result of the work completed to date and a clear path forward to stewarding the land and waters in the years to come.

Red River Métis Stewards of the Homeland Program

A new funding commitment was secured with ECCC's Indigenous Guardians Program. This will see the transition of the Métis Youth Boreal Forest Stewardship Program (MYBFSP) into the 'Red River Métis Stewards of the Homeland Program (RRM SOHP)'.



RED RIVER MÉTIS
STEWARDS
OF THE
HOMELAND

This program provides land-based education and training opportunities for Métis Youth & Citizens integrating Métis Harvester and Elder knowledge of the land, waters, and ice. This work opens the opportunity for Citizens to:

- ∞ Learn about traditional Red River Métis practices
- ∞ Be equipped with the necessary tools and resources to address climate change impacts
- ∞ Blend traditional knowledge and cultural practices with western science
- ∞ Assist in environmental protection and preservation of the National Homeland of the Red River Métis as Red River Métis (RRM) 'Stewards of the Homeland'.

In conjunction with the above land-based education and training, the program is actively working to conserve, protect, and restore the National Homeland of the Red River Métis through various projects.



Métis Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program

This program is funded through the Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.

The Métis Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program (MCBCM) braids western science with Traditional Knowledge, to collect and monitor climate and environmental changes across the National Homeland. With Red River Métis Citizen Scientists as the primary data collectors, the MMF provides training and equipment for various kinds of environmental monitoring, to ensure capacity building within the Regions and knowledge-sharing opportunities for Métis Citizens. Current programming under the MCBCM Network includes the Wetland, Water Quality, and Winter Monitoring Programs. All monitoring programs use the application *Survey123* for submitting surveys, to make it accessible for all MMF Regions, including those Beyond Borders. This program works closely with the Red River Métis Stewards of the Homeland and Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow to fulfill the objectives outlined in the Mandate Letters for the Environment and Climate Change Minister and Associate Minister. This includes engaging our Red River Métis Citizens on the rapidly changing climate and its impacts on villages and settlements, while promoting climate change education and awareness through land-based education.



Weather Keeper Program

The Weather Keeper Program is in partnership with the Centre for Earth Observation Science at the University of Manitoba, to collect and monitor atmospheric data across the National Homeland. This monitoring network works closely with Red River Métis Citizens and MMF Locals, who live on and/or near waterbodies, to maintain meteorological stations for real-time climate data collection, which is then displayed on the MMF Webpage. Currently, there are weather stations in St. Laurent (Interlake Region) and Dawson Bay (The Pas Region).

This program provides information on land-use changes and variability in weather, along with insight into the local and regional effects of climate change.

Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow (MELT)

Staff from the EIRM Department secured a five-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 the summer of 2022, MELT ran a series of environmental day camps throughout the province. They lasted 3-5 days and Youth took part in a number of activities, including canoeing, fishing, environmental monitoring, species identification, and more. In total, 71 Youth attended MELT camps throughout the summer. In February 2023, MELT was invited to Riverton Collegiate in the Interlake Region to run a Louis Riel Week presentation for Youth from the surrounding area. This presentation saw 64 Youth in attendance.

In partnership with Red River Métis Stewards of the Homeland Program (SOHP) and Métis Community-Based Climate Monitoring (MCBCM) programs, MELT was part of the Métis Youth Climate Symposium held March 25-26, 2023 at the Clarion Hotel in Winnipeg. This event saw Youth between the ages of 14-29 throughout the province gather to learn about climate change, its impacts, and what they can do in their lives to reduce their carbon footprint. There were a total of 103 Youth and 16 Elders/land users registered, with 44 of those Youth being in the age range for MELT.

Through these types of camps and events, 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.

Going forward, MELT will continue to offer these events, as well as work with Regions and Locals who are interested in hosting other types of land-based events.



MELT
Métis Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow

Water Monitoring and Aquatic Ecosystem Health

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



Below is some of the work the MMF has been involved in around water quality, water quantity, and aquatic ecosystem health across the National Homeland.

1. *MMF's Water Monitoring Program:* samples lakes, rivers, and streams across the National Homeland, with the help of dedicated Red River Métis Citizen Scientists from the Métis Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program. The MMF also supports the Enbridge Riverwatch Program by sampling sites along the Seine River, Assiniboine River, and assists the Lake Winnipeg Foundation by monitoring phosphorus loading and salinity concentrations in Lake Winnipeg Basin.
2. *Seine River Restoration Project:* works with Save Our Seine (SOS) to restore and enhance the riparian areas along the Seine River in Winnipeg, Manitoba. MMF staff and summer students will partake in burdock clean up, clearing of pollutants from water, and other restoration activities.
3. *Cross-Boundary Water Relations:*
 - a) International Joint Commission (IJC): the MMF has been involved with the IJC on transboundary discussions for waterways crossing the United States and Canada. The MMF has been appointed to various boards, including the International Souris River Board and International Red River Watershed Board. This allows the MMF to advocate for rights, interests, and claims of the Red River Métis, specifically around water quality and water quantity in the National Homeland.
 - b) Canada Water Agency: the MMF was consulted by ECCC on the creation of the Canada Water Agency. This integrated approach to water management will involve the provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, local authorities, scientists, and others to find the best ways to keep our water safe, clean, and well-managed.

4. *Safe Drinking Water Initiative:* the MMF is working to develop the Safe Drinking Water Initiative which will test drinking water in the MMF Locals of each Region. The objective is to identify and highlight any issues with the water our Red River Métis Citizens consume, and to share these results with the Locals and Regions for follow-up by the MMF. We are looking forward to working with the Local Chairs and their Regions to ensure our Citizens are consuming clean and safe drinking water.



Métis Knowledge Land-Use and Occupancy Studies

The MMF collected Métis Knowledge, land use, and occupancy data with Citizens who use and/or have knowledge of the lands and waters within the Red River Métis Homeland. These studies helped the MMF determine how Red River Métis rights, claims, and interests have been impacted by development projects. In addition, the knowledge collected during these studies has been used to inform the design of environmental monitoring programs and protocols.

If you are interested in participating in a Métis Knowledge Land-Use and Occupancy Study, you may contact Jessica Lagimodiere, Métis Land Use Specialist, by phone at (204) 586-8474 or by email at Jessica.lagimodiere@mmf.mb.ca.

Métis Climate Leadership (MCL)

The Manitoba Métis Federation has secured funding through ECCC. To help support Indigenous peoples advance their climate priorities and adapt to the changing climate, the Government of Canada is committed to renewed nation-to-nation, and government-to-government relationships with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, based on the recognition of rights, respect, cooperation, and partnership.

The beginning stages of the project focus on establishing a detailed work plan to ensure the success of the project throughout its duration. This work plan will be based on findings during the co-development, process, engagement and consultation with Red River Métis Citizens. Additionally, there will be a heavy focus on planning for capacity building within the MMF and among our Citizens, to ensure Red River Métis Citizens are leaders of Climate Change Action throughout the National Homeland and Canada. MCL will integrate Métis led climate action throughout all EIRM portfolios. This includes the development of a climate adaptation and resiliency plan and a strategy to help the MMF reduce our carbon footprint.

Return of Fuel Charge Proceeds

The Fuel Charge Proceeds Return Program (FCPRP), administered by ECCC, will support the return of fuel charge proceeds collected under the federal carbon pollution system to their jurisdictions of origin, as outlined in the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Act. The project will enable the MMF to engage with ECCC in the co-development of solutions for the return of a portion of the federal fuel charge proceeds to Métis recipients. The intent of the project is to use the funds to build a greenhouse in each of the seven MMF regions. This will allow for additional food security, reduced transport costs, reduced food waste, less packaging, protection of farmland, and fresher, higher-quality produce.

Greenhouse Gas Offsets (GHG Offsets)

The Offsets & Emissions Trading Section has secured a small contributions budget for capacity building related to greenhouse gas offsets. The MMF was contacted by ECCC and offered funding to provide Métis-specific perspectives and ensure that recommendations and concerns of the Red River Métis are reflected as it relates to capacity building on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Offsets.

The MMF is in the early stages of partnering with Carbon Block, a Winnipeg-based environmental technology firm. The goal of the partnership is to get the MMF involved in the carbon market through formal, structured carbon offsets. To put it simply, those undertaking projects that reduce GHG emissions, through required processes, can earn GHG Credits/Carbon Credits. These credits can then be sold to high GHG emitting companies (i.e., oil and gas companies), so they can meet the mandated carbon reduction goals. As the MMF already undertakes many projects that reduce GHG emissions, Carbon Block will help the MMF enter these markets.

To learn more about the Environment & Climate Change Portfolio, visit the MMF's website at <https://www.mmf.mb.ca/environment-climate-change>.





Health & Wellness

Health & Wellness



Frances Chartrand
Minister

The Manitoba Métis Federation Health & Wellness Department (MMF-HWD) was established in 2005 with a clear vision: “A Well Métis Community.” The MMF-HWD is committed to utilizing knowledge to improve Red River Métis health not only within Manitoba but also beyond its borders. To achieve this vision, MMF-HWD strategically assumes a leadership role by actively developing and employing health prevention and research, service delivery and interventions, community programming, and health analytics.

The overarching goal of MMF-HWD is to lead research and interventions leading to a positive impact on Red River Métis health as well as healthcare programs and services. Central to this mission are the voices of Citizens, who play a pivotal role in constructing Red River Métis-specific knowledge. Ethical considerations remain paramount in all activities, ensuring inclusivity for all. Through HWD’s initiatives, Red River Métis Citizens receive access, and are able to inform the creation of community health and prescription drug programs, COVID-19 supports, and also receive the most up-to-date information on Red River Métis health issues.

Overall, the Annual Report for fiscal year 2022/2023 highlights a period of remarkable growth and progress for the MMF-HWD. Through the establishment of new branches in 2022 (Clinical, Community Programming, and Policy and Health Information), and expansion of existing ones (Research), the department is well-positioned to continue its mission of promoting “A Well Métis Community.” The Department also continues to foster relationships with agencies such as the Federal Government (ISC, FNIHB), the Provincial Government, University of Manitoba, the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, as well as Diabetes Canada and Dynacare. HWD staff continue to provide COVID-19 supports, such as vaccination, testing, and mental health care. The Department held two consultations, one specifically with Métis medical professionals, which were well received in the community.

With the ongoing dedication of its staff and the active involvement of Citizens, the MMF-HWD remains steadfast in its commitment to improving Métis health and well-being in Manitoba and beyond.

Community Programming

The Community Programming branch, established in 2022, enables the MMF-HWD to address Citizens’ health needs through a wide range of programs and initiatives. By engaging with the

Community and listening to their concerns, MMF-HWD is able to tailor health programming to be relevant, accessible, and positively impact the well-being of all Citizens.

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 2021, 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.

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.

Medical Housing Initiative

In collaboration with the Housing Department, the MMF-HWD has been working on developing Michif Manor, which will provide short-term accommodation to Citizens and their families who are in the City of Winnipeg for medical appointments and treatment.

Mental Health Line

Recognizing the hardships caused by COVID-19, the MMF-HWD understands that many are experiencing feelings of sadness, stress, and anxiety. To provide support during these challenging times, the Mental Health Wellness phone line was established in December 2020, and continues to cater to the specific needs of Citizens.

This free helpline, staffed by Métis counsellors, received over 700 calls in the first year it was initiated.

Anyone feeling “out of sorts” is encouraged to reach out to us at 1-833-390-1041 extension 1 for assistance.

Clinical Services

Established in January 2021, the Clinical Services team of the Health & Wellness Department is dedicated to serving Red River Métis Citizens of Manitoba. In addition to the vaccine clinics, this branch coordinates two mobile Health Units in the southern and northern regions. These Health Units offer blood pressure

monitoring, diabetic footcare, and Point-of-Care Testing for health issues such as diabetes and high cholesterol, as well as general health. For up-to-date news regarding our clinic, check the MMF website.

The MMF-HWD understands that there is a need for an addictions treatment centre and have been working on ideas to make that a reality. Clinical Services is actively working on the creation of a Métis-specific centre to provide a range of treatment services for Citizens.

Services provided by Clinical Services include:

- ∞ 5-minute check-ins with registered/licensed nurses for one-on-one discussions about concerns.
- ∞ HbA1C tests with results in three minutes to monitor sugar levels.
- ∞ Cholesterol level tests with results in seven minutes.
- ∞ COVID-19 and other vaccinations.
- ∞ Diabetic foot care by registered foot care nurses.

Clinical Services' mission is to improve the health and wellness of Red River Métis Citizens across all seven regions in the province through education and support.

To book the Red River Métis Mobile Clinic, contact your local chair or office, or contact us at:

Email: clinicinfo@mmf.mb.ca, Phone: 1-833-390-1041 Ext: 3

Health Research

Since its inception in 2005, the Health Research team has been conducting qualitative research to understand the experiences and perspectives of Red River Métis Citizens. Our goal is to create Red River Métis-specific health knowledge by capturing lived experiences through consultations, discussion groups, and personal interviews.

Ongoing Projects (2022 – current)

1. Red River Métis Tobacco Reduction Strategy: The research team continues to develop Red River Métis-specific approaches to support our Citizens who smoke and wish to quit or reduce their tobacco use. Additionally, we aim to prevent the use of nicotine products among Youth and non-smokers. The Tobacco Reduction Strategy, currently in development, will outline an action plan for tobacco use reduction and prevention supports among Red River Métis.
2. REACH: Radon Education and Assessment for Community Health: Addressing the leading cause of cancer among non-smokers and the second leading cause among smokers in Canada, the Radon pilot study aims to increase awareness of radon exposure risks and lung cancer among Red River Métis. The team continues to install radon tests in Citizens' homes and provide mitigation systems to those with higher-than-recommended radon levels.
3. Red River Métis Perspectives on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID): This research project aims to represent Red River Métis voices and concerns in federally issued MAID monitoring reports. It also aims to understand Red River Métis perspectives on MAID and identify their

needs and concerns related to this topic. Interviews with Red River Métis medical professionals and focus groups with our Citizens have contributed to a recommendations report for Federal health policy planning.

4. Distance to Care: Cancer Outcomes for Red River Métis in Rural Manitoba: Addressing barriers to cancer care identified in the Red River Métis Cancer Strategy, this project investigates challenges experienced by Red River Métis Citizens living in remote and rural areas during their cancer journeys. Health data, spatial mapping software, and consultations with Citizens continue to inform program development and policy to improve cancer journeys for those in rural and remote communities.
5. Maternal Health in Red River Métis: improving access to maternal and child health care services among Red River Métis women: With a focus on maternal and child health, this project aims to improve access to culturally appropriate maternal care services for Red River Métis women. Focus groups gather lived experiences of maternal health journeys, increase access to maternal and child health care services, and raise awareness about related risks through educational sessions.

Completed Projects:

The Research team also completed the following projects in the past year, adding to the growing body of Red River Métis-specific health knowledge.

1. Cannabis and Mental Health: Investigating perceptions of cannabis use among the Red River Métis, this study explored attitudes on use since the legalization of recreational cannabis and its potential role as a medicinal tool.
2. Red River Métis Opioids Strategy: This study examined the impact of opioid use on Red River Métis Citizens, families, and communities. The insights gathered will inform culturally relevant programming and support for our Citizens.
3. Red River Métis Cancer Strategy: Collecting stories of Red River Métis living with cancer, survivors, and their families, this study identified barriers and mechanisms to improve their cancer journey. Information gathered was used to inform the Red River Métis Cancer Strategy, providing a roadmap to enhance cancer care in Manitoba.

If you are interested in participating in any of the studies or learning more, contact healthresearch@mmf.mb.ca.

Policy and Health Information (PHI)

The Policy and Health Information team was created in January 2022 and continues to work on the following Initiatives to develop Red River Métis-specific information to support policies, programs, and services for Citizens:

1. Vaccine Hesitancy: The “Fully and Meaningfully: Engaging with Red River Métis Citizens to Increase COVID-19 Vaccine Understanding and Uptake” project aims to reduce vaccine hesitancy within the Red River Métis population. The goal is to explore attitudes toward COVID-19 immunization and create a Red River Métis-specific education strategy to improve vaccination rates.

2. **Health Legislation:** The PHI team works with the Federal Government to develop distinctions-based legislation based on the principles outlined in UNDRIP. This will create Red River Métis-specific legislation, programming, and services, fostering the health and wellness of all Citizens in line with the Community's view of well-being.
3. **COVID Surveillance:** The "Looking Backwards to Plan for the Future: COVID-19 Surveillance of Red River Métis" project is a Red River Métis-specific data linkage study examining aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic in our community. The goal is to enhance knowledge of health and well-being and build upon existing understanding of COVID-19 in this population.
4. **Red River Métis Regional Health Survey:** Conducted in conjunction with the University of Manitoba, this large-scale project aims to understand the health experiences and needs of Red River Métis Citizens. The survey results will contribute to policy and programming to improve the health and well-being of Red River Métis throughout the province.

If you would like to participate in the Red River Métis Regional Health Survey, please email MRHS@mmf.mb.ca or call 204-391-3723.

Community Consultations

In November 2022, the Health and Wellness team actively engaged in consultations with Citizens from The Pas, Thompson, and Northwest. Additionally, we held a specific consultation with Red River Métis health professionals in March 2023. The topics covered a range of crucial issues, including health legislation, medical transportation, vaccine hesitancy, mental health, and addictions.

During these consultations, we actively listened to Citizens, who shared their valuable experiences with various health systems. The focus groups facilitated productive conversations where

individuals discussed their health and wellness journeys and expressed their aspirations for future health services.

Partnerships

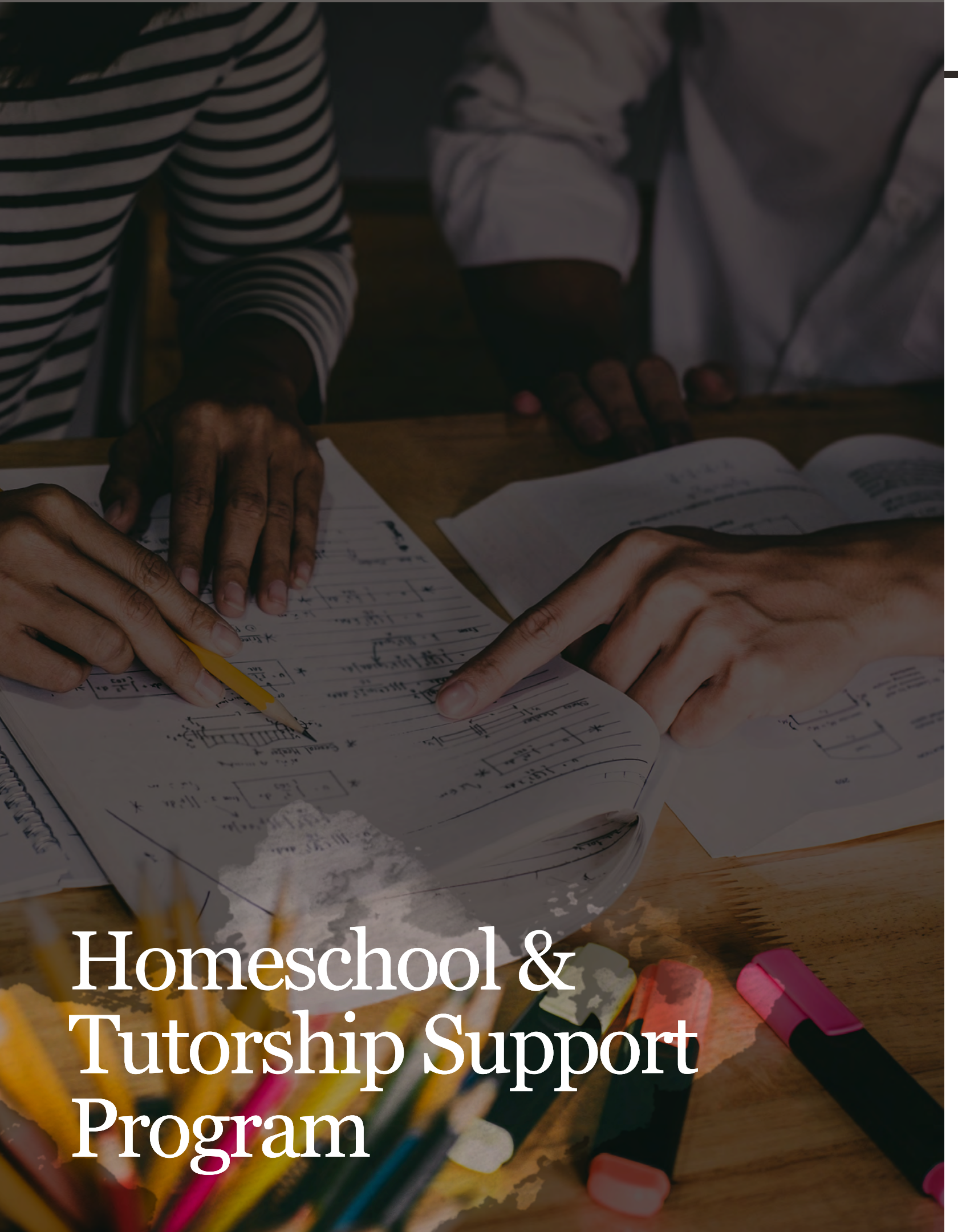
Over the past year, HWD staff have continued to build working partnerships to enhance Métis health and wellness, which include:

- ∞ MCLD and MEDOCare Pharmacy, to assist in both the Prescription Drug Program and the Senior Eyeglass Program,
- ∞ Public Health Agency of Canada,
- ∞ Canadian Institutes of Health Research,
- ∞ University of Manitoba, and
- ∞ The Children's Health Research Institute, Diabetes Canada, Dynacare Laboratories, and a pharmaceutical company, Boehringer Ingelheim.

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

In conclusion, the Health & Wellness Department remains committed to collaborating closely with Red River Métis families, communities, partners, and funders as we work diligently to strengthen the department and improve programming throughout the province. Looking ahead to the next year, the MMF-HWD anticipates continued growth and progress, with a passionate team of experienced staff working together to create knowledge and enhance programs and services for the well-being of our valued Citizens.





