



King Charles III Coronation Medal Recipients announced at the Manitoba Métis Federation's 2025 Annual General Assembly



Allan D Benoit

Red River Métis Citizen Allan D. Benoit is Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to MMF President David Chartrand and Cabinet. He has over 25 years of experience building the MMF, the National Government of the Red River Métis. He was the lead staff negotiator on the 2021 *Manitoba Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement* and is also lead on the to-be-ratified 2023 *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty*.



Amanda Boudreau

Amanda Boudreau is a proud Red River Métis woman from St. Ambroise, Manitoba. Amanda was raised with strong Métis traditions by both her parents, which she holds dear to her heart. Amanda has proudly served her Red River Métis Government for the past 25 years. She is a loving mother of two and a devoted grandmother to four grandchildren.



Oliver Boulette

Red River Métis Citizen Oliver Boulette has spent many years cementing his legacy as an elite fiddler. In August of 2022, Oliver participated in the Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Competition. He had the honour of performing a Métis fiddle medley with renowned fiddlers Patti Kusturok and Shawn Mousseau. He noted it was a unique opportunity to take the stage with such high-calibre players. The celebrated fiddler has also played at Celebrations of Life and in prayer.



Glorian Chartrand

Glorian Chartrand is a proud Red River Métis Citizen originally from Cranberry Portage, Manitoba, who was raised with traditional Métis family values of respect, kindness and hard work. Her lifelong dedication to serving her Nation is a journey best characterized by unwavering commitment and an unwavering spirit.



Steven Choquette

Steven Choquette is a proud Red River Métis Veteran who has always demonstrated his commitment to protecting his community with dignity and respect. Steven joined the Army Reserve at the age of 17 years, and quickly saw opportunities to lend his support through his career. He joined Canada's Regular Force as a Naval Military Police Officer to continue showing his strong commitment to protection of those who needed him most. Master Seaman Choquette retired from the Canadian Armed Forces in 2008.



Naomi Clarke

Naomi Clarke is a proud Métis and Anishinaabe woman with roots in Manigotagan and Sagkeeng, Manitoba. Born and raised in Winnipeg's North End, she is a devoted mother of two sons and a grandmother to four grandsons. Naomi is deeply committed to her family and community. She regularly gives back through fundraising initiatives, community events, and by mentoring youth in radio and television media. Known as a guiding force in the industry, she has inspired and supported many emerging talents, embodying her core values of connection, mentorship, and service.



Deborah (Debi) Copple

Debi Copple, a daughter, wife, mother, and grandmother, and a proud Métis woman. Debi has been the Chairperson for Kinew Métis Council for 12 plus years. Debi has dedicated years to help pass on the cultural teachings of music and dance to our Youth as well as all Métis Citizens. Debi's retirement will be fulfilling her dreams of sharing tea and storytelling with our Elders and continuing to help our Métis community in learning Métis culture and history.



(The Late) Joseph Courchaine

Joseph served in the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Airborne as an Infantry Paratrooper in 1957. He was posted in Calgary and Wainwright, Alberta. Upon his release from the military, Joseph worked as a carpenter and enjoyed woodworking and bead working. Accepting on behalf of Mr. Courchaine is his granddaughter, Breena Courchaine.



Esther Ducharme

Esther is a Métis Citizen born on a small farm in Inwood, MB. Esther and her husband were married for 47 years before he passed away. They have three sons and four grandchildren. Esther worked for many years at different jobs, her longest employment being with the Government of Manitoba in Justice. She retired at the age of 65. Esther was involved with MMF Liberty Local for many years and served as a secretary for four terms. She enjoys attending the AGA each year and Infinity Women Secretariat meetings, along with other Métis events when the opportunities arise.



Marc LeClair

Originally from St-Lazare, Manitoba, Marc is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada with over 40 years specializing in intergovernmental negotiations and policy. Marc was the lead negotiator for the Métis in the Aboriginal Constitutional Conferences held between 1984-1987 and the Meech Lake and Charlottetown Constitutional Accord rounds.



Albert (Bert) Linfitt

Bert is a proud, passionate, and historic Red River Métis on both his mother's and fathers' side. He was born, raised, and has resided in the North all his life. He is the youngest of five children, and is married with three adult children and five grandchildren. Bert has been active in the MMF since 1982. He's previously held all three Local executive positions and has been chair of the Cranberry Portage Local since 2010. He is an avid hunter, fisherman and general harvester with a love for the traditional aspects of being Red River Métis.



Paul Paradis

Before his employment at the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF)'s affiliate, the Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC), Paul worked with numerous TD Canada Trust branches for over three decades. His final posting with the TD bank was managing the Small Business Banking Center before moving on to LRCC. From a very early age, Paul was grounded in his Red River Métis roots and was educated about his culture and heritage by his mother.



Elder George Pelletier

Elder George Pelletier was born and raised at Minnedosa, Manitoba and has been involved with the Manitoba Métis Federation for over 55 yrs. He was elected to serve on the MMF Board of Directors from 1997 and 2000; appointed to the Legal Aid Manitoba Board from 2002 to 2005; appointed to Social Services Appeal Board from 2006 to 2012; appointed by the Province of Manitoba to serve on the Board for Vulnerable Persons from 2013 to 2016.



Steele Pruden

Steele has served three years in the regular Canadian Armed Forces and 14 years with the Canadian Military Reserve Forces mostly as a military chaplain. Steele has been an active member with Kinew Local for the past 25 years and has done other volunteer work in the community.



Don Samatte

Don is a proud Métis man from Cranberry Portage. After 25 years of service as a Correctional Officer at The Pas Correctional Centre, Don retired in 2006. During his time with Corrections, he achieved his GED diploma. Don became involved with the MMF in Cranberry Portage and was Vice Chair of the local and served eleven and a half years on the Métis Child and Family Authority Board. Don is honored to be an Elder for the MMF.



Cecile Scott

Cecile was born into a large family, and she assisted in raising her younger siblings and helping around the house. In her early adult life, Cecile volunteered with MMF Portage Local for over 20 years, advocating for Métis citizens, assisting with funerals, and visiting people in palliative care while offering prayers and comfort. Recently Cecile and her husband moved to Brandon, where they currently reside.



Kerry Smith

Over her 25-year career, Kerry has worked to support members of her community and has assisted over 45,000 Métis people in achieving their training and employment goals. As a community leader, Kerry currently leads a province-wide employment and training department that plays a central role in developing youth leadership and promoting Métis culture. As a proven leader who is dedicated to her community's economic development, she was appointed as a member of the Future Skills Council.