



# Le Metis

## President's Message

Self-reliance has always been an important part of our Metis identity and culture. We have been known as the "Gens Libres" and "Otipemisiwak." We are the "Free People" and the "People who own themselves." We are the "Independent Ones." Our Ancestors stood tall and proud and fought to protect their self-determination and self-government. We will continue to protect these today and tomorrow.

As a community, we prepare for the challenges of future generations as well as help our Elders, our sick, and others today. This often calls for funding and programs and services that are not readily available even though there is a great need. How do we find the needed funds? As one successful approach, the MMF has established our community-owned for-benefit MEDOCare Pharmacy to help raise the money.

MEDOCare is your pharmacy. It is your company. The business plan is to use the profits from MEDOCare to pay for programs and services and other initiatives not funded by federal or provincial governments. We can do what we want with our own money. This is independence. This is self-reliance. The MMF will also continue to identify other funding sources and develop options to ensure investments are made in our own programs and services.

The key to this funding strategy is our purchasing power. At our regional and annual general assemblies, I ask everyone to recognize the purchasing power in the room. As single individuals it may not seem like much. But add up the yearly spending by all our citizens in a room, or in our community of over a 140 thousand people, and then our purchasing power is, without a doubt, very powerful.

Each dollar we spend has power. It has the power to close the gap between our living conditions, programs and services, and those expected by all Canadians. It has the power to change our future. To wisely use the power of our dollar is the reason for the MEDOCare Pharmacy. When we spend our money at another pharmacy, we get what we buy and nothing more. On the other hand, when we get our prescription medication from MEDOCare Pharmacy then we get much more.

The benefits of your purchases at the MEDOCare Pharmacy will go back to your community. But on the other hand, if our money is spent outside at another pharmacy, then the benefits go to foreign or non-aboriginal-owned shareholders. It is clear then, as simple as 1-2-3, that to help our community we must spend in our own businesses.

The dollars each of us spends has power. Whether it is twenty dollars or a thousand dollars, the power it has depends on our choice to spend it wisely. Buying your drug prescription at your Metis-owned MEDOCare pharmacy is a wise choice. The profits from the pharmacy are used per our community priorities for programs, services, and other initiatives. No longer will the benefits leave our community and go to owners or shareholders in eastern



President David Chartrand, LL.D

Canada or the United States.

We all know that vision care for our Elders is a priority. Pensioners on fixed incomes often have a difficult time in making ends meet. After the essentials are paid, like rent, heat, food, and medicine, there is little left over for other priorities. Much is sacrificed, including buying themselves eyeglasses. Our first program using revenue from the MEDOCare Pharmacy is the new Elder Vision Care Initiative.

The MMF designed the Elder Vision Care Initiative for our Metis Elders. This initiative is for those who require assistance in managing their eye care, including purchasing their prescription eyeglasses. Existing Provincial and Federal Programs only cover a very basic amount for eyeglasses and do not cover the cost of eye exams. This has prevented many Elders to go without the proper eyeglasses they need so badly. The Elder Vision Care Initiative covers the full prescription.

We can no longer rely on the provincial or federal governments. This is an example of what can be done through the power of our Metis-owned business. Buying from our own Pharmacy will lead us to success. This is just the beginning of the good works that will come from the wise choice of purchasing prescriptions from the pharmacy that you own. Think about it, our next initiatives could include other health care as well as cultural and sport programs for our children.

To make this happen, we need your help by purchasing your medications at the MEDOCare Pharmacy. MEDOCare will make it easy for you to transfer your prescriptions from another pharmacy and to receive new prescriptions. We can ship your medications to your home anywhere in Manitoba by tracked two-day priority mail. Please phone the MEDOCare Pharmacy at 204-942-7220, or 1-877-635-5931 toll-free, for more information about getting your prescription filled.

Self-reliance is a long-standing tradition of the Metis People. The MEDOCare Pharmacy is an important step in continuing our independence. Remember, it is through your support that we can deliver the Elder Vision Care and new initiatives to help our families and community. With your purchase you can build the future.

Upon closing, I offer my prayers those who have passed on and my condolences to those who have lost a loved one. My thoughts and hopes are with those who are sick or shut in. I also offer my best wishes to all.

**Meeqwetch,**

**Meeqwetch,**

 *President David Chartrand, LL.D*



This year, the theme of the MMF Youth Conference is "Success in a Digital World", and to support this focus there will be a number of presentations, workshops and group activities to help show our youth how to stay technologically smart, savvy, and safe in this digital age. Also, in an effort to increase the variety of presenters and topics, the conference will be split into two streams: 'Professional Path' and 'Trades Today'.