Homeschool & Tutorship Support Program

Homeschool & Tutorship Support Program



Joan Ledoux
Minister



David Beaudin
Associate Minister

The Homeschool and Tutorship Support Program (HSP/TSP) is a Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) education program administered and delivered through the Louis Riel Institute (LRI). The program supports Métis families and their children from kindergarten to grade 12 in a variety of capacities. The program supports both homeschooled students (registered with the province), and students who attend the public school system. Students are matched with teachers and tutors and participate in one-on-one and/or group sessions where students can work on any subject area or skill, they may need assistance on.

The program was established in 2020 as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic as a safe and alternative way for families to educate their children at home, and through administration, the program continued to adapt and demonstrate its success in supporting the community. The HSP/TSP has helped emphasize the notion that Métis students are not reflected enough in public education curriculum. The HSP/TSP's objective has been to circumvent this by honouring achievement and promoting Métis pride while supporting students in attaining their educational goals.

The HSP ran group classes including Land-Based Education, Métis History, Math, English Language Arts, French, Fine Arts, and Baking Club. Individual sessions were also available to the HSP students where students could focus on their specific needs or goals with their teacher. Similarly, the TSP students connected via Zoom for one-on-one virtual sessions with tutors.

Additionally, the Homeschool Support Program continued to financially support students and families, up to \$350 per student, for resources for kindergarten to grade 8 participants and covered the cost of InformNet for students in grades 9 to 12. Internet costs were also reimbursed and laptop gifting continued for both HSP and TSP students.

The HSP/TSP ran two successful events in 2022 including Orange Shirt Day on September 29th 2022, and the Mini AGA from October 14th-16th 2022. Planning for future events including Mental Health Awareness Day, Indigenous Day, Métis Day etc. is ongoing.

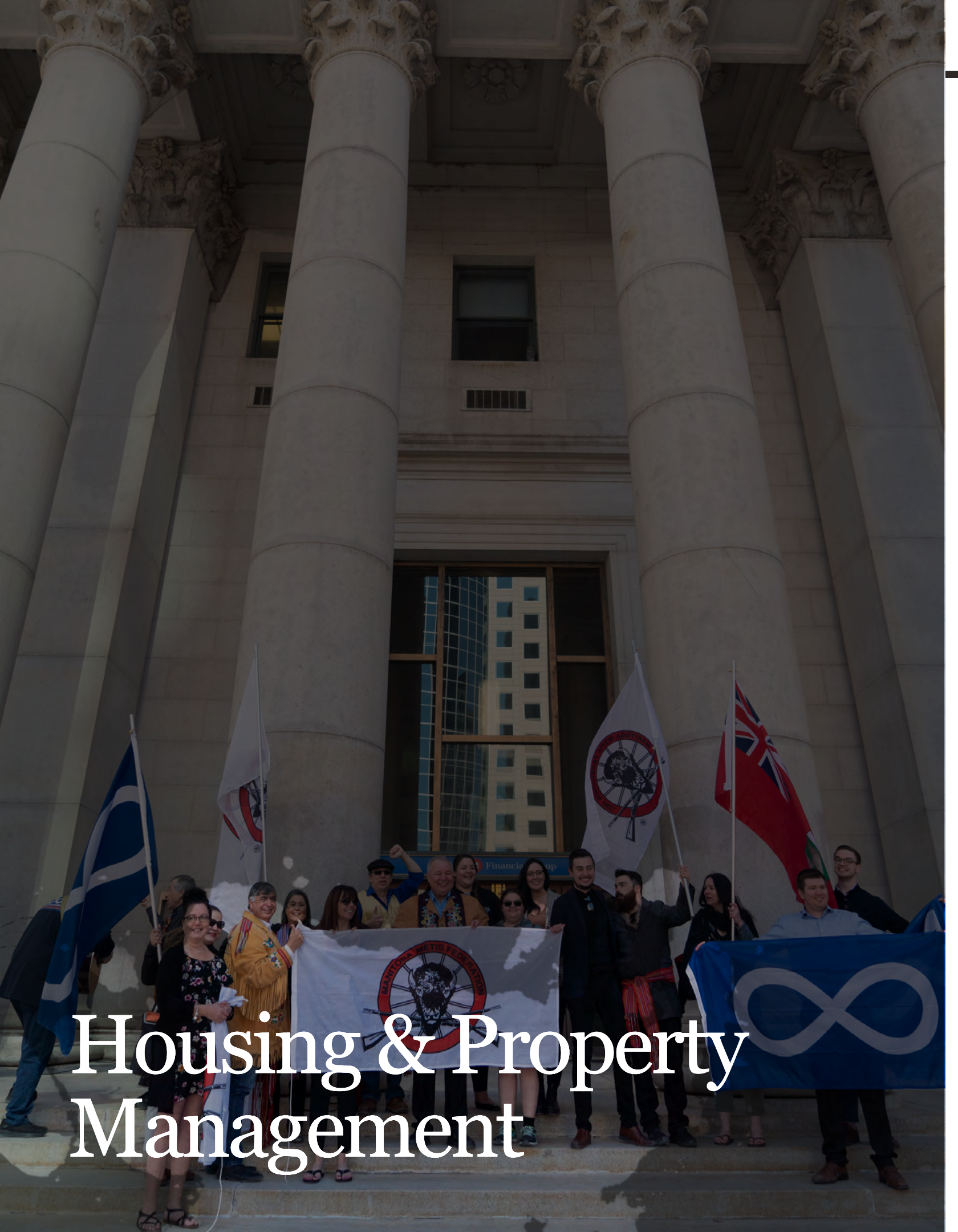
The HSP/TSP enrollment statistics fluctuated throughout the academic year and over the summer based on student needs and specific academic situations. The following table details the HSP/TSP enrollment on March 31, 2023.



HSP/TSP Students by Region and Program		
March 31, 2023		
MMF Region	Homeschool	Tutorship
Interlake	3	11
Northwest	1	10
Southeast	5	17
Southwest	4	8
The Pas	0	1
Thompson	1	1
Winnipeg	18	64
Out of Province	0	2
Total	32	114



Students are matched with teachers and tutors and participate in one-on-one and/or group sessions where students can work on any subject area or skill, they may need assistance on.



Housing & Property Management

Housing & Property Management



Will Goodon

Minister

Message from the Minister

“It is an incredible honour to serve as the Minister of Housing and Property Management for the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the National Government of the Red River Métis. I 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 those Beyond Borders.

Housing has been important to our families and our nation since our early beginnings, but lack of appropriate housing was exacerbated during the Reign of Terror in the 1870s and further when we were forced to live on road allowances in our own Homeland. Red River Métis Housing has been a nation-building priority for the past several years. With renewed and strengthened nation-to-nation, government-to-government relations with Canada, the MMF has introduced several initiatives to provide Citizens with the ‘head start’ we were promised in the Manitoba Act of 1870. With the strength of our current government, we are expanding housing opportunities for our Citizens. From first-time homebuyers programming and home repair funding to homelessness supports and new rental housing for seniors and families, the MMF’s Housing Department is delivering on that promise of a ‘head start.’

Going forward, we will continue to innovate and open doors to new housing options across Manitoba. We never rest when looking for new opportunities and partnerships that allow our Red River Métis Government to do even more along the housing spectrum. Not only are we closing the gap on Métis housing needs, but we are ensuring that our homes are built the Métis way with a focus on strengthening relations across the Red River Métis Nation.”

– Minister Will Goodon

Building Community for the Red River Métis

The signing of the Canada-Métis Nation Housing Sub-Accord in 2018 has allowed the MMF’s Housing Department to grow substantially over the past few years. The Department has gone from a team of three to a team of 24 staff who have experience in all aspects of housing.

Our construction and project management team not only undertakes housing construction, but also has been instrumental in building other social infrastructure. For example, working in

conjunction with the Early Learning and Child Care Department, the Housing team is currently managing new daycare builds for St. Laurent, The Pas, St. Boniface, and St. Andrews (near Selkirk, in conjunction with Infinity Women Secretariat). Child care builds have also been completed in Dauphin, Swan River, St. Eustache, and Duck Bay. Our Construction Division is also managing the renovations at the St. Ambroise Youth Resource Centre and completed work at the Dauphin Regional Office and Pharmacy last year. The team had previously overseen renovations creating the regional satellite office for Flin Flon, and new satellite offices attached to the child care centres in Swan River and St. Eustache.

Throughout the province, the MMF has been working hard to provide safe, affordable housing to Métis Citizens. In 2023, the MMF Housing Department is managing 85 affordable housing units across the province. The construction team completed two seniors’ duplexes in Binscarth and a third in St. Ambroise; a three-bedroom house with an attached secondary unit (granny suite) in The Pas; a six-plex in the historic Métis community of St. Boniface in Winnipeg; and a 20-unit transitional housing complex on Main Street in Winnipeg.



New Subdivisions

The MMF started work on new subdivided lands in The Pas and St. Georges (adjacent to the Winnipeg River). Phase one of The Pas subdivision will consist of a new cul-de-sac street, three seniors' duplexes, and a daycare centre. The subdivision will eventually service 24 affordable housing units for families and seniors. The first phase of the Cap Doré subdivision in St. Georges will have four builds: two duplexes and two single detached two-bedroom bungalows. The two-bedroom floor plans are designed for wheelchair accessibility. The duplexes will each have one three-bedroom unit and one two-bedroom unit. All units will have attached garages and storage spaces.

Selkirk 55+

The Housing Department has partnered with Number TEN Architectural Group and Métis N4 Construction, Inc. to develop a six-storey, 49-unit mixed-use commercial and residential building for Red River Métis seniors. Located at 355 Eveline Street in Selkirk, the build is set to provide Métis seniors with a safe, culturally appropriate, and affordable living environment. The building will include accessibility features and various bedroom options, tenant amenities, and access to service providers located within the building. Construction for the project started in July 2023 and is scheduled to be completed by September 2024. At least two more projects of the same size and purpose are in the planning stages.



Michif Manor

Michif Manor will offer culturally appropriate lodging and amenities to support Citizens travelling to Winnipeg for health reasons. Located at 790 Notre Dame Avenue, Michif Manor will provide immediate access to various medical facilities within the Health Sciences Centre campus. The building will include 10 double occupancy rooms and two family rooms.

In keeping with the principle of wíchetowin – we look out for one another – the MMF understands that family unity and informal caregiving are fundamental values to the Red River Métis Nation. Visiting a hospital or other large institution can be traumatic and daunting, and so Michif Manor allows us to take care of the caregivers. The Department of Housing will partner with the Department of Health and Wellness to operate the facility. Construction for the project started in the summer of 2023 and is scheduled to be complete September 2024.

Mazoun Infinitii Pakoshayimooohk

Mazoun will serve as transitional housing for Red River Métis Youth aging out of care. Programming will be administered by Métis Child Family and Community Services (MCFCS), providing culturally appropriate supports and skills training for participants transitioning into independent living.

Located in Winnipeg's North Kildonan, Mazoun will consist of two buildings with seven suites each. The complex will have 10 transitional suites for Youth aging out of care, two emergency suites for Youth at risk of experiencing homelessness, and two suites allocated to family reunification. Construction is currently underway and is estimated to be complete in September of 2024.

Addressing Red River Métis Homelessness: MMF's Rapid Services

In March 2023, MMF's Rapid Services relocated its resource centre and offices from Selkirk Avenue to 670 Main Street, the site of the MMF's 20-unit transitional housing facility called Fre Maachi (Fresh Beginnings). A funding partnership with the City of Winnipeg through the federal Rapid Housing Initiative was fundamental in the capital costs and renovations for this facility.

With funding from the federal government's Reaching Home Initiative, Rapid Services was developed to prevent and reduce Métis homelessness. Rapid Services has an extensive list of services to assist Citizens that are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. While only verified Citizens receive financial assistance, the program offers supports and resources to non-Citizens as well. These services include, but are not limited to housing assistance and support, basic needs, advocacy, ID assistance, cultural workshops, and job readiness programming.

Since the inception of the program, Rapid Services has assisted over 389 Citizens. The program has helped 118 Citizens secure housing and has prevented 67 evictions. From these 389 Citizens, 282 have accessed transportation services, 152 have accessed financial assistance, 118 have received Citizenship assistance, and 67 have received advocacy supports.



The MMF Home Enhancement Loan Program (MMF-HELP)

Designed as a program for low to moderate income households, the MMF-HELP has provided a one-time forgivable loan of up to \$18,000 total to provide for emergency home repairs and renovations to help improve, adapt, and maintain homes. A loan amount of up to \$25,000 was made available for those living in northern Manitoba.

Since the program began, 1,429 Métis Citizens throughout every region of the province have been approved for funding through MMF-HELP, and over \$13.6 million has been invested in Métis homes. The MMF also prioritized hiring Métis contractors, further investing in the Manitoba economy and Métis workforce.

Métis Energy Efficiency Offers

In 2022, the MMF partnered with Efficiency Manitoba to provide an energy-saving program to Citizens. Métis Energy Efficiency Offers is an income-based program that has provided homeowners and tenants with various energy efficiency upgrades at little to no cost to them. Qualified applicants receive a free home energy check-up to determine their energy-saving needs. Upgrades range from low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators to LED lighting, free insulation, and a subsidized high-efficiency furnace.

The First Time Home Purchase Program

The MMF launched the First Time Home Purchase Program (FTHPP) in 2019 to assist Citizens with the purchase of their first home. FTHPP is designed as a needs-based program that is administered by the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC). The FTHPP contributes funds to successful applicants as follows:

- ∞ 5% of the home purchase price up to a maximum of \$15,000.00 towards the down payment.
- ∞ 1.5% up to a maximum of \$2,500.00 towards closing costs (legal, land transfer, home inspection, etc.).

Since the launch of the program, FTHPP has helped purchase 820 homes and has housed 1,716 Métis Citizens. With 1,335 applications received and 1,178 approved, the program has an approval rate of 88%, making it one of the most successful programs the Red River Métis Government has ever offered. The program has leveraged \$177 million in mortgages and has provided \$11 million in funding to date. In addition, the FTHPP has made major economic impacts: 381 jobs have been created and over \$43 million in other economic impacts have been made to the Manitoba economy.



Commercial Property Management

In 2014, the Housing Department expanded with the addition of Property Management into the portfolio under the responsibility of Minister Will Goodon. For commercial properties, a new division within the LRCC was created to manage properties owned by the Red River Métis Government. The Property Management division maintains its due diligence by confirming all revenues and expenses are collected and recorded, and 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. In 2023, LRCC was responsible for 14 properties across Manitoba and one property in Ontario. The annual revenue for the properties totalled more than \$3.5 million for the 2022/23 fiscal year, with a total combined estimated market value of all properties totaling more than \$33 million.

150 Henry Avenue – Winnipeg

Owned by MEDO (Métis Economic Development Organization) 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 Federation – National Government of the Red River Métis. Renovations are ongoing at 150 Henry, with the MMF's participation in the “Low Carbon Economy Challenge” – a program to make building retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030.

335 Main Street – Winnipeg

Owned by the Manitoba Métis Federation, the former Bank of Montreal building at the historic Portage and Main intersection is soon to become the home of the Red River Métis National Heritage Centre. This one-of-a-kind heritage centre will educate the public on the history, language, culture, methods of governance, and legacy of the Red River 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 and Family Services Authority, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, and Park Avenue Vending.

2000 Portage Avenue – Winnipeg

Owned by WMA Landholdings Inc. and leased to the MCFCS, which continues to provide the essential supports needed to strengthen and support the health and well-being of Métis families. Substantial investments have been made into the HVAC systems and the roof of 2000 Portage Avenue.

406/408-412 McGregor Street – Winnipeg

Owned by the Winnipeg Métis Association, McGregor Street is home to an MCFCS satellite office and to the Winnipeg Métis Association's Métis Club, which is a community meeting place for various cultural and regional activities. Recent renovations to the property include new flooring, walls, and ceiling.

29 Royal Road South – Portage la Prairie

Owned by LRCC Métis N4 Investment Inc., 29 Royal Road South is leased to Michif Child and Family Services (MCFS) to provide essential services to Métis families around the Portage la Prairie region. Essential upgrades to the building include new water heaters, insulation, AC, exterior siding, and a reinforced staircase.

456 Fischer Avenue – The Pas

Owned by the Manitoba Métis Federation, 456 Fischer Avenue is leased to MCFS to provide essential services to Métis families around The Pas region and is also home to the MMF The Pas Regional Office.

95 & 101 Sutherland Avenue – Winnipeg

MEDO Developments Ltd. currently owns the parking lot and greenspace located adjacent to MEDO Square.

49 Austin Street – Winnipeg

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

509 Harvard Ave. E – Winnipeg

Owned by the Manitoba Métis Federation, 509 Harvard Ave. was purchased in April 2022 and went through extensive renovations for MCFCS as a short-term shelter. This 1,000-sq.-ft. single-family home, located in Transcona, has four bedrooms.

205 Eaton Ave. – Selkirk, Manitoba

Owned by 10133893 MB Ltd., 205 Eaton Ave is a 1,260-sq.-ft. converted historical single-family home located in Selkirk behind the new 55+ complex on Eveline Street. This property will be the leasing office for the new 55+ complex.

286 Fort Street – Winnipeg

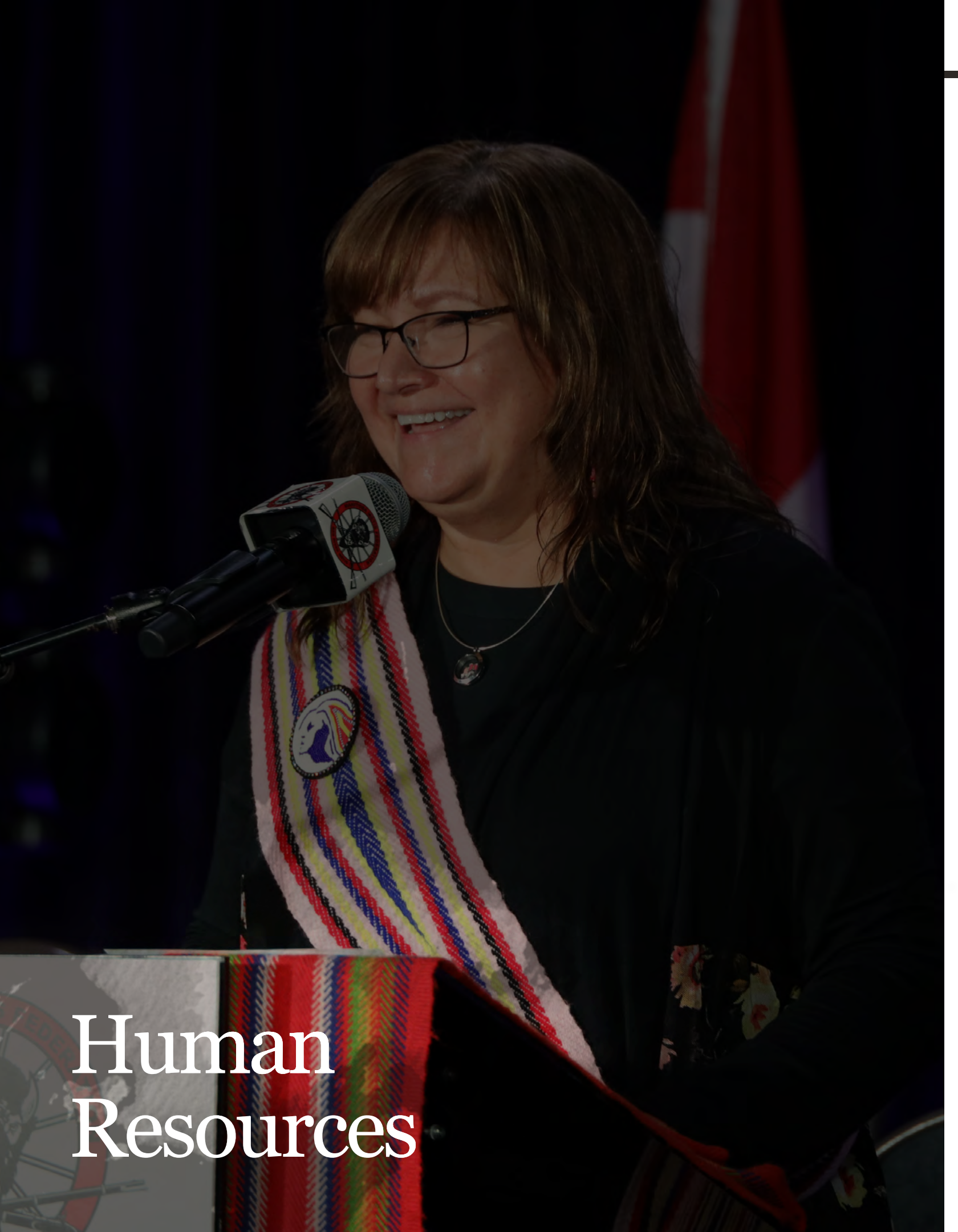
Owned by the Manitoba Métis Federation, the 33-space parking lot located at 286 Fort Street is currently being used by MMF employees and affiliates currently working out of 335 Main Street.

2-340 MacLaren Street – Ottawa, Ontario

Owned by 6106111 Manitoba Limited (50% LRCC/50% MEDO), 2-340 MacLaren Street is leased to the Manitoba Métis Federation.







Human Resources

Human Resources



Anita Campbell
Minister

As the Minister of Human Resources for the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), I am proud to share this year’s annual report for the Human Resources Department.

The Manitoba Métis Federation recognizes that our mission and vision to serve the Manitoba Métis community and its Citizens through advancing their cultural, social, economic, and political well-being is realized through the hard work and dedication of our staff. The aim of the MMF Human Resources Department is to design programs and policies 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 Métis 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 MMF 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 and consists of nine staff.

