



Le Metis

President's Message

Canada Day was celebrated this past week. This holiday is a time to be with family, friends, and community, and to remember a great past and to aspire to a greater future. In building Canada, our Metis Ancestors and our Metis Veterans fought and defended the principles of democracy and our freedoms. It is with humbleness and respect that we thank them for their sacrifices and those of their families. Without taking a stand in what they believed was right, the country that we live in today would surely be a different place.

The Metis are Canada's Negotiating Partners in Confederation and the Founders of Manitoba. Louis Riel is considered a Father of Manitoba. This has not been without struggles. To protect our identity and our rights as a Founding People and as one of the three Aboriginal Peoples of Canada, the Metis have fought on the battlefields, in Parliament and the Legislature, and in the courts of law and public opinion. Today we continue to assert our rights and identity, seek reconciliation for past injustices, while building a strong future for our children and grandchildren.

For generations the Metis have believed in the importance of democracy, and civic and human rights, and valued, indeed continue to value, their critical importance. Louis Riel stood on the surveyor's chain, and, with other Metis leaders, protected Metis families and lands from the illegal advance of Canada. With negotiation and agreement, the Manitoba Act was passed by Canada and ratified by the Metis. Later, Riel and others also stood strong at Batoche. This month, in Saskatchewan, are the "Back to Batoche" festivities to remember the sacrifices and to celebrate the lives of our patriots.

Democracy and Self-Government are important to the Metis. This past week the final results were made in the Manitoba Metis Federation 2014 elections. I congratulate all the successful candidates on their win. It will be an honour to work with each of them over the next four years. Soon, as a first step in this new journey together, we will be holding our traditional swearing in ceremony for your elected representatives. Then we will roll up our sleeves and take care of business. I want to thank all our candidates and volunteers, and the chief electoral office, for their hard work leading to



President David Chartrand, LL.D

the success of this election.

We have done so much in past years and we have so much more to do. We will fight for our rights and ensure we do not again become "the forgotten people." Leader and activist Malcolm Norris, once referring to the treatment of Metis, said "to be ignored is more vicious perhaps than to be oppressed." Our Ancestors made great sacrifices in founding Manitoba and building and defending Canada. Despite their struggles, hard work, dedication, and love of country,

Metis contributions are not fully recognized nor the wrongs committed against the Metis fully acknowledged. Over the next term, together, we will ensure this does continue.

There is a lot going on this summer. I have already mentioned Batoche. There are also the events at the Riel House in St-Vital. Of particular interest to me, and I know for many of you, are the many Metis summer events put on by our Manitoba Metis Federation Locals and community members to celebrate our culture, our history, and our nationhood. To keep up with the announcements about Metis events and news, please be sure to listen to our Metis Hour x 2 on NCI Radio, read our Le Metis here in the Grassroots News, and check out the MMF website. There is a lot happening in the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community this summer. Don't miss it.

Again, I want to thank all our volunteers, staff, and elected representatives in the Regions and Locals for all their hard work and commitment needed to protect our Metis Rights and Identity, support our Metis Government, and showcase our Metis Culture. Our Ancestor's and Veterans contributions were important to building the Canada we live in today. Our contributions are critical to building the Canada in which our children and grandchildren will live tomorrow.

Have a great summer!

Meeqwetch.

 *President David Chartrand, LL.D*

NOTICE



2014 Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. Election Results

Final results of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. 2014 Provincial Election are now final. In accordance with the responsibilities assigned to the Manitoba Metis Federation Chief Electoral Officer, Mr. Jay Cowan under the MMF Election By-Law, has submitted the list of candidates who are officially declared to be elected to serve in the positions of Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. President, Regional Vice-Presidents and Regional Executive Officers. The results are as follows:

President of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.

David Chartrand

MMF Interlake Region Vice-President

Alfred (Buck) Anderson

MMF Interlake Region Board of Directors
(Regional Board Member)

Mona Marie Buors

John (Jack) G. Park

MMF Northwest Region Vice-President

Audrey Frances Chartrand

MMF Northwest Region Board of Directors
(Regional Board Member)

Richard Genaille

John H. Parenteau

MMF The Pas Region Vice-President

Judith Marie Mayer

MMF The Pas Region Board of Directors
(Regional Board Member)

Darrel Ferland

Joan Ledoux

MMF Thompson Region Vice-President

Julyda Lagimodiere

MMF Thompson Region Board of Directors
(Regional Board Member)

Edward S. Charrier

Vincent Parenteau

MMF Southeast Region Vice-President

Denise Thomas

MMF Southeast Region Board of Directors
(Regional Board Member)

Jean M. Desrosiers

Carol Laramee

MMF Southwest Region Vice-President

Leah LaPlante

MMF Southwest Region Board of Directors
(Regional Board Member)

John William Melvin Fleury

William Neal Goodon

MMF Winnipeg Region Vice-President

Ronald A. Chartrand

MMF Winnipeg Region Board of Directors
(Regional Board Member)

Claire T. Riddle

Andrew P. E. Carrier



Manitoba Metis Federation Announces Metis Seniors Vision Care Initiative

President David Chartrand and Board of Directors of the Manitoba Metis Federation announced today that they have made the vision care of Metis seniors a priority and have designed a program that will meet the needs and demands for proper vision care for Metis Seniors across the province.

The unique program exceeds the Province of Manitoba in the delivery of vision care services which is not only financially based, but will aid those Metis seniors that require assistance in managing their eye care, including healthy eye care, eye examinations and prescription eyeglasses.

Metis Senior Victoria Genaille challenged the President to create a program as often our senior citizens on fixed income cannot afford glasses. "I am proud to let Victoria and all our Metis Seniors know that we have risen to the challenge and have launched a comprehensive vision care program for them." stated Manitoba Metis Federation President David Chartrand. "Existing Provincial and Federal Programs only cover a very basic amount for eyeglasses, sometimes only \$10.00 and in most cases do not cover the cost of eye exams. Regardless our seniors deserve to receive top quality vision care and our Metis Government will not forget our elders."

The MMF will have designated staff in its seven regional offices trained in the intake process to complete an application for a senior, book an eye exam for them and then complete the order for prescription glasses. They will also be trained in handling the shipping, receiving and delivery of the eye glasses.