Young attendees, who envision a future involving post secondary education, or business, technology or entrepreneurial pursuits, will find that the

'Professional Path' stream offers seminar topics and breakout sessions which are both informative and inspirational. You'll hear from accomplished Metis business owners and professionals, who've built successful careers in areas such as software development and industrial design. Participants will also learn about the tremendous opportunities available to Metis youth that are interested in developing careers in business, the sciences, and technology.

Conference attendees that are looking to get job ready and enter the work force, or pursue a trade,

will find the 'Trades Today' youth conference stream to be the right option. Seminar topics and breakout sessions will allow attendees to hear from experienced Industry partners, and those who currently work in the trades. Participants will learn about the variety of skilled employment opportunities out there, what it takes to enter a particular field of work, and what it takes to stay in that field and be successful. Those who participate on the 'Trades Today' side of the conference will also have the opportunity to try out some jobs, firsthand, in a computer simulator.



### **Class 1 Driver Training Information Session**

Metis Employment & Training is hosting an Information Session for candidates seeking to learn about an upcoming 8 week

#### **Class 1 Driver Training Program.**

**When: Monday, October 6th, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.**

**Where: Room 109 – 150 Henry Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba**

Professional Transport Training Institute will be onsite to provide information on Class 1 Driver Training and careers in the transportation industry.

Individuals who meet the following criteria are encouraged to attend the Information session:

- Unemployed or Underemployed Metis, Non-Status, or Inuit
- 18 years of age or older
- Valid Class 5 Driver's license or higher
- Willing and able to provide a recent Driver's Abstract & Criminal Record
- Willing and able to acquire MPI Medical clearance
- Have a recent resume or are willing to work with a MET employment counsellor to complete one

Interviews will be conducted to determine eligibility and suitability

To register or obtain additional information on this opportunity contact:

**Cassie Teichroeb, Client Services Worker**  
**MET Recruitment**  
**1st Floor-150 Henry Avenue**  
**Winnipeg, MB R3B 0J7**  
**Phone: 204-586-8474 Ext. 357**  
**Email: cteichroeb@mmf.mb.ca**

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The Metis Employment & Training Department seeks to fill one full-time Administrative Assistant position located at the MMF Home Office in Winnipeg, MB; remuneration is \$24,282.00 - \$31,112.00 per annum (depending upon qualification and experience) – plus benefits.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Under the direction and supervision of the Department Coordinator, the Administrative Assistant is responsible for providing administrative and clerical support to the MET Department and staff. This position is responsible for answering general inquiries from the public and providing information related to MET programs and services as well as collecting and distributing incoming correspondence. Responsibilities also include maintaining filing systems, organizing resources and reference materials, preparing & monitoring purchase orders, ordering of office supplies & equipment, coordinating travel and meeting arrangements, recording, transcribing and distributing meeting minutes and completing financial documentation including travel and cheque requisitions.

#### **Skills and Qualifications:**

Administrative or Clerical related post-secondary certificate or diploma or equivalent combination of education and experience

- Minimum of 2 years' experience in administrative support services
- Well-developed computer skills utilizing Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, Power Point
- Extensive experience with maintaining confidential records and files
- Experience coordinating travel and meeting arrangements
- Experience establishing and maintaining good working relationships with a diverse array of partners, clients, and co-workers
- Experience working with not-for-profit organizations
- Experience working with the Aboriginal community
- Experience working with volunteer Boards & Committees
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to work under time limitations and produce accurate results
- Valid Driver's License and able to travel

Preference will be given to qualified Metis applicants. Qualified applicants are encouraged to apply and self-identify on their resume. The MMF appreciates the interest of all applicants; however, only those individuals considered for an interview will be contacted.

We offer a competitive benefits package which includes, but is not limited to: health and dental insurance, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, short term and long term disability and a retirement savings plan. We also offer inexpensive downtown parking, access to our fitness facility as well as an in-house restaurant.

Please forward covering letter and resume by Friday, September 26, 2014 to the MMF Metis Employment & Training Department, 300-150 Henry Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7, email to: metresumes@mmf.mb.ca or fax to (204) 947-3251.

All of our job postings can be viewed at [www.mmf.mb.ca](http://www.mmf.mb.ca) or [www.mmfemployment.ca](http://www.mmfemployment.ca)