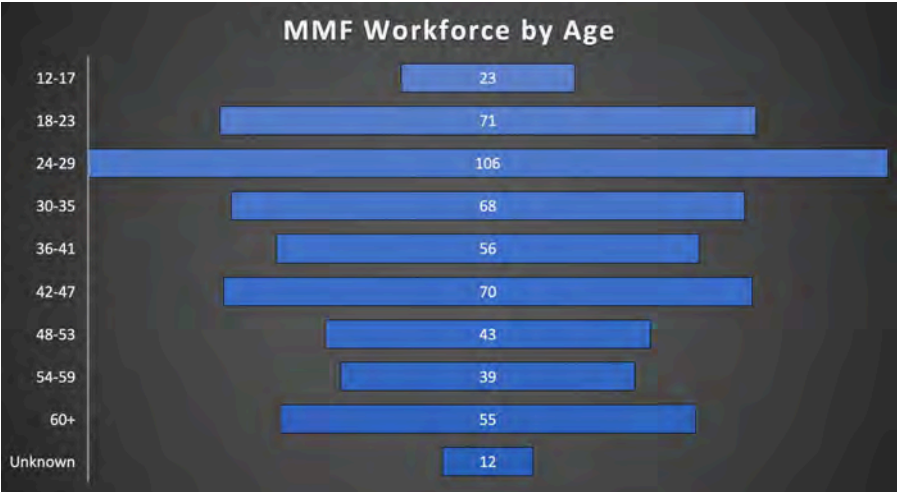
The recruitment team is responsible for the development and execution of the recruitment program and strategies with a focus on sourcing, attracting, interviewing, hiring, and onboarding new employees to the MMF. The team is comprised of one Talent Acquisition Manager and two Talent Acquisition Specialists. 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.

Human Resources Generalists are 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 today’s Manitoba Employment Standards. The team is comprised of one Employee Relations Manager and three Human Resources Generalists. Our Human Resources Administrator provides support to all employees within the HR Department and is integral in the organization of HR data, records and metrics. The Human Resources Director is responsible for the strategic planning, program implementation and overall practices of the Human Resources Department.

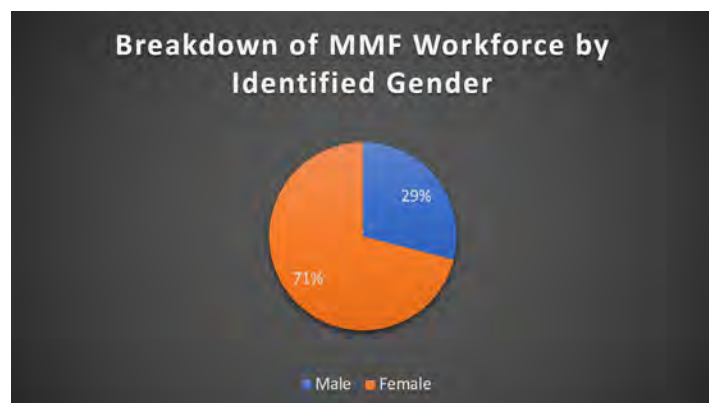
A five-year strategic plan was developed outlining the priorities of the department with a focus on building programs to empower employees of the Manitoba Métis Federation and ultimately become officially recognized as an employer of choice.

Our Workforce

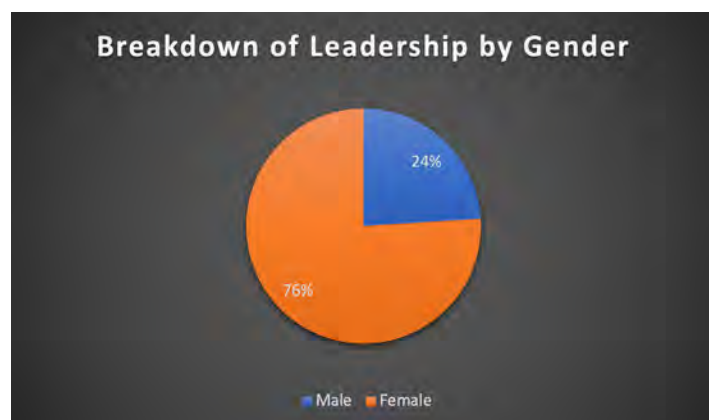
The MMF continued to expand in all areas of services and program delivery. The MMF is currently comprised of approximately 543 employees for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. This amount does not include all MMF Affiliates but includes all Regions. With MMF Affiliates and Regions, our total Métis Government workforce is more than 1,000 total staff. During this fiscal year, the MMF advertised approximately 175 positions and filled approximately 300 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 Métis Federation, please email jobs@mmf.mb.ca or visit www.mmf.mb.ca for a complete list of current opportunities.



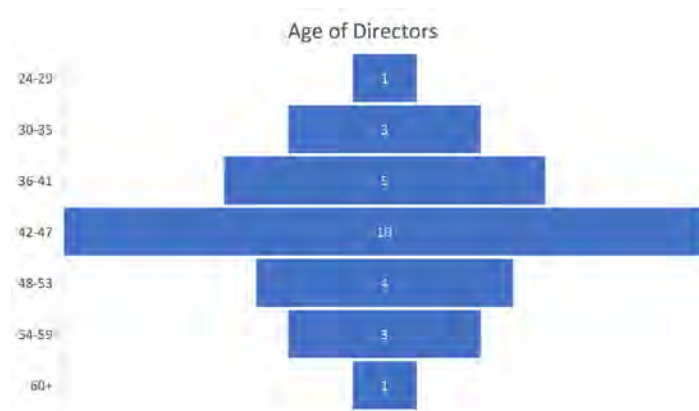
The Breakdown of Workforce by Age Chart reflects a workforce that has a comparable representation of persons from all age groups ranging from 15 - 60 + including students. This data reflects that the Manitoba Métis Federation is an employer who respects diversity and appreciates the skill and experience of all persons, regardless of age.



Of the 543 employees of the Manitoba Métis Federation approximately 70% identify as female and 30% identify as male. The breakdown of workforce by gender chart reflects a workforce that is predominantly female.



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 Métis Federation employees and do not include Regional or Affiliate numbers, nor that of our Manitoba Métis Federation Cabinet.



Of the 27 Directors at the MMF

- o Persons 24-29 = 1
- o Persons 30-35 = 3
- o Persons 36-41 = 5
- o Persons 42-47 = 10
- o Persons 48-53 = 4
- o Persons 54-59 = 3
- o Persons 60 + = 1

Department Goals

The Human Resources Department continued to evolve to meet the demands of our ever-growing government. The department identified a variety of programs and projects that are being 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 department's top priorities. As the Red River Métis Government continues to grow, it is essential to have the right people on board to support the mission and vision of the Manitoba Métis Federation. Our focus is to build our candidate pool of qualified individuals who are interested in working with the Métis Government so that when positions become available there are qualified candidates to draw from. We place an emphasis on attracting and hiring candidates that represent our government therefore we encourage Métis Citizens to apply. We currently have many positions posted and continue to add additional positions every week. If you are interested in submitting your resume or have any questions about current career opportunities within the MMF, please email jobs@mmf.mb.ca or visit www.mmf.mb.ca for a complete list of current opportunities.

Metrics: Our focus is to develop systems that track key data of our workforce, to develop metrics to better inform departments and leadership. This relates to the current structure of our workforce, identifying pressure points that need to be addressed, and to develop programming that is specific to the identified needs. **Policy:** The department is currently reviewing and updating all employment policies and practices to reflect current needs of departments and employees that meet today's MB Employment Standards. All employment policies are being revised with a focus on gender neutrality to support the commitment our Métis Government has for inclusivity of all people.

Human Resources Information System (HRIS): HR has implemented and begun using a robust HRIS system. This new system has helped to streamline several HR processes, in particular our onboarding process. This HRIS will manage the full life cycle of all our employees. This has been proven to reduce or eliminate manual processes with a focus on becoming paperless. HR metrics is another valuable outcome of implementing this new system. The system includes an Applicant Tracking Module which has already been shown to reduce manual processes in recruitment.

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 on-going, expected to be completed this year and will result in having competitive salary scales that reflect all the MMF's unique positions. This information will help streamline our departmental budgeting process.



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 its thanks and appreciation to the Citizens, MMF Leadership, and employees of the Manitoba Métis 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

As we reflect on the past year, we want to take a moment to highlight some of the key accomplishments of the Manitoba Métis Federation Information Technology Department.

Server and Data Centre Maintenance & Expansion

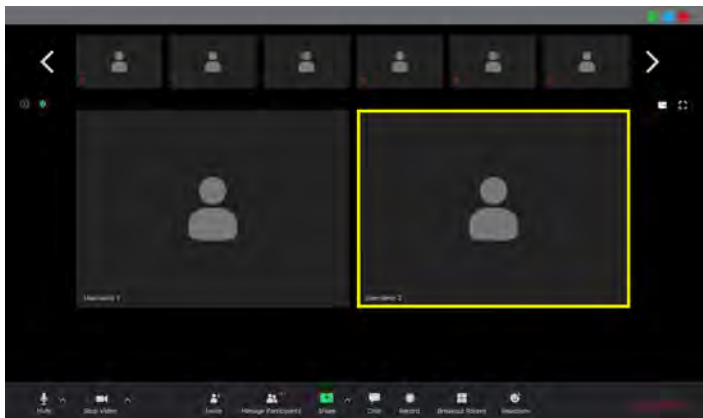
Maintenance and expansion of our servers and data centre were focal points in 2023. Our teams worked tirelessly to ensure uninterrupted, high-performance service for our operations, and our consistent 99% uptime is a testament to their success. We expanded the data centre capacity, which has resulted in improved storage, data processing, and management, providing a robust platform for our future growth.

User Support

Our helpdesk resolved over 15,000 tickets this year, a testament to our dedication to efficient and effective user support. This achievement has resulted in increased user satisfaction. The development of a comprehensive knowledge base and self-service guides has also contributed to reducing resolution times.

Event and Hybrid Meeting Setups

With the demand for virtual interactions greatly increasing, our team has done an excellent job in setting up and managing hybrid meetings. We have created state-of-the-art meeting spaces equipped with the latest audiovisual technology, ensuring smooth, seamless events and meetings. This has resulted in improved collaboration across our teams and partners, regardless of their geographical location, and has assisted the MMF with the Extraordinary General Assembly, Annual General Assembly, voting, and meetings.



Technological Advancements

In 2023, we made significant strides in adopting new technologies. We piloted artificial intelligence (AI) in data analysis to help guide our decision-making process and reduce human error. A move towards cloud computing solutions has also increased our operational agility and reduced infrastructure costs.

Security and Camera System Upgrades

Security remains a top priority, and in 2023 we upgraded our camera system to a more advanced model offering high-definition recording and real-time monitoring. This, combined with an overhaul of our network security systems, ensures the safety of our personnel and the integrity of our digital assets. We are now better equipped to detect, prevent, and respond to any security threats or breaches.

Network Security

In the realm of network security, AI has been employed to enhance our ability to predict and prevent potential cyber threats. By using AI, we can analyze network traffic and identify suspicious activities in real time. This pre-emptive approach has significantly improved our cyber defence capabilities and has made our systems more resilient against potential attacks.

AI in Operational Efficiency

Using AI, we've also made substantial progress in enhancing operational efficiency. With AI-driven automation, routine tasks have been streamlined, freeing up our team members to focus on more complex and strategic tasks. This has led to an increase in productivity and has made our operations more agile and efficient.

Looking forward, the IT Department plans to expand the use of AI into other areas such as predictive maintenance, resource management, and decision support systems across departments. As we continue to adapt and innovate with AI, we expect to see further improvements in efficiency, productivity, and security, supporting our commitment to provide top-tier IT services for Red River Métis Citizens and Government.

Software/Hardware Deployments

This year saw a substantial update in both our hardware and software departments. We rolled out over 2,000 pieces of new equipment, including desktops, laptops, and mobile devices. On the software front, the deployment of new enterprise systems promises to streamline our operations. This not only increases productivity but also enhances data visibility across departments, leading to more informed decision-making.

Improving Internet Access in Remote Areas with Starlink

In 2023, we took a significant leap in providing robust internet connectivity to remote areas by partnering with Starlink, SpaceX's satellite internet service. This collaboration has revolutionized our ability to deliver reliable, high-speed internet in areas where traditional ground-based services have struggled.

One of the key achievements of this integration has been the successful provisioning of reliable internet connectivity to remote communities under the Red River Métis Government's jurisdiction. Prior to the Starlink integration, many of these areas had limited or no access to broadband services. The deployment of Starlink has bridged this digital divide, opening a world of opportunities for these communities in terms of communication, education, health services, and economic activities.

The integration of Starlink has dramatically enhanced our IT infrastructure, and its impact extends well beyond the IT Department. It has paved the way for a truly digital government, enabling us to deliver services more effectively and equitably across all areas. The Red River Métis Government's partnership with Starlink is a testament to our commitment to technological innovation and our dedication to serving all our communities, regardless of their geographical location.

Digitization of Historical Video Footage

In 2023, we undertook a significant project to digitize the Red River Métis Government's historical VHS footage. This valuable archival material documents important moments in our history and forms a critical part of our cultural heritage. The conversion of these assets from analogue to digital format not only safeguards them for future generations but also makes them more accessible and usable in today's digital world.

Custom Cell Phone Deployment Support for Partners

In 2023, we embarked on a meaningful project to support our Hutterite partners through a custom cell phone deployment. Our objective was to provide tailored technology solutions that respect the unique lifestyle and values of the Hutterite communities while facilitating communication and efficiency in day-to-day activities. The IT Department spent considerable time understanding the unique needs and preferences of our Hutterite partners. This was crucial in the development of ongoing custom cell phone solutions that balance the use of modern technology with the preservation of the Hutterite way of life.

Online Historical Métis Database Archives

In 2023, one of the most ambitious projects undertaken by the IT Department was the development of the online historical Métis Database Archives. This digital repository aims to preserve and make accessible a vast array of historical and cultural documents and photographs.

IT Support for Finance Department: New Systems, Auditing, and Controls

Over the past year, the IT Department has worked closely with the Finance Department, providing essential support in upgrading systems, streamlining auditing, and enhancing financial controls. This collaborative effort has resulted in greater efficiency and accuracy in financial operations, ensuring transparency and accountability in our fiscal management.

Retrofit Building Upgrades at 150 Henry and IT-NRG Collaboration

A substantial upgrade was undertaken on the MMF Home Office at 150 Henry, which involved retrofitting the structure with advanced sensors and monitoring systems. Our IT Department collaborated closely with NRG Management, an industry-leading energy management company, to ensure the seamless integration of these new systems into our existing infrastructure.

Retrofit Sensor Integration and Monitoring Systems

Our partnership with NRG Management resulted in the successful installation of a wide array of sensors throughout the MMF's 150 Henry building. These devices monitor various environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity, light, and occupancy levels, contributing to a more efficient, comfortable, and sustainable building environment.

The MMF IT Department was instrumental in integrating these sensor systems into our network. Our team worked diligently to ensure that the sensors could communicate with our servers and that the data they generated was accessible and interpretable. We developed custom interfaces that allowed for real-time monitoring and analysis of the sensor data.

Acknowledging Collaborations and Progress

As we reflect on the past year, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the MMF departments and Regions for their unwavering collaboration and shared efforts in advancing our technology-related operations.

Each department's willingness to embrace change, experiment with new tools, and adapt to new processes has been instrumental in our collective progress. Each initiative has brought meaningful advancements, reflecting the power of our joint endeavours.

The success of our IT projects and operations in 2023 is a testament to the value of these partnerships. Our collaborative efforts have allowed us to innovate, problem-solve, and deliver high-quality, tech-enabled services to the Red River Métis Government and its communities. It is these collaborations that have truly moved the goalposts forward, demonstrating what can be achieved when we work together towards a shared vision.

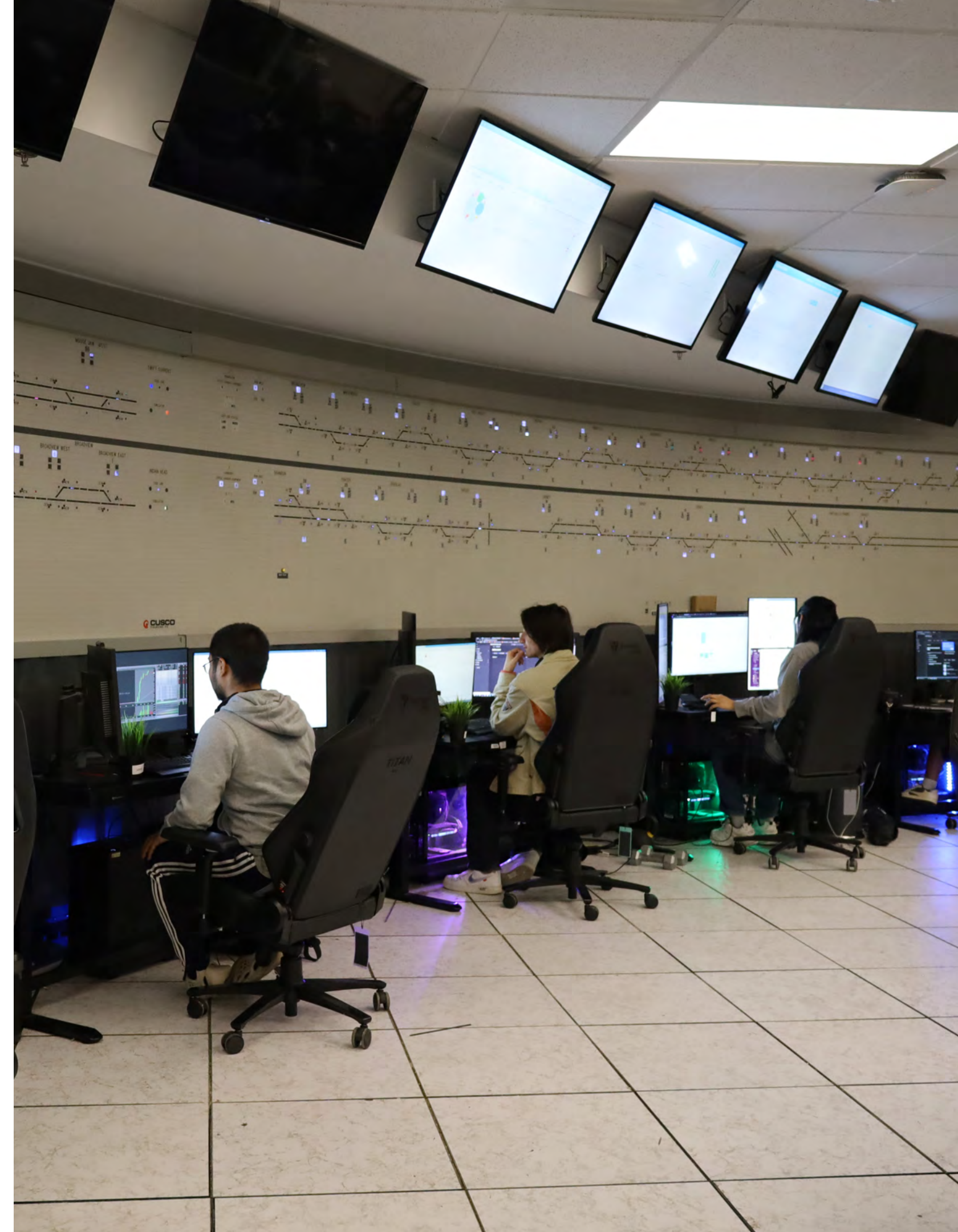
We also want to express our deep appreciation to the people who are often behind the scenes: the dedicated IT staff. Your technical expertise, commitment, and hard work have been at the heart of our success this year.

As we look to the future, we are excited to continue working together, harnessing the power of technology to better serve our communities and support the mission of the Red River Métis Government. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and contributions. Your efforts are not just propelling us forward in terms of technology but are also making a lasting impact on the people we serve.

Conclusion

In conclusion, 2023 was a year of significant advancements and improvements for the IT Department as we emerge from the pandemic. Our commitment to embracing innovation, enhancing security, and focusing on user satisfaction positions us for an even more successful 2024. We look forward to maintaining our high service standards and continuing to support the Red River Métis Government's mission and vision.

We would like to express our gratitude to our President, Minister, Red River Métis Government, and our departmental partners for their continuous support and to our dedicated IT team who have consistently delivered high-quality services. We look forward to continuing our efforts in the coming year.





Métis Community Liaison Department

Métis Community Liaison Department



Andrew Carrier
Minister

The Métis Community Liaison Department (MCLD) provides supports to Red River Métis Citizens in a culturally appropriate manner for the well-being of Métis Elders, families, and communities. The MCLD promotes healthy lifestyles, Red River Métis pride, and self-determination. The department aims to assist Citizens in accessing services and resources in their respective communities. Throughout fiscal year 2022-2023, the MMF continued to provide a range of services including those highlighted below.

Client Supports and Advocacy

Oftentimes Citizens require assistance with navigating complex public systems on a variety of issues such as employment and income assistance, outreach services, referral and advocacy, reunification, Elder support, income tax, repatriation, and community development. This has an impact on access to important services. MCLD is able to support Citizens with needs that don't fit into other MMF programming by connecting people to resources both internally and in the community.

The MMF strives to assist Citizens through advocacy supports in a variety of areas and sectors, including the following:

- ∞ Northern Patient Transportation
- ∞ Manitoba Health
- ∞ CancerCare
- ∞ Child and Family Services
- ∞ Manitoba Public Insurance
- ∞ Workers Compensation Board
- ∞ Employment & Income Assistance
- ∞ Employment Insurance
- ∞ Old Age Pension & Canada Pension Plan
- ∞ Income Tax Benefits & Credits
- ∞ Residential Tenancies Branch

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

The Prescription Drug Program is a partnership with the MMF Health & Wellness Department and MEDOCare Pharmacy. This MMF initiative pays for Pharmacare-eligible prescription drugs. MCLD staff assist Red River Métis seniors by facilitating intake and collecting supporting documentation.



Senior Eyeglass Program & Vision Care Initiative

The Senior Eyeglass Program and Vision Care Initiative helps Red River 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.

∞ Medical Accommodation

MCLD may be able to support eligible Citizens when they need to stay in a hotel for medical purposes.

∞ Ambulance Bill Donations

The MCLD department has a program to financially assist ambulance transportation costs.

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 Citizens to cover basic costs associated with funeral home expenses. Total support to Citizens in the 2022-23 fiscal year was \$196,966.52.

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.

COVID Initiatives

MCLD has played a significant role in the MMF's COVID response activities. Throughout the fiscal year, MCLD staff continued to stay in touch with Citizens, performed regular Wellness Checks, and continued to raise awareness of the pandemic.

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 support. Enhanced resources will help to more effectively service Citizens in need. MCLD conducted a Strategic Planning exercise in the early months of 2023. A comprehensive action plan was developed and has been put into place for the future growth and enhancement of programs into fiscal year 2023-24. MCLD looks forward to reporting on progress and enhancement in activities into fiscal year 2022-23.

MCLD Commitment Statement

"We commit to being a strong team of our National Government, the Manitoba Métis Federation, with knowledge, training, and resources; and we commit to building relationships and partnerships so that we can connect Red River Métis Citizens with the resources, programs, and services they need so they are empowered to lead their best quality of life."





Métis Constitution, Rights & Governance

Métis Constitution, Rights & Governance



Judy Mayer
Minister

Introduction:

I have the honour of holding a number of Ministerial Portfolios within your Red River Métis Government. These are: Constitution; Red River Métis Rights; and Governance as well as Minister of Beyond Borders.

These portfolios provide the foundation for the MMF's governance, including elections, Locals, and Cabinet. My portfolios have a direct relationship with nearly all other ministerial portfolios as well as you, our grassroots leaders.

Constitution:

During this 2023 AGA, there will be two resolutions brought to the floor regarding Constitutional amendments. The first is in respect to Citizen attendance at assemblies. This is to

accommodate and recognize the attendance of those participating in the main assembly hall, MMF satellite locations, or virtually. The second resolution is to amend the constitution in respect to adding a definition of Red River Métis to make it consistent with the Treaty, and our Consultations leading to the Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA), that was ratified on June 3, 2023 by our Assembly.

Elections:

I am proud to share that we now have a full slate of qualified personnel to work elections and much of the process and forms are ready to go in the event of any election.

The Cabinet has begun transitioning Local Elections to the Office of Chief Electoral Officer. Since that change began, the Chief Electoral Officer's office has overseen elections in Southwest, The Pas, Thompson, Winnipeg, and Interlake Regions. The process for elections, especially for Local elections, will be part of the Constitutional amendments we will advance next year.

If you are on a Local executive and your name and position has not been registered with the Regional office, please visit the Chief Electoral Officer's booth and we will attempt to provide you with a "Certificate of Incumbency" this weekend and correct the records.

Governance Committee:

As the Chair of the Governance Committee, I lead much of the work necessary to start discussions, develop solutions, and draft necessary resolutions to address governance issues raised by our



Citizens. I continue to work closely with Minister LaPlante and Minister Lagimodiere on this Committee and would like to thank them for their guidance through the years.

Recent topics we are addressing include those raised by the Locals and Regions such as clarifying relationships within our governance structures and identifying and developing laws and policies required for the implementation of the Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty once ratified by Canada.

Some of these changes include a new MMF Elders Policy; new Local Executive Code of Ethics; new Local Executive Code of Conduct; and a proposed restructuring of the Local By-Laws.

Red River Métis Rights:

We are the Red River Métis – we are a distinct Indigenous People and Nation. The MMF is the National Government of the Red River Métis; and the Red River Settlement (now Winnipeg) is the Birthplace of our Nation and the Heart of our Homeland. We are Canada's negotiating Partner in Confederation and the Founder of Manitoba.

We have the right to define ourselves, have our own identity, protect our Citizens no matter where they live, and to have our own governance structures. On June 3, 2023, the MMF brought an estimated 4,000 Citizens together, in-person and virtually, to approve the Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty. Indeed, this was the largest Assembly in MMF history. The treaty was unanimously ratified through our Red River Métis process.

We are hopeful that the Treaty will go through Canada's ratification process and be introduced to the House of Commons this fall to solidify its place in legislation and the Constitution of Canada. Once the implementation legislation is passed, the Red River Métis Government and our Nation will be enshrined in our country's constitution through this modern-day treaty.

Beyond Borders:

To date, as I write this report, we have welcomed over 3,200 Citizens home to Red River since we began allowing for non-Manitoba residents to apply for their Citizenship.

This year, myself and the team of negotiators and lawyers travelled to cities within and beyond Manitoba to meet with Red River Métis Citizens to discuss the Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty. I saw firsthand how these Citizens are our family, and how connected they are to our Nation without being physically here in Manitoba.

As the Beyond Borders initiative continues to grow, we will be working closely with each MMF department and affiliate to support and address the unique needs of our Citizens residing outside of Manitoba.

Summary:

This is only a brief summary of the work being undertaken in my portfolios. It is clear that the Red River Métis are 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. Thank you!

These are exciting times as we continue to move forward and strengthen our responsible and accountable governance for our Red River Métis Citizens.





Métis Employment & Training/Indigenous Skills & Employment Training

Métis Employment & Training/Indigenous Skills & Employment Training



John Fleury
Minister



Joan Ledoux
Associate Minister

The Manitoba Métis Federation's (MMF) Métis Employment & Training Department (MET) operates through funds provided by the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Agreement with Canada. MET administers the ISET agreement on behalf of the MMF and is responsible for delivering employment and training services.

The ISET Program is a 10-year labour market strategy designed to help Indigenous people improve their skills and find employment.

Through this ISET agreement, the MMF can design and deliver innovative Métis-specific employment and skills training programs and services that best address the needs of our Red River Métis Citizens and communities.

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

ISET and prior labour market strategies have allowed the MMF, through the MET Department, to provide employment and training programs and services for over 25 years. These programs have assisted thousands of Red River 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. We have been extremely successful in achieving goals, building partnerships, and meeting the employment and training needs of our Red River Métis Citizens, 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 employment and career counselling, job search assistance, and access to information and computers; financial assistance for skills development training, project-based training programs to enhance employability and address specific industry requirements, and recruitment services for employer partners.

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 internal MMF departments and affiliates.

These innovative and unique partnerships enable the department 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 Métis Citizens and our communities.

2022-2023 Results Achieved

Métis Employment & Training continues once again to surpass our annual results targets. Our final 2022-2023 results were:

2,089	Clients Served
804	Clients Employed
925	Clients Supported in Funded Programs
	∞ 513 of these clients supported in Certificate, Diploma & Final Year University Programs
431	Clients Returned to School to pursue further education & training

Funded programs included student sponsorships, project-based training initiatives providing targeted training to address specific labour market demands, wage subsidies with employer partners, job creation partnerships, and summer student employment partnerships.

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, 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 (MMF) Annual General Assembly. The Métis Justice Institute (MJI) is pleased to provide you with an update on the 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.

The department has continued to deliver court diversion programs through the Métis and Thompson Community Justice Programs. MJI staff have continued to deliver justice programming that includes Domestic Violence and Anger Management and continues to develop additional programs such as Life Skills Programming and community safety planning projects for our most vulnerable Métis Citizens.

MJI's 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.

The department's 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 Métis Justice Strategy Development, and Indigenous Court Worker Program.

The Métis Justice Institute

The Métis Justice Institute has continued working toward the mandate of focusing responsibility and authority for justice issues within the Red River Métis Government. The 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 MJI in 2003, the department has continued to lobby Manitoba and Canada to work toward the development of Métis-specific justice programs and services. The MJI 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.

These programs provide culturally relevant supports, alternatives, advocacy, and resources to individuals who are referred to MCJP and TCJP from the Provincial Court to deal with justice involvement through a Restorative Justice Process. This 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's Northwest, The Pas, Interlake, and Thompson Regions. Service delivery has also continued to expand to accommodate individuals who identify as Red River Métis Citizens from the Southeast and Southwest Regions.

Over this reporting period, the MJI has received 93 case diversions referred from Manitoba Prosecutions and the RCMP from 38 communities located within the MMF Regions. The Combined number of charges involved 86 charges from 25 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 MJI-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 MJI 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 MMF developed the Justice Support Program (JSP) focused 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, promoting job skills, and ultimately supporting individuals to become employment or education ready.

Justice Programming

Domestic Violence Programming

The MJI has continued to deliver the Métis Justice Domestic Violence Program for individuals that require programming as a part of their sanctions for Court Diversion. Programming was undertaken within six MMF Regions 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 25 individuals involved in Court Diversion have participated and completed programming within the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Anger Management Programming

The MJI has continued to deliver the Métis Justice Anger Management Program for individuals that require programming as a part of their Sanctions for Court Diversion. Programming was undertaken within six MMF Regions 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 37 individuals involved in Court Diversion have participated and completed programming within the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Justice Program Development

Life Skills Programming

The MJI's Métis Justice Life Skills Program has continued to be developed. A plan for implementation has been discussed for the upcoming year. The program will assist MJI clients involved in our Justice Support and Court Diversion Programs to empower participants to gain skills and resources to effect positive change in their own lives.

Métis Community Safety Sessions

In MJI's continued efforts to enhance the safety and well-being of Red River Métis Citizens and our communities, the department 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.



MJI's 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.

New Projects for 2022-2023

Métis Identity within the Justice System Project

Newly received funding from Canada for the MJJI's Métis Identity within the Justice System Project was received for the fiscal year. 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 from Canada for the MJJI's Red River Métis Engagement with the Indigenous Justice Strategy – Métis Justice Strategy Project was received for the fiscal year. 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 and 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 for the inclusion of a Métis distinctions-based approach to service delivery.

Métis Mediation Services Project

Newly received funding from Canada for the MJJI's Métis Mediation Services Project was received for the fiscal year. 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 from Manitoba and Canada for the MJJI's Métis Court Work Program was received for the fiscal year. This program has been under development over the fiscal year to develop a Red River Métis Government support to facilitate and enhance access to justice through the provincial court. In collaboration with First Nations, the Program replaces the Manitoba Government's Indigenous Court Worker Program.

Métis Family Support Project

Newly received funding from Manitoba for the MJJI's Métis Family Support Project was also received to continue deliverables this fiscal year. The project has been under development and 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 to 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 MJJI, please feel free to contact our office at:

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





French & Michif Language Protection

French & Michif Language Protection



Andrew Carrier
Minister



Marielle Gauthier
Associate Minister

In 2022/2023, the Culture & Heritage Department contracted the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) to obtain 20 high-quality language documentation equipment kits for field language documentation in each region. This allowed the regions to connect with local Michif speakers and capture interviews, information, and teachings via audio and video technology.

The Culture & Heritage Department also contracted LRI to procure Michif Educational Resource Kits for each region. The kits were designed to aid in the teaching, learning and promotion of the Michif language within local communities. The kits contained a range of educational Michif language resources, including children's books with CD's, interactive tools for all ages, and culturally relevant teaching aids and props.

The Michif Word of the Day continued to run on MMF social media throughout the year as a means to expose Red River Métis Citizens and others to Michif vocabulary. Plans to expand this initiative include additional context around Michif words and the highlighting of more regional dialects.

In addition, the LRI continued to carry out a number of language initiatives. LRI's Métis Languages Program completed two large projects in the 2022/2023 fiscal year. Both projects were very successful and went beyond the original promised deliverables with partnerships, collaboration, and access to experts being factors in these achievements. The project funding allowed LRI to build a strong foundation for the work ahead in revitalizing the Métis languages. All Métis languages staff took part in learning Michif, using the Southern Michif Beginners online course with the assistance of a facilitator. One of the initiatives included the piloting of the first full-time, 'Group Immersion Mentor-Apprentice Program' in Manitoba. This program is working towards creating proficient speakers and teachers. The following outlines each project and the deliverables achieved.

Métis Languages Community Engagement Project (2021-2023)

The overall goal of this project was to bring those working in language revitalization together to share, learn, plan and build for the revitalization of the languages.

Work was carried out to develop the Métis Languages Community Circle. Each MMF Regional VP invited at least one language representative to sit on the Métis Languages Community Circle. Others were chosen by LRI based on their involvement with the language. Thirty Métis Languages Community Circle members took part in training in language revitalization principles, language planning, language assessment and survey writing. The Métis Languages Community Circle met regularly, with special guests, spotlights on programs or resources, and continuous education on language learning and teaching.

The LRI also developed and distributed a Métis Language survey which went out through email, media, and the MMF AGA. LRI tabulated and analyzed the results, providing a picture of the vitality of, and the interest in, learning and preserving Métis languages. The survey report has been approved by the respective Ministers and will be used in future Métis Languages planning.

Strategic planning took place around communications and the larger program. Various discussions, visioning, and language planning sessions were held with other language stakeholders, MMF Ministers, Métis Languages Community Circle Members, and experts in language revitalization and Métis languages. A Strategic Language Framework was also created to be the starting point for future planning. Through work completed in 2021 on the development of a Métis Language Communications Strategy, LRI continued efforts towards implementation; focusing on current and future activities and initiatives. The goal of the communications strategy continued to focus on promoting Métis language, connecting with interested individuals, and to educating the public on language revitalization.

In 2022, LRI focused on conducting an Environmental Scan where LRI Archiving staff collected, documented, and inventoried language materials held in LRI and MMF trust. This work is continuous, and will be focusing on digitizing more existing materials in 2023/2024. Additionally, numerous hours of new language samples were documented through the Community Engagement Project, using high-quality documenting kits, with training provided by experts in language documentation. The kits were provided to four 'language pairs' in Manitoba, consisting of a speaker and learner/documenter. The documenters then recorded, edited, orally transcribed, and labeled the conversations for archiving purposes. Once completed they were sent to LRI



The Michif Word of the Day continued to run on MMF social media throughout the year as a means to expose Red River Métis Citizens and others to Michif vocabulary. Plans to expand this initiative include additional context around Michif words and the highlighting of more regional dialects.

Archives. LRI also supported the mobilization of the KEYA Radio Station recordings “As We Remember”, which will be available in 2023/2024 on the LRI Archives.

In 2022/2023, LRI supported the development of the Michif Talking Dictionary. The Michif Talking Dictionary is an audio extension of the original dictionary belonging to the Turtle Mountain Community College. This resource will be available for free online on the LRI’s website in 2023.

Supplementary Funding Project- MAP House & Capacity Building (2021-2023)

The overall goal of this project was to:

- ∞ Build the capacity in LRI to create a Métis Languages Program with well-trained, knowledgeable staff, and in turn, LRI would support language planning and language work in the larger community and,
- ∞ Develop and pilot the Group Immersion Mentor Apprentice Program (MAP) to train adults to become proficient speakers in order to create language teachers.

LRI continued work on internal capacity building in language revitalization through training of staff, the Métis Languages Community Circle Members, and other stakeholders, via Zoom, workshops, and seminars. Some of the training topics included:

- ∞ Indigenous language revitalization principles and practices,
- ∞ Second language immersion teaching techniques,
- ∞ Archival practices,
- ∞ Documentation practices and equipment use,
- ∞ Mentor-apprentice practices, and
- ∞ Michif language classes

Through this project, the LRI developed and piloted the Group Mentor Apprentice Program (MAP). The MAP House in Brandon officially opened its doors in October 2022 for a six-month pilot. LRI received commitment from two fluent speakers, four apprentices, and an experienced MAP coordinator to take on managing the program. Participants spent full days at the MAP house, with half day in immersion sessions, and half in self-study. All participants, Mentors, and Apprentices will continue this work and have been enrolled in a certificate course through the U of W, on ‘Teaching Indigenous Languages for Vitality’, set to be complete in 2023.

Resource development continued to be a major focus for LRI. Work took place on the design of four illustrated ‘wordless books’, each illustrated by a different Métis illustrator, to be used to teach Métis language. The books were accompanied by a guidebook to explain the teaching strategies for using wordless books and will provide example lessons. The printed copies will be distributed by LRI in 2023/2024. Additionally, the LRI began development of a ‘Group MAP Guidebook’ to be completed in September 2023. The Little Yellow Dictionary, (Southern Michif) was updated, reformatted, re-designed, and printed. LRI distributed thousands of copies at various events over the 2022/2023 year.

Funding through this project also assisted LRI in the development and population of an Archival Content Management System called Mukurtu. The Mukurtu CMS for language archiving was designed for Indigenous archiving, to protect and share all existing and newly digitized language video and audio. The LRI continued to work on the CMS focusing on design, capabilities, and content. The LRI Language Archives platform is anticipated to be live in fall 2023.

The Little

Yellow Michif Dictionary

La Lawng: Michif Peekishkwewin
The Canadian Michif Language Dictionary



Introductory Level



Mining

Mining



Vincent Parenteau
Minister



Mildred Dorion
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 citizens.

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 Manitoba – First Nations Mineral Development Protocol and as a result, provincial officials and project proponents are not proactively notifying or reaching out to the MMF. Your Red River Métis Government continues to pressure Manitoba to develop a Red River Métis-specific mineral development protocol to ensure meaningful and appropriate engagement and consultation through all phases of mineral development projects. Mining operations pose unique opportunities and challenges. The Mining Portfolio is focused on ensuring our Citizens are properly engaged and consulted on all mineral exploration and development projects 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:

Minago Nickel Project – Flying Nickel Mining Ltd.

Flying Nickel has purchased the Minago Nickel Project in The Pas region. This project includes an open pit mine which would produce nickel concentrate. In 2011, an Environment Act Licence was issued to the previous owners, Victory Nickel. This licence was appealed and a Notice of Alteration (NOA) to the 2011 Licence was required and submitted by Victory Nickel in 2014. In 2021 Flying Nickel Ltd. purchased the Minago Project and submitted a revised version of the 2014 NOA. This NOA is currently going through the Environment Act Licensing process. The MMF has been in discussions with Flying Nickel to explore economic development opportunities and to ensure Red River Métis-specific mitigation measures are incorporated into the project plans. Manitoba invited the MMF to participate in the Crown consultation process for the project, which began in the summer of 2023.

Vivian Silica Sand Project – Sio Silica

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 was split between two provincial Environmental Assessment Proposals (EAPs) – the first for the processing facility, which has been approved, and the second for the extraction process, which is in progress. The MMF formally requested a designation of the processing facility 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. Manitoba recommended that the proposed extraction project go through CEC hearings, which took place from February 27 – March 16, 2023. The MMF was unable to participate in the hearings, but received funding from Manitoba to host a community meeting and conduct a technical review of the EAP for the extraction project. The MMF's intervention to the Environment Act Licensing proceedings was submitted to Manitoba on June 8, 2023. The CEC released their report on June 23, 2023 and outlined many recommendations to be considered before the project could proceed.



Wanipigow Silica Sand Mine and Selkirk Processing Facility – Canadian Premium Sand Inc.

Canadian Premium Sand (CPS) proposed to construct the Wanipigow Silica Sand Mine near Seymourville and a Solar Glass Processing Facility in Selkirk. The extraction 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 extraction project and processing facility were filed as two separate Environment Act Proposals.

The MMF contacted both Manitoba and CPS to initiate full, proper, and meaningful engagement and consultation with the Red River Métis regarding the extraction project, but neither Manitoba nor CPS responded. Since that time, Manitoba issued an Environment Act License (EAL), and the MMF filed an appeal to this decision; however the provincial Minister subsequently dismissed the appeal. In 2023, the MMF again requested engagement and consultation regarding the EAP for the Solar Glass Processing Facility, but Manitoba stated the project did not trigger the duty to consult. CPS received their EAL on May 3, 2023, and the MMF subsequently filed an appeal of the license. Your Red River Métis Government is aware of the economic development opportunities that flow from the extraction and processing of the product and will continue to attempt to engage with the proponent to ensure the Red River Métis are included in these opportunities.

Orphaned and Abandoned Mine Site – Sherridon, Manitoba

The Manitoba Métis Federation continues discussions with Manitoba regarding the remediation efforts which were concluded in the fall of 2021 at the mine site in Sherridon. The site is considered an orphaned and abandoned mine and Manitoba is responsible for the remaining environmental impacts, as well as the continued long-term monitoring of the site. While Manitoba considers the site to be remediated and suggests that no environmental impacts remain, the MMF continues to pressure the province to undertake more extensive monitoring of the water, sediment, and soil in the surrounding area.

The draining of Camp Lake into Kississing Lake resulted in an orange discolouration of the water due to increased iron content, which led to the staining of Citizens' boats and raised immense concern surrounding the impacts on local tourism business in Sherridon. In 2021, the MMF 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 continued impacts of the mine. The MMF is continuing its own environmental monitoring and expanding this monitoring to include other parameters of concern. Your Red River 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 Inc.

The federal environmental assessment of the Alamos Gold Inc. Lynn Lake Gold Mine was completed on March 6, 2023, and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada released a decision statement determining that the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects. Following the

decision by the Federal Minister, the Manitoba Environment Act Licenses for both the Gordon and MacLellan Mine Sites were issued. The MMF is continuing its discussions with Manitoba, Canada, and Alamos to ensure that our Citizens are included in all project-related opportunities and that Red River Métis-specific mitigation measures are incorporated into their project plans.

Potash and Agri-Development Corporation of Manitoba Ltd. (PADCOM)

PADCOM received its Environment Act License for its proposed potash solution mining project located in the hamlet of Harrowby within the RM of Russell-Binscarth on May 30, 2022. The project will involve 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. Your Red River Métis Government continues to work with the proponent on opportunities for the MMF to partner with PADCOM and seek equity options for the benefit of our Citizens.

Mineral Exploration

T2 Metals – Sherridon Exploration

T2 Metals entered into an option agreement with Halo Resources in January 2023 to acquire 90% of the mineral claims at the Sherridon VMHS Camp. T2 Metals has been reviewing and interpreting the historic exploration data and has visited Sherridon to review historic drill cores. They began further exploration activities in the last quarter of 2023. The MMF has been in discussions with Manitoba, T2 Metals, and Canada regarding the exploration activities and will explore economic development opportunities as well as continue to express concerns regarding the cumulative impacts of mining in the Sherridon area.

Kenorland Minerals

Kenorland Minerals is an exploration company with various exploration projects in Manitoba. These projects include the Wheatcroft Project near Granville Lake in northwest Manitoba, the Muskayk Project just east of Leaf Rapids, the Osik Project, and the South Thompson Project near Thompson. The MMF has met with representatives of Kenorland Minerals to discuss their projects, a process for engagement, as well as potential economic development opportunities.

Snow Lake Lithium

Snow Lake Lithium is continuing exploration activities and proposing an open pit lithium mine 20-km east of the town of Snow Lake at the Thompson Brothers Lithium property. The MMF has been corresponding with Snow Lake Lithium and is looking to explore economic development opportunities relating to the project as well as ensure an appropriate engagement process is in place, as the project progresses.

We are always looking for input, comments, questions, and concerns from Red River 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 Maddy Perry via email at madelynn.perry@mmf.mb.ca.





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 (EIRM) Department, is centered 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 our Red River Métis Harvesters and has ensured that Citizen's concerns and interests are brought forward to help conserve and manage the lands, waters, and resources of Manitoba.

A few developments within the portfolio through 2022-2023 include the following:

Harvesting

Despite the MMF's best efforts to protect, defend, and expand Red River Métis harvesting rights throughout our traditional homeland, the Manitoba government has continued to disregard our rights and charge Red River 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. If unjustly charged by Manitoba Conservation for harvesting, please contact the MMF's EIRM Department. The MMF has your back!

Red River Métis Harvesters 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. Red River Métis Harvesters must validate their Métis Harvester Card yearly by purchasing the current year's CTF sticker on or after April 1. 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 Manitoba. Please visit the MMF website at www.mmf.mb.ca to obtain the season's CTF sticker and big-game tags or visit the MMF Home Office or Regional Offices.

As a reminder to all Red River Métis Harvesters, a permission slip must 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 at all times. 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.

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. Please be aware that in 2022 CWD was discovered in Manitoba. Provincial management actions are ongoing 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 provincial management actions such as mandatory CWD surveillance zones and the establishment of a licenced mule deer hunting seasons, do not apply to Red River Métis Harvesters exercising their Aboriginal right to hunt for sustenance within the RMHA. Red River Métis Harvesters must understand the seriousness of CWD and be sure that they are following all health and safety regulations while harvesting as these actions play a key role in preventing the spread of CWD.

Moose

The Manitoba government implemented moose harvesting closures and management decisions in the Duck Mountain and Porcupine Mountains (i.e., GHAs 13, 13A, 18, 18A, 18B, and 18C) without proper and meaningful engagement or consultation with the Red River Métis. In response, the MMF voluntarily closed all moose harvesting opportunities for Red River Métis Harvesters in these areas for conservation purposes, ensuring the species survival for future generations.

In 2021, ten years after the closures were put in place, the provincial government announced a surprise proposed limited moose hunting opportunity in the Duck Mountain and Porcupine Mountains for all hunters and harvesters without consulting the Red River Métis. In response, 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 decision to reopen was made using a conservation-minded approach, based on provincial survey results and wildlife management discussions.

The Moose Conservation Harvesting Initiative has taken place over the past three big-game harvesting seasons with successful harvests each year. The Initiative consists of a live draw, Conservation Moose Tags, Captains of the Hunt, and Conservation Moose Harvesting Parties. One Conservation Moose Tag being issued to each successfully drawn Captain of the Hunt on behalf of all Red River Métis Harvesters that are valid members of their Conservation Moose Harvesting Party. Each Conservation Moose Tag is GHA-specific, with a total of 16 tags being issued for Duck Mountain and 10 tags for the Porcupine Mountains.

Caribou

The MMF heard from Red River Métis Citizens and Harvesters a concern for diminishing caribou populations throughout the province as well as the need for support of immediate conservation efforts to ensure the 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. Over the past three years, the MMF has deployed 60 monitoring cameras throughout the wintering habitat, capturing photos and videos of caribou movement and population numbers as well as photos of other wildlife including Species at Risk (SAR) such as the wolverine. The MMF plans to continue work on Project Caribou, maintaining currently deployed monitoring cameras, deploying additional cameras, and reviewing data to determine the next steps in protecting caribou in Manitoba.

Powley Program

The MMF and the Canadian Wildlife Services (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 wildlife consultation initiatives, interview Red River Métis Traditional Knowledge Holders, and undertake research that is required to ensure that impacts to the Red River Métis, our lands, waters, and resources are limited. 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.

Parks Canada

a) Conservation & protected area funding from Parks Canada

Funding received in 2022-2023 will support “Métis Involvement and Capacity in Establishing Protected and Other Conserved Areas”. Parks Canada and the MMF reached a Contribution Agreement in 2022 to support increased MMF involvement in the establishment & management of new protected and other conserved areas including Parks Canada places such as National Historic Sites, National Urban Parks, Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas, Marine National Parks, and Ecological Corridors. This funding has supported a new MMF staff position titled Parks Canada Liaison who began in April 2023.

This three-year agreement is supporting an increasing involvement from the MMF in conservation, land management planning, and stewardship including National Park establishment, wide ranging engagement and consultation meetings with citizens and broader Red River Métis stewardship discussions.

b) New Proposed Parks & Protected Areas

Parks Canada has made commitments to conserving 25% of Canada’s lands by 2025 and to complete this many new parks and protected areas need to be established by this time. Parks Canada is working with the MMF to ensure Red River Métis Citizens are engaged in consultation on all park and protected area establishment projects in Manitoba.

c) 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.

d) 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. Over the past two fiscal years, the MMF has used this fund to help support trail camera deployment and the maintenance, data collection, and inclusion of Red River Métis Citizens in on-the-land activities in Wapusk National Park.

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas

Since 2020, the MMF has been working towards creating two Indigenous Protected & Conserved Areas (IPCAs) through Canada’s Target 1 Challenge and the Government of Canada’s commitment to conserve 30% of Canada’s lands and oceans by 2030 (“30 by 30”). 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.

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. Engagement on this file includes community workshops, virtual community meetings, presentations, environmental monitoring, and conservation planning to ensure the protected areas are built on Red River Métis values, knowledge, and priorities.

If you would like to know more about the MMF’s IPCA initiative, please visit our Red River Métis IPCA stories at <https://ipcaknowledgebasket.ca/>.

Nature United

Over the past two fiscal years, the MMF has been collaborating with Nature United on the shared goal of supporting Red River Métis stewardship of lands, waters, and resources. Through Nature United grant funding, the MMF held a series of virtual community meetings to identify important species to include in a Kettle Hills Blueberry Patch flora and fauna monitoring strategy. This monitoring strategy incorporates Michif language, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and has been implemented over the past two years alongside MMF staff, Youth, and Knowledge Holders in sites of interest for protection.

Moving forward, the grant fund supports the broad goal of protected area planning within the Kettle Hills Blueberry Patch, which consists of Community Cultural Values Mapping Interviews, the continued implementation of the Kettle Hills

Blueberry Patch Monitoring Strategy, and the implementation of the Healthy Country Planning framework.

Fighting and Managing Wildfires in a Changing Climate Program

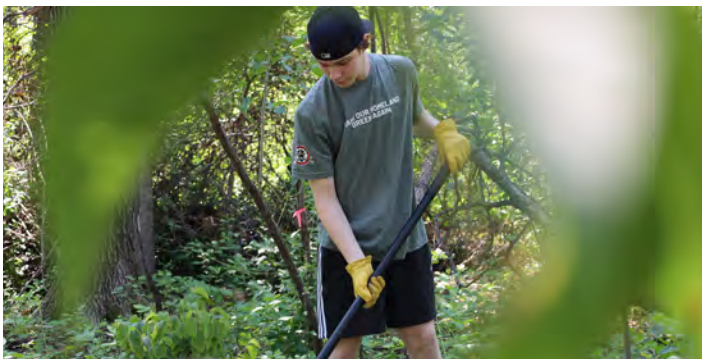
Following Canada's commitment to training 1,000 new community-based firefighters, Natural Resources Canada initiated a pilot program with the goal of supporting community capacity and combating the increasing prevalence of wildland fires. The MMF submitted a collaborative application under this initiative alongside Parks Canada's National Resource Management Branch to train a crew of up to twelve Red River Métis Citizens as Type 2 Firefighters. The MMF's application was approved, and training is scheduled to take place in the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Make Our Homeland Green Again – MMF's Tree Planting Initiative

The MMF 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 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 (the strip of land between the shoreline and the upland zone) along waterways within Manitoba. During the 2022 planting season, 5,381 trees and shrubs have been distributed and planted across the homeland. Moving forward, we estimate over 18,000 trees and shrubs will be provided over the 2023 planting season.

Seed Collection Network (SCN)

In November 2022, Kevin Wasylenko, the Green Initiatives Coordinator, embarked on a trip to the National Tree Seed Center in Fredericton, New Brunswick, as part of the Federal Government's Indigenous Seed Collection Program (ISCP). This program aimed to provide training and expertise in monitoring, harvesting, and preserving tree seeds, as well as guidance on initiating a seed collection program within the Red River Métis Homeland. Stay tuned for upcoming consultation and training opportunities focused on seed harvesting and preservation. The MMF is eager to actively safeguard biodiversity within the province's ecosystem while establishing a local supply of tree seeds from the MMF owned and operated Tree Nursery.

Horticultural Educational Workshops and Training

The "Make Our Homeland Green Again" Tree Planting Initiative provides an exciting avenue for hosting horticultural educational workshops and training programs. These sessions will cover a wide array of topics, including plant care, plant propagation, biodiversity, and forest stewardship. We are thrilled to share that two successful pilot propagation workshops have already been conducted—one in the Winnipeg Region and a second in the Southwest Region—with an enthusiastic turnout of 43 attendees.

A Look Ahead for the Tree Planting Initiative

- Stay tuned for news of upcoming workshops focusing on horticulture, tree care, and plant maintenance.
- Initial consultation and training sessions on seed harvesting and collection through the Seed Collection Network (SCN)
- Increased available species of trees and shrubs through the Tree Planting Program with a focus on fruit-bearing trees and shrubs to assist with food insecurity in the province.

If you have any questions or if you would like to learn more about the MMF's Tree Planting initiative, contact Kevin Wasylenko, Green Initiatives Coordinator by emailing trees@mmf.mb.ca, Kevin.wasylenko@mmf.mb.ca or by calling (431)-278-9547.



Provincial Education

Provincial Education



Joan Ledoux
Minister



David Beaudin
Associate Minister

Over the course of the last year, the Manitoba Métis Federation’s (MMF) Provincial Education Department’s main activities were:

- ∞ Administered the Post-Secondary Education Support Program (PSESP).
- ∞ Represented the MMF on the Government of Manitoba’s Education Council, as well as on the Manitoba Collaborative Indigenous Education Blueprint Steering Committee as an ex-officio member.
- ∞ Initiated the Red River Métis Education Working Group and secured the Province’s partnership to create an education strategy and framework that will improve the educational outcomes of Red River Métis students in Manitoba’s K-12 system.
- ∞ Held a Métis Educators’ Conference in conjunction with the Louis Riel Institute (LRI).
- ∞ Hired a Director and a Research and Policy Analyst.
- ∞ Hired three Métis Inclusion Coordinators (MICs) for the University of Winnipeg, University of Manitoba, and Brandon University which expanded MMF’s presence in Manitoba’s post-secondary institutions.
- ∞ Extended presence in high schools through MIC attendance at post-secondary student fairs.
- ∞ Attended meetings with the Presidents of post-secondary institutions from across Manitoba which

built relationships, discussed issues and successes of programs, explored opportunities for further collaboration, and ensured that the institutions are moving towards the shared goal of improving the education journeys and outcomes of Red River Métis students.

Red River Métis Education Working Group

MMF’s Minister of Education, Joan Ledoux, met with Manitoba’s Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, Wayne Ewasko, in the summer of 2022 to start working towards the shared goal of improving the K-12 education system for Red River Métis students.

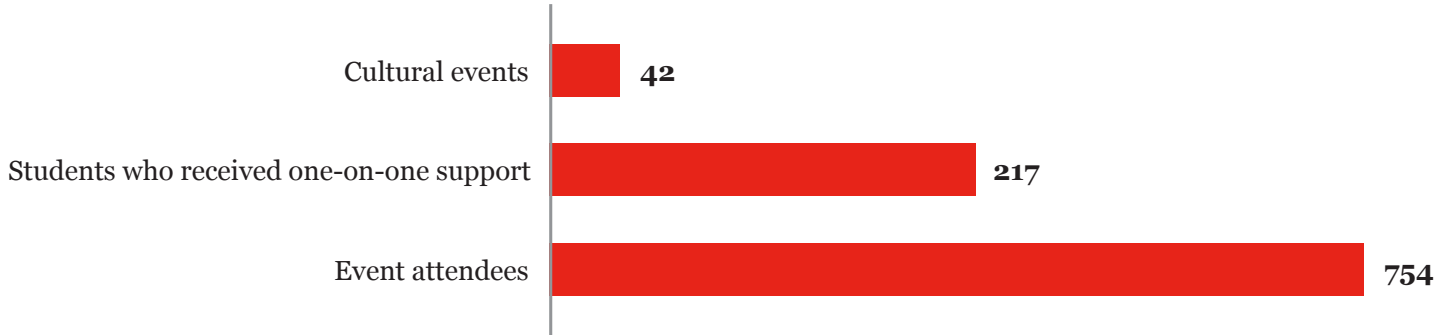
The Red River Métis Education Working Group has been in development since Fall 2022. Representatives from MMF’s Provincial Education, Manitoba’s Ministry of Education and Early Childhood Learning, and the Indigenous Inclusion Directorate Advisory Council, began formalizing a partnership between the education arms of the two governments via a working group. The Red River Métis Education Working Group started working towards the creation of an education strategy and framework for improving the educational outcomes of Red River Métis students in Manitoba’s K-12 system.

The two Ministers met again in January 2023 to verbally agree to launch the Working Group and to prepare for a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing in April 2023.

Development of the Métis Inclusion Coordinators Team

Over the course of the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the MMF Provincial Education Department hired three Métis Inclusion Coordinators (MICs). The MICs are full-time MMF employees who are situated on the campuses of post-secondary institutions to offer support to Red River Métis post-secondary students. The current MICs are situated on the campuses of the University of Winnipeg, the University of Manitoba, and Brandon University. Although the MIC workers started halfway into the fiscal year, they were able to quickly establish relationships with stakeholders and students, putting on 42 cultural events. The chart below provides an overview of the MIC’s involvement on the campuses.

2022-23 MIC Student Engagement



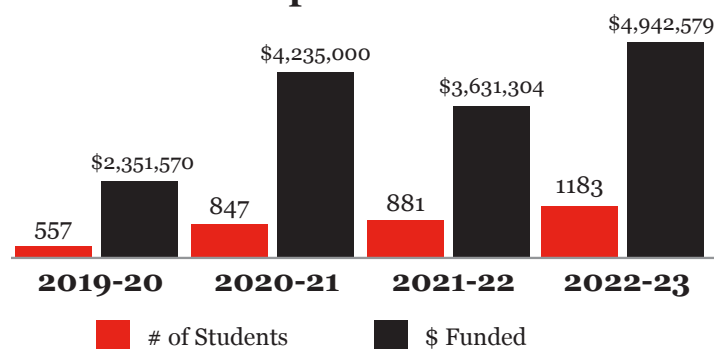
The goals of the Métis Inclusion Coordinators is to promote awareness of Métis culture and to create a sense of community among the Red River Métis at each institution. Events included beading and jigging workshops, Red River Métis history and ancestry-tracing presentations, and Louis Riel Day celebrations.

Post-Secondary Education Support Program (PSESP)

The MMF's PSESP was developed by the MMF Provincial Education Working Group Committee in 2019. The Provincial Education Working Group Committee developed and defined the program's Terms of Reference and Guidelines, as well as developed the necessary PSESP sub-committees to execute the programming. The PSESP has continued to provide eligible Citizens enrolled in a post-secondary program with up to \$5,000 for full-time students and up to \$2,500 for part-time students per fiscal year.

The fourth intake began on July 15, 2022, and ended March 31, 2023. During this time PSESP provided rights-based scholarships to 1183 Red River Métis students for a total amount of \$4,942,579. The following figure summarises the number of individuals funded, and the dollar amounts awarded for all years of the PSESP.

PSESP Students Funded and Funding Totals per Fiscal Year



The following table provides the regional breakdowns of the students funded by PSESP and funding totals for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

Region Name	Regional Funding Totals	Number of Students
Interlake Region	\$635,300	150
Northwest Region	\$216,600	56
Southeast Region	\$701,400	166
Southwest Region	\$575,100	141
The Pas Region	\$98,500	21
Thompson Region	\$67,729	17
Winnipeg Region	\$2,647,950	632
TOTAL	\$4,942,579	1183


The 2022-23 applicant data is mainly composed of students enrolled in an eligible post-secondary education program, which includes undergraduate degrees, professional degrees, master's degrees, and doctoral degrees. PSESP also funded some citizens who were enrolled in diploma or certificate programs, and who were ineligible to receive funding through other departments.

PSESP 2022-23 Awarded Applicants by Institution Type	
Universities	1038
Colleges	145
Total Awarded:	1183

PSESP 2022-23 Cost-of-Living Supplement Payments

In 2022, President Chartrand gave the directive to pay all students eligible for PSESP, a Cost-of-Living Supplement payment of \$75 per month, for a six-month period beginning in October 2022 and ending in March 2023. In total, \$531,000 of additional funding was provided to Red River Métis post-secondary students.





Red River Métis
Veterans

Red River
Métis Veterans

Red River Métis Veterans



Shawn Nault
Minister

The Red River Métis Veterans Department (RRMVD) of the Manitoba Métis Federation was established to recognize the immense contributions made by Métis Veterans and their loved ones and provide them with culturally appropriate support to improve their well-being. Since the Department's inception, we have been designing and developing our program to support Red River Métis Veterans, their families, and their caregivers.

The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) entered a service delivery agreement with the Métis National Council (MNC) in September 2020 to administer the Métis Veterans Legacy Program (MVLV). In 2022, the MMF entrusted this program to the RRMVD to ensure that the program is administered with efficiency, accountability, and respect.

The MVLV has worked hard to recognize WWII Métis Veterans for their pre- and post-war experiences through \$20,000 Recognition Payments to surviving Veterans and their families. As this time-sensitive phase of the MVLV's work nears completion, the MVLV is ramping up its delivery and support for commemoration programs. The programs honour the legacies of Métis Veterans for their sacrifices and contributions by promoting public awareness to ensure that their experiences are remembered forever.

Red River Métis Veterans Department Review 2022/2023

A Strategic Planning session was held in February 2023 for the RRMVD and the MVLV. Minister Shawn Nault, RRMVD staff, consultants, and the department's working group of Veteran Cabinet Ministers (Veteran Jack Park, Veteran John Fleury, and Veteran Andrew Carrier) attended the meeting. The session outlined the framework for the RRMVD's five-year work plan by identifying the short- and long-term goals to meet the Minister's mandate, department objectives, and the requirements of the service delivery agreement with the MNC.

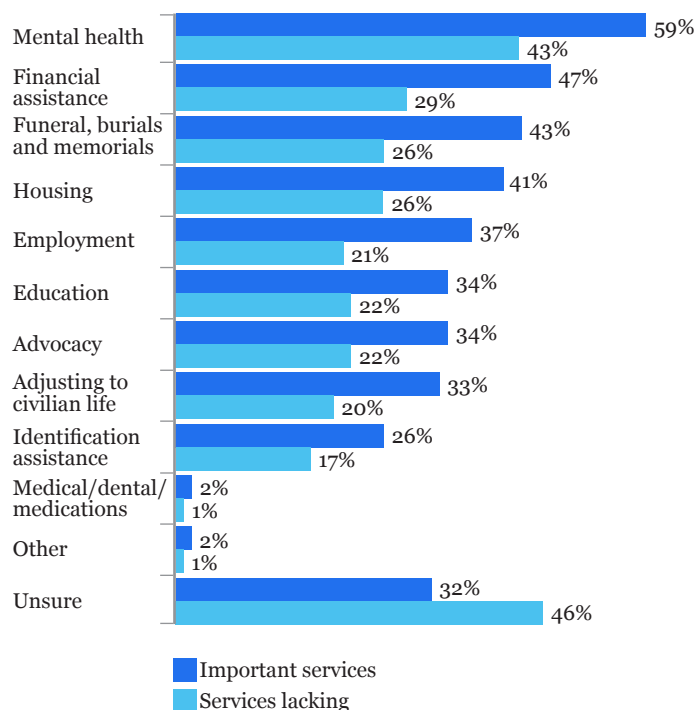
RRMVD's mission is to develop and improve its support to Red River Métis Veterans, their families, and caregivers throughout their lives by identifying their needs to assist them in accessing necessary support.

The RRMVD is committed to working collaboratively with all MMF departments and affiliates to provide wraparound services to support our Veterans. This collaboration will involve sharing information and resources and coordinating efforts to ensure that all MMF services are appropriate and accessible for Red River Métis Veterans and their families.

RRMVD Survey

The RRMVD developed a survey to be completed by Red River Métis Citizens who attended the MMF's Annual General Assembly in March 2022 and those who attended the 13 Beyond Borders consultation sessions held between June and September 2022. The survey was developed to gather feedback from Red River Métis Citizens to help prioritize areas to improve support for our Veterans, estimate the number of both living and deceased Veterans in Métis communities, measure the presence of Royal Canadian Legions within Métis communities, and evaluate interest in careers in the Canadian Armed Forces.

Perceived value of veteran supports and reported service deficits



6. Based off your knowledge and/or experience, please select the service you think are most important for supporting Red River Métis veteran citizens. Please check all that apply.

7. Of the following services, which do you think are currently lacking in their support for Métis veteran citizens? Please check all that apply.

Base: All respondents (N=316)

Participants were asked to provide their perspective on the available supports or lack thereof for Métis Veterans and identify areas of improvement. Mental health, financial assistance, memorial costs, and housing were the top four concerns identified by our Citizens, which will guide the ongoing priorities of the RRMVD to improve the quality of life for Métis Veterans across the Homeland.

In total, 575 surveys were completed among the eligible population of 1,482 conference attendees, providing a response rate of 39%. 42% of respondents identified as male, and 57% identified as female. The majority (39%) of respondents were in the 46-65 age bracket, followed by the 65+ age bracket (25%).

Indigenous Veterans Day 2022

On Indigenous Veterans Day (November 8), the RRMVD hosted the first Red River Métis Veterans Remembrance Day Service at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada, in the heart of the Homeland. Over 200 people gathered to honour our Veterans on this important day, which began with a Royal Canadian Air Force Fly-by and a Colour Party March led by Alexina Nault, a Red River Métis Youth piper, who is a current service member of the Canadian Armed Forces with Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada. The event featured special dignitaries and guest speakers, including Colonel Grebstad (a high-ranking Red River Métis military official) who spoke on behalf of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Canadian Armed Forces Recruitment

The department is developing a partnership with the Canadian Armed Forces to explore career opportunities for our Citizens, with a focus on connecting Red River Métis Youth with employment and extracurricular programs such as Cadets Canada. This initiative involves collaboration with other MMF departments.

RRMVD Database Development

To date, there have not been any studies or surveys conducted to identify the number of Red River Métis Veterans in Canada, let alone to determine what services would be most beneficial to this demographic. To gain an in-depth understanding of our Veterans' contributions and sacrifices for our country, the RRMVD has initiated the establishment of a national database of Red River Métis Veterans. The creation and maintenance of the custom-built RRMVD database will be an ongoing priority of the department, as it will help identify our Red River Métis Veterans and establish collaborative relationships with Veterans and their families. The database will document the experiences of Red River Métis

Veterans before, during, and after service in the Canadian Armed Forces to fill the gaps in Canadian history, while also helping the department identify the current needs of our heroes.

Informed by the 2022 RRMVD survey responses, RRMVD staff have begun making initial contact with Red River Métis Veterans across the Homeland. They will continue to build relationships with our Veterans and their loved ones during follow-up meetings/phone calls to gather complete records for each of our Veterans.

If you are a Métis Veteran, a Métis Veteran's family member, someone who knows of a Métis Veteran, or if you are curious about the RRMVD, please visit our booth today or email us at RedRiverMetisVeterans@mmf.mb.ca!

Métis Veterans Legacy Program Review 2022/2023

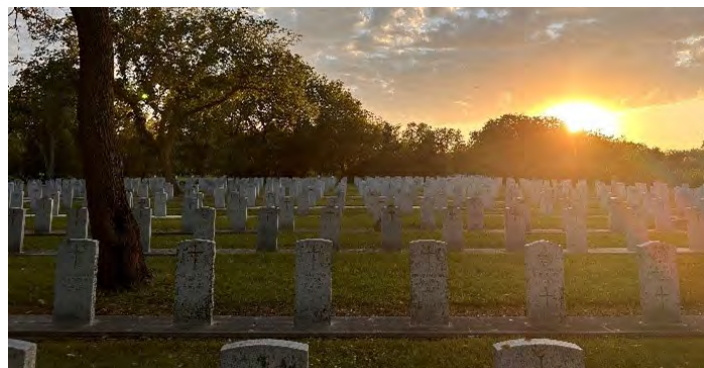
The Métis Veterans Legacy Program (MVLP) supports, honours, and recognizes all Métis Veterans by administering the Recognition Payment Program and the Commemoration Program. The MVLP has made significant progress in recognizing the war efforts of our Métis heroes and advancing the unfinished and ongoing business of reconciliation between Canada and Métis Veterans. Although the MVLP continues its search for WWII Métis Veterans and their family members that could be eligible for Recognition Payments, the Program's primary focus has shifted towards long-term legacy preservation through Commemoration Program community projects.

Recognition Payments

Upon return from WWII, our Métis Veterans did not receive the same support, resources, or benefits that were initially promised to them, which were routinely given to non-Métis Veterans. Many of them were discriminated against by Veterans Affairs Canada and denied an economic foundation to rebuild their lives upon return home.

The objective of the Recognition Payment Program is to acknowledge the pre- and post-war experiences of WWII Métis Veterans, which may have negatively impacted their demobilization success, by presenting the Veteran with a \$20,000 Recognition Payment. If the Veteran has passed, the Recognition Payment is presented to their spouse/common-law partner. If the Veteran and their spouse/common-law partner have passed, the Recognition Payment is evenly distributed amongst the Veteran's living children (if the Veteran passed on or after January 1, 2016).

If you know a WWII Métis Veteran or their loved ones that may be eligible for compensation through the Recognition Payment Program, please get in touch with us or refer them to veteran.info@metisveterans.ca.



Commemoration Program

The sacrifices and contributions that Métis Veterans made to defend Canada remain largely unknown. The Commemoration Program invites Métis and non-Métis individuals or organizations to propose projects that will honour, respect, and preserve the legacies of Métis Veterans to promote awareness of their contributions among the Métis Nation and the Canadian public. It will support and expand the efforts that Métis communities have traditionally undertaken to honour our Veterans. Eligible projects include memorials, monuments, ceremonies and events, research papers, art installations, scholarships, literature, and other Métis Veteran-focused initiatives.

The MVLP invites those interested in the Program to visit its website at **metisveterans.ca**. Those with a project idea that will honour our Veterans can visit the site to submit an Expression of Interest form, which will be reviewed by the MVLP team to be assessed for eligibility. Once the project's eligibility is confirmed, all personal information will be removed to ensure anonymity and facilitate a merit-based approval before being sent to the MVLP Commission for review. The complete application guide can be found on the MVLP website.

To date, a number of Commemoration Projects have been approved by the Commission, many of which are currently underway.

Communications Strategy – Website

The MVLP is constantly evolving to increase awareness of the Program's purpose and project opportunities it offers to honour and preserve the legacy of our Métis Veterans. The MVLP has made significant progress in improving accessibility to Veterans, their families, and the public, including through the recent updates to our website.

The new website, **metisveterans.ca**, was launched on March 17, 2023, with a new design featuring a more user-friendly interface that is more convenient to navigate, making it easier for visitors to learn about the MVLP, the MVLP Commission, the Recognition Payment Program and the Commemoration Program, application instructions, our Veterans' stories, and Métis Veteran history.

In addition, new resources and interactive tools have been added, including step-by-step instructions on how to apply for MVLP programs and regular news posts, specifically acknowledging Métis Veteran contributions to essential events in Canadian history. These features have been added to enhance the user experience and engage a broader audience to ignite a widespread conversation about the forgotten history of Métis Veteran contributions and sacrifices and the mistreatment they experienced upon returning from service in WWII.

Communications Strategy – Media Campaign

The third national public awareness and education campaign was launched on March 18, 2023, which informed and encouraged the public to apply for the Commemoration Program. The ads invited the public to visit the MVLP website to submit proposals and apply for funding. This national campaign was aired/published on various paid media outlets.

Printed ads were published in *The Globe and Mail*, the *National Post*, the *Winnipeg Free Press*, the *Winnipeg Sun*, the *Brandon Sun*, the *Saskatoon StarPhoenix*, the *Regina Leader-Post*, the *Edmonton Journal*, the *Calgary Sun*, the *Vancouver Sun*, the *Yellowknifer*, the *News North*, the *Inuvik Drum*, and the *Hay River Hub*.

Television outreach included 30-second ads, which ran for one week on national networks, including CBC National News Network, CBC Television, Global Television, and CTV.

Digital ads were published on CBC online nationally and on regionally specific webpages, including the Northwest Territories.

Radio outreach included a 30-second feature ad airing for two weeks on Indigenous radio in Manitoba and northern Saskatchewan and CJOB radio in Winnipeg.

The media campaign reached an audience of nine million Canadians.

The Red River Métis Veterans Department will continue to preserve the legacies of Métis Veterans and is dedicated to improving the lives of our heroes by connecting them and their loved ones with the supports they need to thrive.

Lest we forget.



Residential & Day Schools

Residential & Day Schools



Andrew Carrier
Minister

Red River Métis children were stolen from our families and forced to attend government-funded, church-run residential and day schools. The shameful legacy of these institutions continues to reverberate throughout our Nation. The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the National Government of the Red River Métis, continues to seek reparation for harm done to Red River Métis Survivors who were forced to abandon their language, culture, and way of life.

The MMF honours all survivors. It recognizes survivors' collective pain and earnestly works to ensure survivors are heard and acknowledged. It continues to work to ensure that systems that have stolen so much from survivors, their families, and communities will never happen again.

Minister Andrew Carrier leads the Residential and Day School portfolio. Minister Carrier presents you the following report outlining activities from 2022-2023.

Pekeywaytahihnan nutr zanfaan leur zisprii – We are bringing our children's spirit home

MMF President David Chartrand and Cabinet commissioned Pekeywaytahihnan nutr zanfaan leur zisprii – We are bringing our children's spirit home research project in 2022 to determine where our missing children are, to honour them and their families, and to bring our children's spirit home. This project continues hard-fought battles for justice for our missing Red River Métis children, their families, and our Red River Métis Community.

Local research, engagement, and knowledge-gathering activities with our community are vital to moving toward determining the burial locations of Red River Métis children. Work began on library and archival research. Survivors, families, and community members attended a community engagement session held on March 24 in Winnipeg, where a semi-structured interview was equally held.

The MMF will continue to conduct semi-structured interviews. Please reach out to 431-317-3366 (Winnipeg), 1-877-595-2194 (Toll-Free) or **email sixties.scoop@mmf.mb.ca** if you are:

- ∞ A Red River Métis who survived Residential Schools;
- ∞ A family member of Red River Métis who attended Residential Schools;

- ∞ A Red River Métis Citizen who has knowledge of missing children or burial sites.



Red River Métis Residential and Day School Survivor Advisory Committee

The Red River Métis Residential and Day School Survivor Advisory Committee is a visionary and advisory body working together to bring issues, expertise, and perspectives related to Red River Métis Residential and Day School Survivors who attended schools in Manitoba and across the Red River Métis Homeland. Its advice to the Minister ensures that survivors' views are considered in the initiatives pursued by the MMF, the National Government of the Red River Métis. Members regularly consult with the Survivor community, particularly those Red River Métis Citizens directly impacted by the Residential and Day School systems.

The Red River Métis Residential and Day School Survivor Advisory Committee had its inaugural meeting in February 2023 to begin these discussions and is looking forward to meeting again soon.



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 the Residential Schools National Monument work.

The Survivor-led Steering Committee will oversee the monument project through its completion, ensuring it remains grounded in Indigenous values. They will advise and guide on-site selection, the design competition process, educational content development, and on-site programming.

Red River Métis representative Georgina Liberty updated the Red River Métis Residential and Day School Survivor Advisory Committee on February 27, 2023. Liberty reported that the Survivor-led Steering Committee held its first meeting in May 2022. The project has been divided into four phases, with the current phase of site selection being the first and consisting of seven meetings and two site visits. The MMF attended a groundbreaking ceremony on June 20, 2023, for the monument commemorating survivors and victims of residential schools that will be built on the west side of Parliament Hill.

National Advisory Committee on Residential School Missing Children and Unmarked Burials

The National Advisory Committee on Residential School Missing Children and Unmarked Burials was established to ensure Indigenous communities can access independent, trusted, and expert information to identify, locate, and commemorate their missing children.

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 Survivors.

On July 19, 2022, the National Advisory Committee held its inaugural meeting, discussing how best to support the work undertaken by survivors, their families, and communities. Elder Verna DeMontigny is the Red River Métis representative.

Office of the Special Independent Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools

Kimberly Murray, Independent Special Interlocutor, was appointed in June 2022 to work closely and collaboratively with Indigenous leaders, communities, survivors, families, and experts to identify needed measures and recommend a new federal legal framework to ensure the respectful and culturally appropriate treatment and protection of unmarked graves and burial sites of children at former residential schools.

The Independent Special Interlocutor has engaged with Red River Métis Citizens and MMF representatives on multiple occasions

throughout 2022-2023, including a Red River Métis-specific meeting. In addition, representatives attended four national gatherings over the year, which covered the following subjects:

- ∞ supporting the search and recovery of missing children
- ∞ addressing trauma in the search and recovery of missing children
- ∞ upholding Indigenous laws
- ∞ affirming Indigenous data sovereignty and community control over knowledge and information

The MMF planned a written submission providing Red River Métis perspective and expertise to assist the Independent Special Interlocutor with her mandate.

Provincially-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 Keewatinowi Okimakanak, the Southern Chiefs' Organization, the Manitoba Inuit Association, the Manitoba Métis Federation, 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 Honouring Our Children event on June 15, 2022. The event was centred on unity and working together to move forward. The MMF joined other Indigenous Governments and the province at Long Plain First Nation for an announcement on the identification, commemoration, and protection of burial sites of children who attended residential schools.

The First Nations, Inuit and Red River Métis Council, alongside the Government of Manitoba, announced an 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 reconciliation action. Of that funding, \$240,000 is shared equally between the MMF and the Manitoba Inuit Association. The MMF directed 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.





Riel House

Riel House



Andrew Carrier
Minister

Riel House National Historic Site is owned and operated by Parks Canada. Since 2013, the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) has brought the stories of Riel House and the Red River Métis to life with historically dressed interpreters and programming. During the 2022 season, Riel House delivered on-site group programs in June and public programs in July and August. Riel House welcomed 1,072 visitors in the 2022 season.

Seven staff were hired in May and June 2022. They received training in Métis history and culture, Riel House as a national historic site, and the Riel and Lagimodière families. Riel House staff received the following training: hide tanning workshop, history/community of Riel House, Métis history, and the Riel family history specifically.

The staff also developed Red River Métis skills including Métis flower beadwork, finger weaving, bannock cooking, jigging, moccasin workshops with Carole Fréchette, and a Red River cart workshop with Kelly and Armand Jerome. The team visited Upper Fort Garry, Lower Fort Garry, The Forks, Saint-Boniface Cathedral, Bill and Helen Norrie Library, Manitoba Museum, Transcona Museum and Elzéar Goulet Park.

School programs were offered to a wide variety of schools in Winnipeg over the 2022 season and interest was lower than previous non-COVID years. Some schools and day programs requested Riel House programming off-site as was offered during prior seasons. Due to staffing shortages at the beginning of the season, these requests were not accommodated. Riel House staff were able to host three school groups as well as the LRI Homeschool Program in June.

In 2022, Facebook was used to introduce staff and share various posts about Riel House from other users. In 2022, Riel House hosted Canada Day celebrations and the annual Corn Roast. Jeudi Soirees did not occur in 2022 due to a lack of funding. Canada Day was very well attended. Guests were treated to balloons, cookies, and bannock. Tours and sash weaving demonstrations were also provided.

The year-end Corn Roast was well attended. Parks Canada made their outreach team available on-site all day. The MMF provided garden produce to serve a stew and gave garden tours. The junior Asham Stompers performed, and Jason Lepine and Lionel Desjarlais provided music. House tours, garden tours, lawn games, music, photo places, and sash weaving demonstrations were among the types of programming offered to the public.



Since 2013, the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) has brought the stories of Riel House and the Red River Métis to life with historically dressed interpreters and programming.



Sixties Scoop

Sixties Scoop



Denise Thomas
Minister

The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) continues to fight for justice and support Red River Métis affected by the Sixties Scoop. The Sixties Scoop was a child welfare policy created and carried out from the 1950s to the 1990s. This policy involved apprehending Indigenous children (including Métis and Non-Status First Nation children) from their communities and placing them into middle-class Euro-families, sometimes in a different city, province, country, or even a different continent. Many Métis children, now adults, have lost their identity and Métis rights because of this policy.

Minister Denise Thomas leads the Sixties Scoop file. The Minister works to ensure all Red River Métis Sixties Scoop Survivors are acknowledged, treated with respect, and provided an opportunity to heal from this dark time in Canadian history. The Minister believes that by the department's actions today, future generations will see and know how resilient and loving our Métis Citizens are while working towards bringing home those that have been lost.



Our Commitment

The Sixties Scoop Department is committed to bringing Red River Métis Survivors home and helping them reach their justice, reconciliation, and healing goals. Further, the department is committed to being diligent in providing wrap-around programs and services so that Survivors are reintegrated into the Red River Métis Community and to create a legacy that strengthens the Red River Métis Nation for generations to come.

Continuing Support

Survivors of the Sixties Scoop continued showing interest and need for the department's programs and services. The department further developed its capacity to support Survivors and ensure their needs are met. This annual report summarizes the department's accomplishments over the last fiscal year.

Survivor Engagement

To better understand the immediate needs of Survivors, the Sixties Scoop and Residential Schools Department created the intake process to ensure they have up-to-date and correct information on everyone that accesses their programs and services, which enables them to connect directly on several important matters, including their latest events and updates. Completing this process also helps them address individual needs.

The intake process was typically completed in about 15 minutes by phone with one of their staff. One of the advantages of the intake process was that it allowed Survivors to share their stories and feel acknowledged and heard. Red River Métis Survivors are encouraged to contact the department at 431-317-3366 or 1-877-595-2194 (toll-free) for more information.



The Sixties Scoop Department is committed to bringing Red River Métis Survivors home and helping them reach their justice, reconciliation, and healing goals.

In addition to the intake process, the department continued to work on developing Métis-focused programming that concentrated on creating healing opportunities based on personal choice, collaboration, and connection to develop coping and resilience strategies for Survivors who experienced trauma because of the Sixties Scoop and the Residential and Day School systems.

Over the year, Survivors came together and participated in various Métis-focused workshops. These workshops concentrated on:

- Reconnection
- Resiliency
- Sharing stories via talking circles
- Manitoba post-adoption services
- Beading

Over 60 Survivors were able to come together and connect with the department staff during these sessions. Survivors could provide feedback on their current programming and share what they would like to see from them in the future.

Survivors established through surveys provided by the department that they would like to see more variation in cultural programming. The department collaborated with the Louis Riel Institute to host more informative cultural workshops for Survivors and their families. With this, the department hoped Survivors would continue reconnecting with their Métis history and culture and making more connections and friendships within their Métis communities.

A Year in Review

- Launched the department's newsletter "What's the Scoop?"
- Completed an Intake Process with 124 Sixties Scoop Survivors.
- Hosted six Métis-focused workshops with over 60 Survivors in attendance throughout.
- Moved the department's operations to 335 Main Street.
- Expanded the department's mandate to support Residential and Day School survivors.

In the future

The department continues growing and fighting for recognition, reconciliation, and redress for Red River Métis Sixties Scoop Survivors. The department will continue to prioritize the redevelopment of the Lost Moccasin Repatriation Program, seek funding to host a gathering for Survivors, and look for a permanent space to offer further Métis-focused workshops and support.

More than ever, the need for Métis specific mental health support is evident. The department would like to end this report with a reminder that the MMF prioritizes the mental health of Survivors and all Red River Métis Citizens. The mental health support line is a telephone line that provides Survivors access to Métis counsellors and resources. You can access this telephone support line by calling 1-833-390-1041 Ext. 1 between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. daily.







Sports & Youth

Sports & Youth



Richard Genaille
Minister

Métis Employment & Training (MET) – Youth Programming provides an array of comprehensive programs, services, and events that showcase positive impacts to the lives of Citizens of the Red River Métis community. MET – Youth Programming utilizes funding from both Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP) and Indigenous Skills Employment Training (ISET) to create room for growth and new opportunity amongst Red River Métis peoples, fortify strengths, and create healthy economic and social development. A variety of diverse projects took place throughout 2022-2023, encompassing cultural exploration and learning, capacity building, developing Youth attributes, and access to resources.

Cultural Programming

Cultural learning is a predominant feature throughout Youth programming with events, activities and workshops that develop skills, create lifelong hobbies, and encourage Youth to pursue interests. Examples of cultural programming included:

- ∞ Fiddle Lessons
- ∞ Jigging Lessons
- ∞ Beading Circles
- ∞ Moccasin Making
- ∞ Land Based Learning

Sport Camps

Sport camps are designed to allow inclusive participation in a multitude of athletic development opportunities. Hockey Camps enables Youth to further develop on and off ice skills in a healthy play environment that promotes positive sportsmanship. Sport Camps allow Youth to recognize potential, attributes to teamwork and identify the value in individual skill sets.

Individual Youth Support Program

The Individual Youth Support Program provides an annual reimbursement to Youth 29 and under for participation in sports, recreational, and cultural activities. The Individual Youth Support program continues to see increasing applications year to year.

Total Youth Supported: 1,433

Believe – Elite Athletic and Artistic Support Program

The program encapsulates the commitment and dedication of accomplished athletes and performers to build a foundation in endeavors and attaining goals. The program accompanies the MMF's ambitions to support Youth in reaching their full potential.

Total Youth Supported: 104

Ste. Madeleine Days

MET – Youth Programming hosted a Youth Campsite during the Ste. Madeleine Days gathering. Youth attendees camped onsite and assisted MET with cooking and serving meals to Elders. Youth contributions and assistance at Ste. Madeleine were appreciated and reflected the importance of building Youth and Elder connections.

Elder Connection – Youth & Elder Gathering:

The Youth and Elders Conference aimed to build connection between Youth and Elders, increasing generational awareness through age gap perspectives and viewpoints and allows Elders to stay prominent within the community. The two-day conference featured four workshops, a historical tour and entertainment, and gave Elders the opportunity to share stories, life experiences and pass down traditions leaving Youth with new impactful values and cultural understanding. Cultural workshops included:

- ∞ Beading and Sewing
- ∞ Canning
- ∞ Harvesting
- ∞ Medicine Walk

Youth Gathering

Youth from across the province of Manitoba came together for an open discussion to share thoughts and perspectives on Youth programming initiatives, the effectiveness of programs and values they foresee significant to their well-being. Contributions and insights from Youth allowed for alignment of programming, identification of barriers youth face, and targets that are vital to growth within the Red River Métis Youth community.

For more information on MET – Youth Programming programs, services, and events, please email youth.coordinator@mmf.mb.ca





Traditional Economies

Traditional Economies



Darrel Ferland
Minister

As Minister of the Traditional Economies Portfolio, Darrel Ferland has created and further stimulated 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).

Within the Energy, Infrastructure and Resources Management (EIRM) Department, the Traditional Economies Portfolio covers all aspects of fish and fish habitat. Additionally, the Traditional Economies Portfolio consists of the MMF forestry file, which includes pursuing sustainable forestry operations and engaging Manitoba and proponents on forestry management and operating plans that directly impact Red River Métis harvesting rights.

Several fish and fish habitat-related developments within the 2022-2023 fiscal year include the following:

Commercial Fishing

During the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the MMF engaged with Red River Métis commercial fishers to collect information regarding concerns, goals, and priorities surrounding the commercial fishing industry. In October 2022, the MMF held a commercial fishery meeting in St. Laurent to discuss several topics including: quota buybacks, commercial license requirements, Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, eco-certification of Lake Winnipeg, and barriers to enter the commercial fishing industry.

Commercial Fisher Net Program

Through the establishment of a Commercial Fisher Net Program, the MMF has supported over 150 Red River Métis Commercial Fishers. This program has provided approximately 2,100 nets to Red River Métis Citizens, allowing them to fish the 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.



Fish Spawning Ground Study

The MMF conducted a Walleye Spawning Ground Identification Study with the objective to identify and assess walleye spawning grounds in the Camperville and Duck Bay areas of Lake Winnipegosis, to characterize the quality and quantity of walleye spawning habitat, and determine the viability of the location for wild egg collections.

The MMF completed two catch and tag activities in 2021 and 2022 in addition to habitat assessments in various locations within the study area. Forty walleye, which met the study's sizing and maturity requirements, had a floy tag and telemetry tag installed. These tags allow information to be collected on individual fish in their natural environment, tracking their movements throughout the year.

Spawning Study 2.0

In partnership with the Environment & Climate Change Portfolio under the Red River Métis Stewards of the Homeland Program (RRM SOHP), the MMF bolstered the Fish Spawning Ground Study for 2023 as the Spawning Study 2.0. This study saw the deployment of underwater camera systems in areas of suitable walleye spawning habitat. Fish populations within the Lake Winnipegosis waterbody are integral to the overall quality of the ecosystem and to Red River Métis commercial fishers and Harvesters. The data collected through the Spawning Study 2.0 will be used to assess populations, determine if the habitat is sufficient, or if stewardship is required to improve the quality of the ecosystem.



Fish populations within the Lake Winnipegosis waterbody are integral to the overall quality of the ecosystem and to Red River Métis commercial fishers and Harvesters.

Métis Knowledge Land-Use And Occupancy Studies

The MMF is prioritizing Métis Knowledge, Land-Use, and Occupancy studies with Red River Métis commercial fishers. These studies help inform the design of environmental monitoring programs and provide insight into how Red River Métis' rights, claims, and interests may be impacted by development projects.

If you are interested in participating in a Métis Knowledge Land-Use and Occupancy Study, contact Jessica Lagimodiere, Métis Land Use Specialist, by phone at (204) 586-8474 or by email at Jessica.lagimodiere@mmf.mb.ca.

Several forestry related developments within the 2022-2023 fiscal year include the following:

FORESTRY

Forestry projects are comprised of timber harvesting, access development, access control, renewal activities, road development and decommissioning— which directly affect Red River Métis harvesting rights. Manitoba recognizes it has a duty to consult and accommodate in a meaningful way with the MMF on behalf of the Red River Métis with respect to forestry operations in Manitoba.

The MMF is involved in the engagement and consultation process for the following forestry and peatland related files:

LOUISIANA PACIFIC 20-YEAR FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Louisiana Pacific's (LP) 20-Year Forest Management Plan (FMP) outlines long-term management goals for Forest Management Licence Area #3. In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the MMF began engaging with LP regarding a Red River Métis Traditional Land Use Study to better understand and map Red River Métis land use in the proposed harvest, road access development, and forest renewal blocks. Red River Métis Citizens can expect a community consultation meeting to identify questions, concerns, comments, and recommendations to mitigate or accommodate potential impacts.

LOUISIANA PACIFIC AND MOUNTAIN QUOTA HOLDERS ASSOCIATION 2-YEAR FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATING PLAN

The MMF participated in the consultation process with the Province of Manitoba in relation to the proposed LP and Mountain Quota Holders Association 2022-2024 Forest Management Operating Plan (FMOP). An FMOP is a short-term, two-year operating plan which details and maps timber harvest, road access development, and forest renewal. On November 7, 2022, the MMF submitted a technical review to Manitoba that outlined recommendations and concerns with the FMOP.

NISOKAPAWINO FORESTRY MANAGEMENT CORPORATION 20-YEAR FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Nisokapawino Forestry Management Corporation's (NFMCC) 20-Year FMP outlines long term management goals for Forest Management Licence Area #2. Moving forward, the MMF is in the process of further contributing to the Sustainable Forest Management Committee which acts as the advisory committee and provides an opportunity for representatives to share knowledge and concerns in relation to forestry activities. Red

River Métis Citizens can expect an MMF consultation meeting specific to the 20-Year FMP.

NISOKAPAWINO FORESTRY MANAGEMENT CORPORATION 2-YEAR OPERATING PLAN

NFMCC's 2023-2025 FMOP is a short-term operating plan which details and maps timber harvest, road access development, and forest renewal activities in Forest Management Licence Area #2. Manitoba initiated Crown-Indigenous consultation with the MMF in February 2023.

SUN GRO HORTICULTURE PEATLAND EXPANSION PROJECT

Sun Gro Horticulture's Peatland Expansion Project is located on 60 hectares of Crown Land near Seddon's Corner in the MMF Southeast Region. The MMF hosted a virtual community consultation meeting on May 10, 2022, to discuss the Environment Act Proposal and collect Red River Métis comments, questions, and concerns including recommendations regarding potential mitigation measures. Following the meeting, the MMF submitted a What We Heard Report to Manitoba. Several conditions were included in Sun Gro's Environmental Act License to address Red River Métis recommendations and concerns expressed at the community meeting.

For questions concerning the forestry files, contact Riley Bartel, Conservation Coordinator, by phone at (204) 586-8474 or by email at riley.bartel@mmf.mb.ca.





Affiliates





Louis Riel Capital Corporation

Louis Riel Capital Corporation



Leah (Phyllis) LaPlante
Chair



Jack Park
Vice Chair

Secretary James Bruce
Director Anita Campbell
Director Gerald Barron

The Louis Riel Capital Corporation

Thirty-one year Anniversary: The Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) will celebrate 31 years of providing capital and business services to Métis entrepreneurs in Manitoba in October 2023. The formation of the LRCC was an initiative of the Manitoba Métis Federation's (MMF) 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 totaling more than \$6 million to 100 +/- new business projects each year.

The LRCC Loan Program

The LRCC is one of the Economic Development arms of the MMF providing loans, 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 access the capital they need.

The LRCC's loan program can provide our Métis business clients a maximum of \$250,000. Larger capital requests will be considered on a one off bases. 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 6.5%. The actual interest rate that a

client will pay is based on the risk assessed by the adjudication team and/or the strength of the security being provided. For example, to receive the minimum rate, the loan would need to be substantially secured by tangible assets such as mortgage security. Our interest rates are very competitive and, in most cases, better than the fixed rates offered by other financial institutions.



Please visit our website: www.lrcc.mb.ca for more information on how to access our programs and services.

The LRCC Business Equity Contribution Fund (Grant)

The LRCC continued to deliver the Business Equity Contribution Fund (BECF) commonly known as the Business Grant Program. The intent of the business grant was to provide our Métis clients with the additional capital (equity) that the financial institutions (banks, credit unions, etc.) require in order 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 \$14 million, helping support the creation, expansion, or purchase of over 360 Métis-owned businesses. The BECF is adjudicated on a needs basis. The client must demonstrate that the grant is needed in order to obtain a commercial loan from a financial institution. A further condition for a Métis client to obtain a grant is that they must contribute some of their own cash into the project. The minimum required client equity contribution is 10% of the total project cost. For example, if the client's total project cost or business acquisition is \$150,000, then the client would need to contribute a minimum of \$15,000 of their own cash in order to access the BECF.

LRCC is pleased to report that we will continue administering the BECF grant/equity funding for the foreseeable future. These business grants are non-repayable and have assisted Métis Citizens 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 25% 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 4 – 6 weeks depending on the client's preparedness. LRCC encourages all Métis Citizens to contact LRCC to see how they might qualify to take advantage of this valuable program.



The full details of the LRCC loan and grant program including the application can be found on the LRCC website at www.lrcc.mb.ca.

MMF Entrepreneurship Initiative

The MMF Entrepreneurship Initiative was launched in October 2020, with a focus on providing financing and increased support for existing small businesses and new start-ups. The initiative provided financial and training support to young entrepreneurs aged 18 – 29, small/home-based businesses, and small commercial fishers and trappers through three loan programs specific to the needs of the applicant.

Funding amounts and rates are specific to the program being accessed with all programs providing a portion of the loan forgiven provided the business meets certain repayment conditions. Full program details can be found on the LRCC website at www.lrcc.mb.ca.

Métis Women Entrepreneurship (MWE) Program

Launched in 2022, the MWE provided commercial financing to help Métis women start or expand businesses in Manitoba. This program offered up to \$50,000.00 in financing and may be composed of a grant and loan. Businesses must be at least 51%+ Métis & women-owned and controlled. Additionally, the ownership must also have at least 5% 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.

A Grant & Mentorship Program was also launched during this period. This program matched an eligible Métis woman in the early stages of starting a business with an experienced business mentor. Each pair completed a 6-month, 1 on 1 program with support from LRCC staff. Upon completion, mentees received a total of \$3,000.00 in grant support and mentors received a \$1,000.00 honorarium.

Limited spots are available in this program so please check our website and social media for information about upcoming cohorts as they are announced.

Full program details can be found on the LRCC website at www.lrcc.mb.ca.

Louis Riel Capital Investments Inc.

Louis Riel Capital Investments Inc. (LRCII) is a separately incorporated company owned and operated by the LRCC.

Recently launched through this corporation, was the Red River Métis Personal Loan Program (RRMPLP). The RRMPLP was an interest-bearing loan program wherein eligible Métis citizens may be able to access up to \$30,000.00. Uses for this loan included the purchase of vehicles, home renovations or for other personal reasons.

Applicants must demonstrate an ability to repay the loan through regular payments and security may be required depending on the size, purpose and risk associated with the loan. Interest rates were fixed during the period of the loan and were set based on overall repayment risk, loan size and associated security.

Full details on this program can be found on the LRCC website at www.lrcc.mb.ca.

LRCII also provided small personal loans of up to \$25,000 to full-time employees of the MMF and the employees of their affiliates. These loans were designed to provide funds for personal use (maximum 48 months) to employees that are no longer in their probation period. The loan would become due and payable in full should the employee leave the employ of the MMF or the affiliate.

The interest rate was 19.5% for small loans of \$5,000 or less. For loans of \$5,001 and over the interest rate was competitive with bank personal loan rates starting as low as 6.75%. The rate applied to each loan was based on credit history and the value of any security pledged.

It's easy to apply and funds can usually be obtained within five business days. For employees and caucus members of the MMF and their affiliates looking to utilize this program, please contact the LRCC office at **(204) 589-0772** or email: info@lrcc.mb.ca.

First Time Home Purchase Program

LRCC continues to deliver on behalf of the MMF the First Time Home Purchase Program. The application and program information can be found on the LRCC website www.lrcc.mb.ca.

A detailed report for the First Time Home Purchase Program can be found under Minister Goodon's portfolio report (Housing and Property Management).

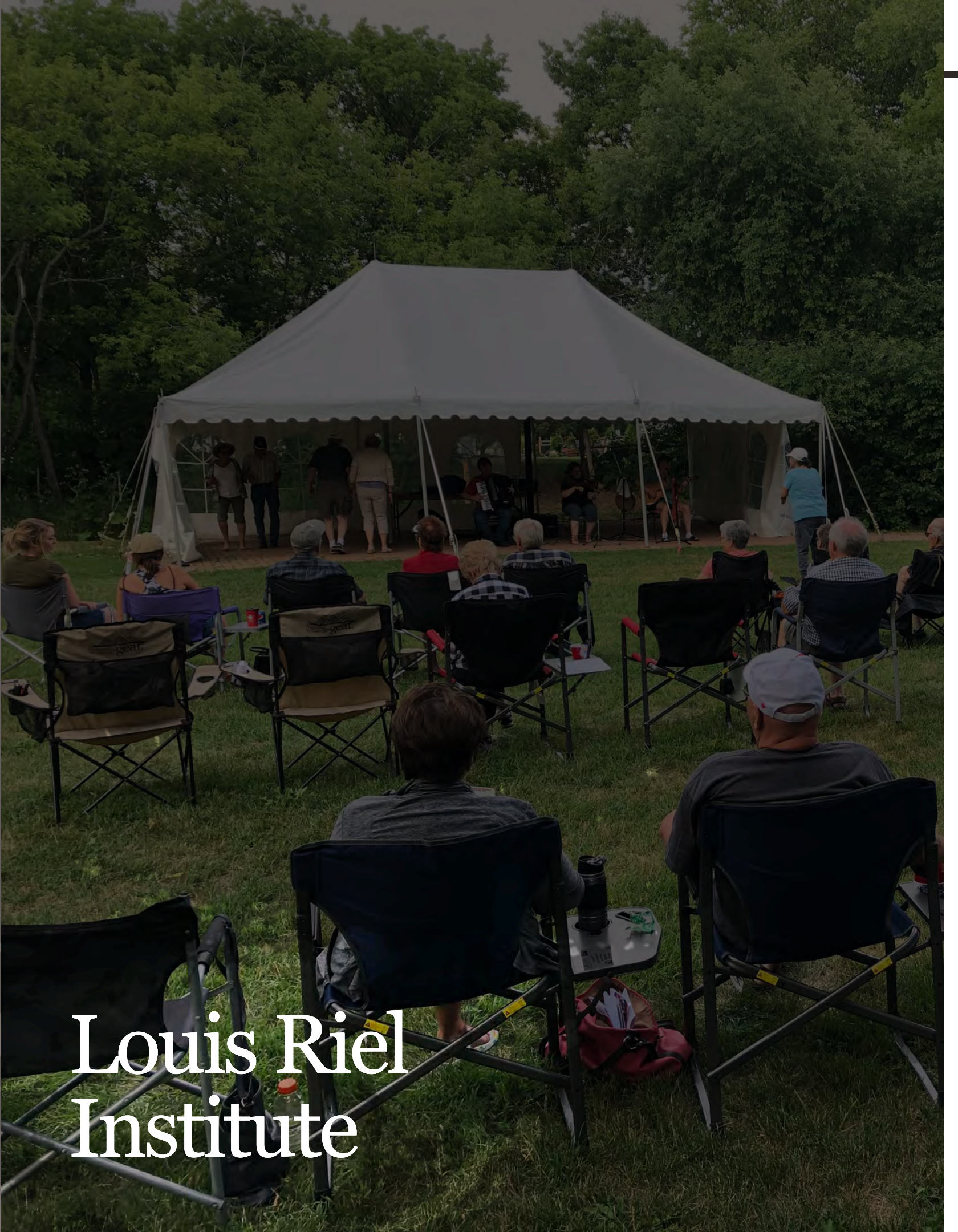
LRCC's Property Investments

The LRCC, through its asset holding company, 5785066 Manitoba Ltd., owns and manages the large parking lot in front of the MMF home office at 150 Henry Avenue, Winnipeg. This parking lot can accommodate up to 185 vehicles, and 100% of the stalls are leased monthly with signed parking agreements. Public paid parking is available overnight between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. and all day on weekends.

Property Management – 5785066 Manitoba Ltd., a Division of LRCC

The LRCC's property management company continues to manage commercial buildings on behalf of the MMF, MEDO Developments, and two 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

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 students can attend: Post Diploma Upgrading and Mature Student Diploma. During the academic year, the ALC continued to assist students online or through independent study via email and teachers continued to actively support students through email, phone, text, and videoconferencing. During the 2022-2023 school year, the ALC successfully launched the Bright Space Learning Management System, which assisted with the online learning platform.

In the 2022-2023 year, there were 189 students, with a total of 27 course completions. The ALC had 137 new students register and 52 returning students from the previous year. In addition, the ALC had 138 credits completed during the year and 17 students graduated with their high school diploma.

The Mobile Literacy and Essential Skills (MLES) – The MLES project continued into the summer and fall of 2022, with the last cohort completing their session on September 30, 2022. Three 4-week virtual cohorts took place in May, June, and September, with a total of 17 students (9 women and 8 men).

As of September 30, 2022, a total of 120 students (87 women and 33 men) from across the province successfully completed the MLES training. This included students and cohorts that participated in the program through the in-person courses located in the MLES mobile classroom as well as the online LMS (learning management system) courses. All students in the program reported improved wellness and well-being and 88 per cent of the students believed the course contributed positively to their confidence and their ability to achieve their life goals in education and their future career.

The Louis Riel Institute (LRI) has applied for the continuation and enhancement of the MLES.

LRI Cultural Programming – The LRI Cultural Programming Department continued to deliver a variety of workshops, presentations, and training both virtually and on site. The Department continued work with schools, organizations, and historical sites across Canada to further the appreciation and understanding of Red River Métis knowledge, culture, and history.

Métis History Courses

PSESP Métis 101 – 103 Course(s) – These courses were developed specifically for applicants of the Post-Secondary Education Support Program (PSESP). Each three-hour online course focuses on specific topics including Métis History and Governance, Louis Riel, and Métis Women.

Red River Métis History and Culture Course – This course is offered both on site and virtually. LRI offers and delivers the Red River Métis History and Culture Course to individuals, groups, schools, not-for-profit organizations, for-profit organizations, and government agencies. This course is customizable to fit specific lengths of time and can be tailored for each audience.

Cultural workshops

Beading Workshops – In May 2022, LRI began a partnership with R.B. Russell Vocational School (in Winnipeg) to provide space for the Flower Beadwork Circle to resume weekly in-person workshops.

Little Métis Family Fun Events and Little Métis Sing with Me – These programs have been temporarily cancelled due to space restrictions.

Other cultural workshops – The LRI Cultural Programming Department conducted numerous workshops throughout the year, both on site and virtually, which included children's beading, jigging, paper bag moccasins, silk flower octopus bags, silk flower pillbox hats, silk flower tuppies, paper Métis vests, Métis storytelling, and the Louis Riel collage.

Cultural Events – The Cultural Programming Department also participated and assisted in events held throughout the province. Some of these events included: Métis Night at the Goldeyes, Summer in the City Steinbach, the Victory of Frog Plain, Indigenous Day, Ste. Madeleine Métis Days, Elders and Youth Conference, the MMF Annual General Assembly, Louis Riel Day, and Festival Du Voyageur.

LRI Resources

The LRI publishes many books on Métis culture and history written for various age groups from preschool to adult. In addition, the lending kits, displays, and historic clothing have continued to go out for events such as Louis Riel Day.



LOUIS RIEL INSTITUTE
Knowledge • Culture • Heritage

Métis Historic Tours

The LRI acquired a 25-person custom tour bus in 2022 and has been offering the following historical bus tours on a regular basis throughout the year:

1. “Birth of Province,” which tours historic Métis sites such as the Riel House National Historic Site, The Forks National Historic Site, Upper Fort Garry, St. Boniface Museum, Parc Lagimodière-Gaboury, Fort Gibraltar, Parc Elzear Goulet, and St. Boniface Cathedral; and
2. “Birth of a Nation,” which travels to Seven Oaks Monument, Grantown (St. Francois Xavier), White Horse Plains, Grant’s Old Mill, and the James McKay Plaque.

Additional walking tours have been added to The Forks, Upper Fort Garry, and St. Boniface.

Riel House National Historic Site Interpretation Program –

For the 2022 spring/summer season, one Coordinator and six staff (Interpreters and Intern Interpreters) were hired to provide programming to the public. During the 2022 season, Riel House delivered on-site group programs in June and public programs in July and August. Interest was lower than previous non-COVID years, with some schools and day programs requesting Riel House programming off site as was offered during prior seasons. In order to facilitate interest, Facebook was used to introduce staff and share various other posts about Riel House from other users.

Hosted at Riel House, both the Canada Day and the annual Corn Roast events were well attended, with programming and activities offered to the public including food, musical performances, house tours, garden tours, lawn games, music, photo places, and sash weaving. Jeudi Soirees did not occur in 2022 due to lack of funding; however, planning is taking place to bring the event back in 2023.

During the 2022 season, Riel House was open five days per week with a total of 1,072 guests.

Michif Language Initiatives – The LRI’s Métis Languages Program completed two large projects in the fiscal year of 2022-2023. Both projects were very successful and went beyond the originally promised deliverables, with partnerships, collaboration, and access to experts being factors in these achievements. This project funding allowed LRI to build a strong foundation for the work ahead in revitalizing the Métis Languages Program. This included the piloting of the first full-time “Group Immersion Mentor-Apprentice Program” (MAP) in Manitoba. This program continues to work toward training proficient speakers, and the creation of qualified teachers, in the near future. In addition, LRI created the following resources:

- ∞ Four illustrated “wordless books” were specifically designed to teach language. The books are accompanied by a guidebook, which is used to explain the teaching strategies for using wordless books, and provide example lessons. Each book is illustrated by a different Métis illustrator. Printed copies of the books will be available and distributed in 2022-2023.
- ∞ The Little Yellow Dictionary (Southern Michif) was updated, reformatted, and re-designed. LRI distributed throughout 2022-2023, with over 1,000 copies circulated.

- ∞ 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.

Financial Aid & Awards – The LRI, in partnership with post-secondary institutions, administers the available funds, through the Louis Riel Bursary, on behalf of the MMF.

The following chart shows the Louis Riel Bursary statistics for the 2022-2023 year.

Additionally, the LRI offers a number of awards, including the following:

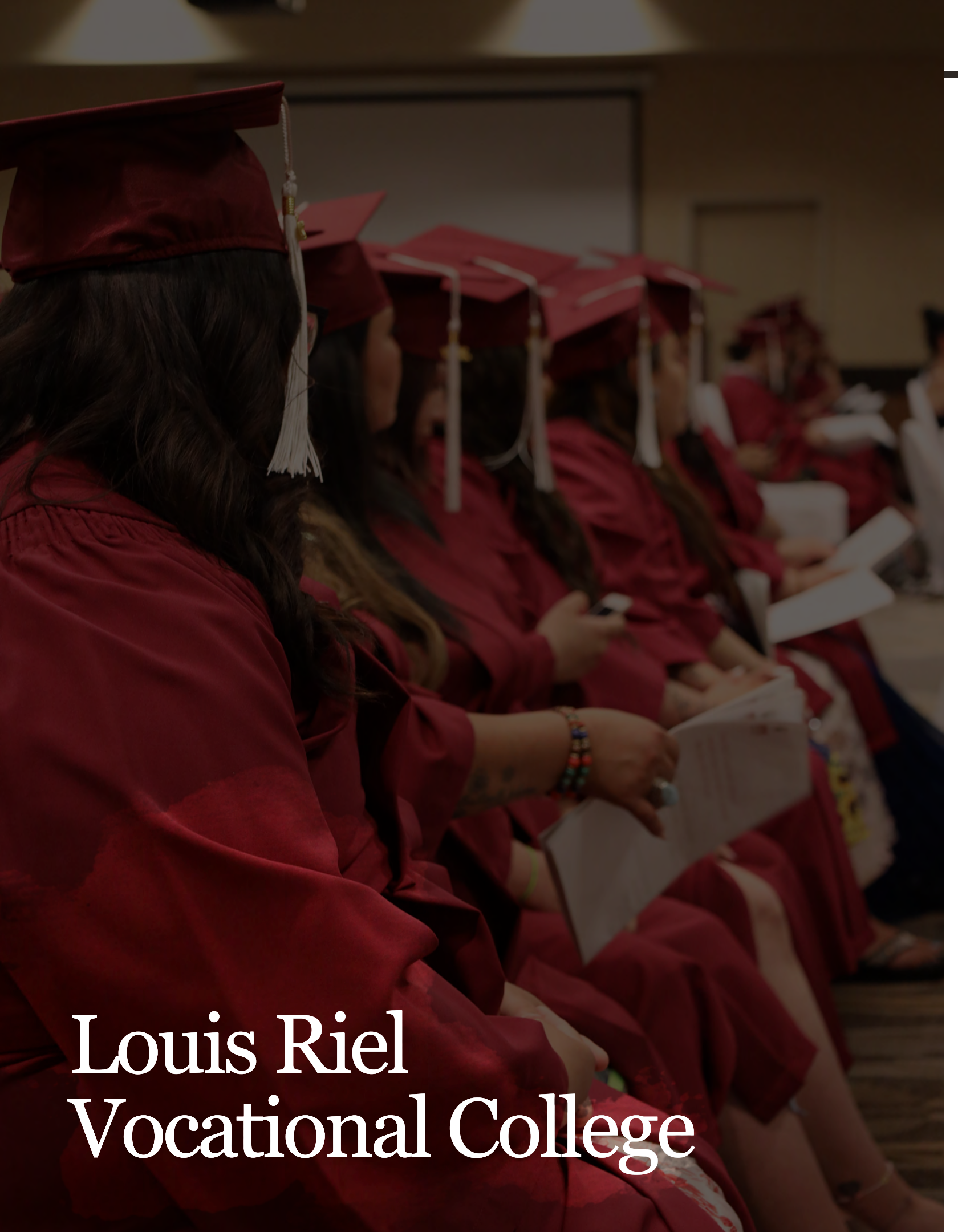
- ∞ The Mary Guilbault Métis Award
- ∞ The Red River Métis & Cantor’s Family Award
- ∞ The Manitoba Métis Federation Vickar Community Chevrolet Award
- ∞ The Senator Gerry & Margaret St. Germain Award, and
- ∞ The Audreen Hourie Governance Fellowship

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.

2022-2023 Louis Riel Bursary Application Totals

Post-Secondary Institute	# of Applicants	# of Recipients	Total Amount Awarded
Assiniboine Community College	13	10	\$40,000
Brandon University	98	66	\$185,050
Red River College	71	48	\$47,000
University College of the North	6	2	\$6270.92
University of Manitoba	618	422	\$417,225
University of St. Boniface	85	42	\$100,200
University of Winnipeg	305	110	\$180,743
Totals	1,196	700	\$976,488.92





Louis Riel
Vocational College

Louis Riel Vocational College



Joan Ledoux
Minister



David Beaudin
Associate Minister

Mission:

The Louis Riel Vocational College (LRVC) 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 (LRVC), as a highly regulated institute of post-secondary education values the following: commitment, community, diversity, professionalism, quality and success.

As a highly regulated private college operating under the Advanced Education and Training portfolio, LRVC traces its origins to 2013, when it began its operations under the auspices of the Manitoba Métis Federation's affiliate. Commencing with

a single diploma program in Health Care Aide, LRVC has since expanded its offerings, providing students with a diverse array of educational opportunities. Presently, LRVC proudly offers the following five diploma programs:

1. Health Care Aide
2. Business Accounting
3. Medical Office Assistant
4. Indigenous Focused Early Childhood Educator (IFECE)
5. Employment Counsellor

Each diploma program includes a mandatory Métis culture and history component, nurturing a strong sense of identity and heritage amongst students.

Enhancing Healthcare Education

In line with LRVC's commitment to empowering the healthcare workforce and promoting career growth, LRVC has expanded its Health Care Aide program to offer two additional specialized tracks:

- ∞ **Health Care Aide Challenge Program:** This program was designed for individuals who possess relevant healthcare experience and wish to challenge the certification exam. By providing targeted training and comprehensive preparation, LRVC equipped participants to excel in the certification process, enabling them to become competent and certified Health Care Aides.
- ∞ **Health Care Aide Bridging Program:** LRVC was proud to offer this program, which facilitated the transition of existing Health Care Aides to meet the requirements of Shared Health.



Student Support and Engagement

LRVC was dedicated to providing unparalleled support to students. LRVC recognized that individualized attention and guidance are essential for student's success. To this end, LRVC designed unique support services that set the MMF affiliate apart from other institutions. Students had access to their instructors seven days a week, from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., through various communication channels, such as text, phone calls, or emails, to address any queries or concerns they may have had with their coursework. Additionally, the online training portal facilitated access to course materials and resources, enabling students to enhance their learning experience.

Customized Pre-Employment Programs

LRVC prioritizes career development for graduates, offering personalized support for finding employment through job leads, resume building, and interview techniques. LRVC implemented customized pre-employment programs focused on essential soft skills training, which was delivered in various formats. Over 100 students secured meaningful employment in different Manitoba communities through LRVC's initiatives.

Expanding Partnerships

LRVC strongly believes in the power of collaboration to enrich educational opportunities. The MMF affiliate forged valuable partnerships with key stakeholders, including:

- ∞ Métis Early Learning & Child Care (ELCC) Department: LRVC's partnership with ELCC had been instrumental in the successful delivery of the Indigenous Focused Early Childhood Educator (IFECE) diploma program. The collaboration with ELCC yielded remarkable results in equipping Métis students with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in early childcare education. By combining the expertise of LRVC and the support of ELCC, LRVC created a program that addresses the unique needs of the Métis community while adhering to the highest educational standards.

- ∞ Métis Employment and Training (MET): LRVC's partnership with MET has enabled the delivery of the IFECE program. The program was instrumental in LRVC's ongoing plan to offer the Employment Counsellor diploma program.

- ∞ Louis Riel Institute (LRI): LRVC's collaboration with LRI enriched currently offers curriculum through Métis culture and history courses, fostering a deeper understanding of the community's heritage.

- ∞ Métis Justice Institute (MJJI): Collaborating on Elder Abuse and Mediation curriculum development and training reinforces LRVC's commitment to inclusivity and justice.

- ∞ Winnipeg Airport Authority: Delivered lunch and learning sessions for the Winnipeg Airport Authority exemplifies LRVC's dedication to community engagement and knowledge sharing.

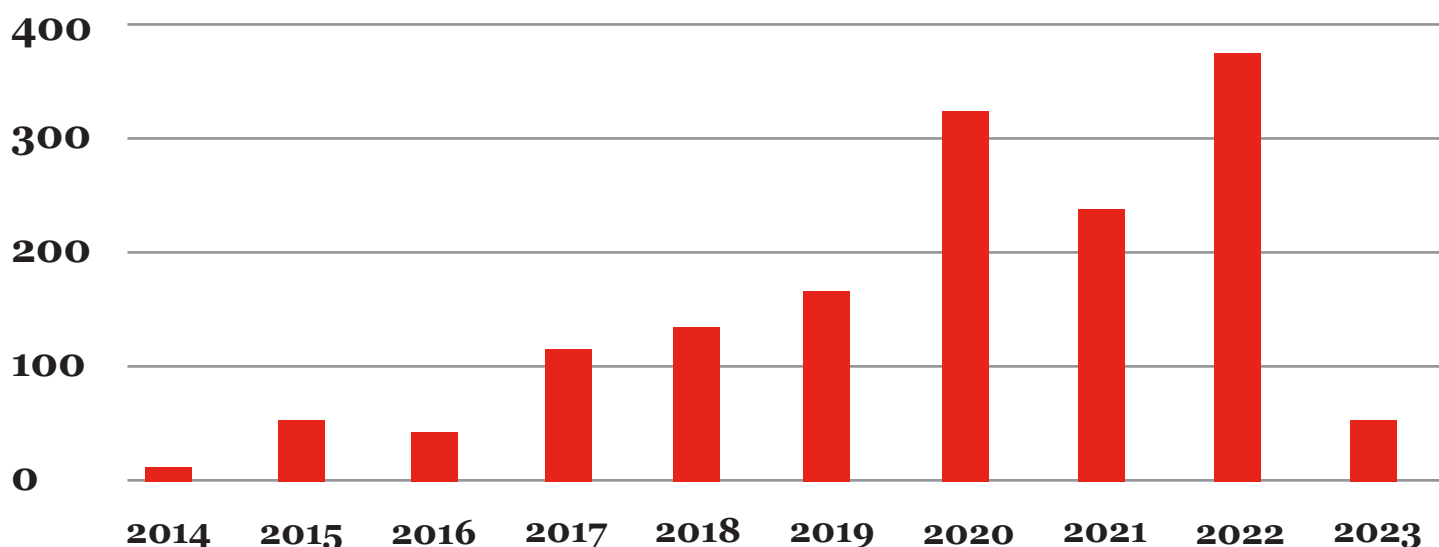
- ∞ Shared Health: Partnering with Shared Health to deliver the Health Care Aide bridging program contributed to our mission of creating a skilled and compassionate healthcare workforce.

- ∞ Swan Valley School Division: Partnering with the Swan Valley School Division to deliver the IFECE program enhanced educational opportunities for the Métis community.

Graduation and Impact

To date, over 1600 students have placed their trust in LRVC, seeking meaningful careers in their chosen fields. LRVC takes immense pride in their role as enablers of growth and development, empowering students to make positive changes in their lives and communities.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS







Métis Child & Family Services

Métis Child & Family Services



Mona Buors

Minister

Métis Child and Family Services

Our Métis Child and Family Services (MCFS) system continues to provide family-focused services that prioritizes keeping families and communities together. With the help of the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF), the Métis Child and Family Services Authority, Métis Child, Family and Community Services, and Michif Child and Family Services were able to provide vital services to Métis families across Manitoba.

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.

We would like to thank all the staff at the: Métis CFS Authority; Métis Child, Family and Community Services (MCFCS) agency; and Michif Child and Family Services agency for their hard work and dedication. We are proud of everything we have accomplished and the hard-fought battles we continue to fight. 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.

Implementation of the Federal Act (Bill C-92)

In 2020, the MMF was the first out of the gate in requesting negotiations with Canada on the implementation of their new federal legislation, *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*. Initially, negotiations had significant delays from both levels of government, but MCFS is proud to say they are moving forward quickly and in the best interest of our Red River Métis children and families. This means new laws – ones that are designed for the Red River Métis by the Red River Métis and account for our history and way of doing things.

We look forward to continuing to work with you, our Citizens, as we continue forward on this journey together to return the ability to care for the Red River Métis back to our community.

Children's Special Allowance (CSA)

On May 18, 2022, Manitoba courts determined that the practice of the Manitoba government regarding the Children's Special Allowance (CSA) was discriminatory against children in care and unconstitutional. Work is continuing to ensure that the CSA dollars clawed back or withheld from the Métis CFS system are repaid and returned to more than 4,000 current and former children in care.

Our Agencies

Métis Child, Family and Community Services and Michif Child and Family Services have had another exciting year.

While we work with the MMF on developing Métis child welfare legislation, we continue focusing on practices that prioritize family-led decision-making and improving our case practice model. This work is meant to ensure that children have the greatest connection and attachment possible to their homes, families, and communities.

Registered Disability Savings Plan Project

Over the past four years, the agencies have been working towards creating Registered Disability Saving Plans for eligible children in care. The agencies then deposit the disability portion of the CSA into these accounts. The federal government then matches the funds deposited resulting in approximately \$12,000/year being saved for the child's needs when they are adults.

Since the disability portion of the Children's Special Allowance can be applied for retroactively, the agencies are actively looking for former children in care who may qualify and are working with them to reclaim thousands of dollars in benefits for them. The number of Youth utilizing this funding continues to grow and the Métis CFS system is the first, and perhaps only, child welfare system in the country to offer this support to their children in care.

Registered Education Savings Plan Project

The importance of education in breaking the cycle of poverty, which affects so many families we are involved with, cannot be understated. The agencies are working to have Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs) set up for all children in ongoing care.



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.

Métis CART Program

The Métis Community Addiction Response Team (Métis CART) is an initiative that recognizes that intergenerational trauma affects parenting. Parents who have experienced trauma often struggle with substance misuse and mental well-being. This program is an early intervention service program for approximately 30 families at any given time with co-occurring parental substance misuse and/or mental health struggles with children at risk of coming into care. The program is comprised of a team including a caseworker, family mentor, addictions worker, and a mental health worker. The team also works closely with the Métis/Michif Connect teams to ensure that family and community are welcomed to participate in network gatherings where they are able to talk about how they can support the family.

Métis and Michif Connect

The goal of the Métis/Michif Connect programs is to support staff with a shift in practice where MCFCS and Michif CFS staff consistently honour and welcome family and community as partners in support, planning, and decision-making for their children. The Métis Connect Mentor coaches and mentors other staff in a “Family Seeing” approach of being with families that includes searching for, connecting with, and welcoming family. This program helps ensure that families have strong networks of support around them and that children in care have a sense of belonging through connection with family, identity, community, and culture.

Over this past year, the Métis Connect program has worked with almost 200 different families involving over 300 children. They were also able to participate in over 300 network meetings for the families and children that we walk alongside this year and almost 1,000 total network meetings since its inception!

Become a Caregiver

Our agencies are always looking for caregivers who can offer a loving and supportive home. No previous experience is required, and we provide options between long-term and short-term care. Our agencies look to connect children in care with members of their immediate family, extended family, or members of the community. Please contact us today to help impact our Red River Métis communities and help grow our children’s future.

Continued Support for Young Adults

Whenever a young person leaves home for the first time it is normal to still need help from time to time. The agencies support former children in care through a variety of programs and agreements so they can successfully live on their own. Youth may receive help with their rent, daily living expenses, education costs, and medical costs, including various therapies. Youth may also have a one-to-one worker or attend group events through the Métis/Michif Spirit programs.

Youth Celebrations

Our agencies continued to host Youth celebrations for our Youth leaving care. Although these Youth are entering adulthood, they are still able to access resources provided by our agencies through Agreements with Young Adults and other programs. These celebrations include food, music, jigging, speeches, and much more. Our Métis CFS system is so proud of all our Youth, and we cherish these moments to shed a light on their amazing accomplishments and wish them well as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

Success Stories

Success Story One

A mother and her family had a long history with CFS involvement. This mom encountered trauma as a result of being a former child in care. All her children were brought into care and lived with another family member. Mom realized she wanted to break the cycle she was in, but it needed to start with her. She entered into Makoon Transition, where she was able to maintain sobriety, reestablish a relationship with her culture, and attend various workshops that Makoon offered. Within a few months, this mom was able to have consistent visits with her children and even started parenting her youngest. The supports around her provided accountability and strength to move forward. After six months of hard work and meetings, mom was reunified with two more of her children. When mom left Makoon, she transitioned into the community where she continues to successfully parent her three children.

Success Story Two

Children were brought into care shortly after their mother entered the Métis CART program. Fortunately, they were able to live with a grandparent who was able to provide lots of access to their mother. Over time and with support of the Métis CART program, the mother went for treatment and followed through with after care programs. She continued working on herself and managed to abstain from drugs and alcohol to create a structured and healthy living environment for herself. The mother worked alongside the Métis CART program by accessing wraparound services, including regular peer mentor contact, family mentor support, and engaging with case workers, agency counsellors, and cultural worker supports. She and her supports participated in monthly Family Network gatherings and planning. The mother ended up moving into the grandmother’s home to take on a more significant parenting role, eventually parenting her children full time with the grandmother’s support. Incredibly, at the time of reunification, the grandmother gave her home to the mother to continue caring for the children. This allowed the children to attend the same school and engage in familiar community activities. Throughout all of this, the mother was able to complete her grade 12 education and volunteers in the cultural program at her children’s school.

Success Story Three

Upon the death of their mother, three children found themselves with no family to care for them and so ended up in a shelter. Michif Connect was able to identify a paternal aunt willing to care for them. Two of the children are now safely living with her. One Youth chose to stay in her community to finish high school but knows she is always welcome at her auntie’s home whenever she needs family. The love, belonging, and sense of security these children have can only come from family.



In Conclusion

We would like to extend our appreciation to the Manitoba Métis Federation, the National Government of the Red River Métis, for everything they have done for our Métis Child and Family Services system. We would not be where we are today without the guidance and support of the MMF. Thanks are also given to the Board members of: the Métis Child and Family Services Authority; Métis Child, Family and Community Services; and Michif Child and Family Services for the many hours they devote to the work of the Authority and agencies. We would also like to congratulate all of our children in care for their accomplishments this past year. Each year, we have the opportunity to celebrate the amazing accomplishments that our Youth contribute to their communities, and we are so proud that these Youth are the future of the Red River Métis.

To learn more about the Métis Child and Family Services system, please refer to the Métis CFS system's Annual Reports in your AGA kit.

metis economic
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Métis Economic Development Fund

metis economic
development fund



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www.medf.ca

Manitoba

Métis Economic Development Fund



David Chartrand
President

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 Red River Métis Government.

News Release June 23, 2023

The Manitoba government and the Manitoba Métis Federation, the National Government of the Red River Métis, have signed an agreement to transfer control of the Métis Economic Development Fund to the Red River Métis.



Since its creation in 2011, the fund has been managed by MEDF, with the Manitoba government and the MMF as the sole members. Under the new agreement, MEDF will be dissolved and its assets transferred to Louis Riel Capital Corporation, a MMF affiliate, which has a mandate to support Métis-owned businesses. The transfer of control gives the Red River Métis greater autonomy over the direction of the fund.

MEDF has invested nearly \$11.3 million into Red River Métis businesses, leveraging an additional \$28.2 million and creating more than 1,200 jobs. Additional information and a news conference video are available at the following link:

<https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/?archive=&item=59950>

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% 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.

Investment Portfolio Statistics

The investment portfolio average holding period is 5.5 years while achieving an average return on investment of almost 42% and returning the companies to a 100%-owned Red River Métis company – a tremendous success!



Portfolio Investment

MEDF announced our investment into Accufab Metalworks located in Winnipeg. Over 20 years ago, the company started supplying New Flyer Industries with aftermarket, aluminum, stainless steel and metal parts, assemblies, and fabrication for Urban Transit buses. Over the past two decades, Accufab 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.

Portfolio Exit

MEDF recorded our second investment exit of Hub Technology Solutions during this fiscal year.

HUB Technology Solutions (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.

Helping Métis Business Succeed !

The following businesses are companies in which MEDF has a current equity position.

Visit www.medf.ca and watch our investment videos!



Nonsuch Brewing Co. (www.nonsuch.beer) opened a micro-brewery crafting beer in Winnipeg;

Salisbury House Restaurants (www.salisburyhouse.ca) was a franchise purchase, making it now a majority Manitoba Métis-owned business.

Transcona Roofing (www.transconaroofting.ca) is an Install – New Construction company, reroofing and recovering of all roof systems and architectural sheet metal and wall systems.

Praxis Profiles Inc. (www.partnerwithpraxis.com) designs, manufactures, and sells PVC extrusions for the window and door industry. The company owns the intellectual property (IP) of three 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:

Accufab Metalworks (www.accufab.ca) Accufab specializes in metal fabrication of production, OEM, and aftermarket parts for the transportation, agricultural, and aerospace industries.

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Social Networks



Metis Economic Development Fund



Metis Economic Development Fund

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) rebranded and reorganized, enhancing its competitive edge in the logistics industry;

Voyageur Internet (www.voyageurinternet.ca) expanded its network infrastructure, delivering high-speed internet to rural Manitobans;





Métis N4
Construction Inc.

Métis N4 Construction Inc.



Jack Park
Minister

335 Main Street, Red River Métis Heritage Centre

Métis N4 Construction led a competitive bid process in August 2022 for Construction Management services resulting in an award to Bockstael Construction. Under the Métis Economic Procurement Policy, Bockstael is required to engage Red River Métis-owned trades throughout the tender bidding process which will start in July 2023 for the roof and windows. Métis N4 Construction will review all tender bids and provide approvals for awards of contract to ensure Métis-owned businesses and Métis labour participation are core values of the tender process.

Informed by our Métis history, Number TEN Architectural Group created a bold and engaging design concept for the exterior front of the Heritage Centre that will be made from hundreds of small chains, coloured to appear as a cohesive image. The chains symbolize the act of stomping the chain of land surveyors by Louis Riel. The custom design for the chain installation will be created by artist Jennine Krauchi and will tell our story in bead form. Visual concepts will be prepared for the October 2023 AGA, including a mock-up to illustrate how the chain feature will be created.

To achieve a near net-zero building, it was thought that a geothermal system would be optimal. Due diligence and analysis of the aquifer and water table illustrated that the concept was not viable and would not be approved by the City of Winnipeg. In response, the mechanical system was adapted to take on the full load requirements of the building. Energy modelling has illustrated that the near net zero goals will be achieved.

The exhibit team advanced development of the Heritage Centre concepts and themes. Curator Candace Hogue developed an

exhibit representing our Heritage Centre that was installed at the Winnipeg Airport in March 2023.

355 Eveline, 55+ Housing

In May 2022, President David Chartrand – with Ministers Jack Park, Mona Buors, Alfred Anderson, and Will Goodon – led the project commencement ceremony for the 55+ housing and commercial development at 355 Eveline in Selkirk. Environmental assessments were followed by demolition of three vacant buildings in June 2022 to ensure that the buildings would not become a risk to the community.

To assist with commercial construction cost estimating, recommended cost savings, and optimization of construction methods, Métis N4 led a tender process for Construction Management. Ministers Will Goodon and Jack Park participated in the interviews and award to M Builds.

Construction drawings and specifications were completed by Number TEN Architectural Group and their consultants in February 2023. Competitive bid tendering occurred in February and March 2023. Ministers Park and Goodon will oversee the award of tenders scheduled for April 2023 to ensure a high rate of Métis trade labour participation in conformance to the Métis Economic Procurement Policy.

Working in collaboration with Housing and Economic Development, a pre-leasing office to serve Citizens is planned for the adjacent building at 205 Eaton for fall 2023. The Housing department has already assembled a list of individuals interested in living in our 55+ building.

Construction is scheduled to commence in May 2023, with foundations and the underground parkade to be completed by September. By October 2023, the building will start to take shape, as the upper floors will begin to emerge. We anticipate project completion in October 2024 with our first tenants moving in by November 2024.

Planning and design for the commercial spaces on the first and second floor will commence in summer 2023 with colleagues in Economic Development. The MEDOcare Pharmacy is a confirmed anchor tenant.

Selkirk Citizens are very excited about the project that will provide 49 new apartments, 16 of which are planned as affordable.









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