



Le Métis



President's Message

Democracy is the foundation upon which the Métis Nation is built. From the early beginnings and the buffalo hunts, Métis people have organized themselves and democratically elected leaders. When Métis chose a leader, that leader was commissioned by them to carry out the agreed upon laws set forth by the Métis community.

Louis Riel, our great Métis leader and founding Father of Manitoba, adhered to the principles of democracy. Duly elected as head of the Provisional Government, he represented the Métis people. At their direction he presented the "List of Rights" that set the framework for the Manitoba Act of 1870 founding the province of Manitoba.

Together, through democratic process, Métis people have been able to express their will and effect great change over the centuries - from the early hunts

to the organization of the Métis Nation and the leadership of the Manitoba Metis Federation, the Métis people are well acquainted with the power that is found in a unified and collective voice expressed through a democratic vote.

On Sunday, August 2 Prime Minister Harper met with the Governor General of Canada and requested Parliament be dissolved. This has triggered an eleven week election campaign that will see Canadians head to the polls on October 19. Party leaders and their candidates are on the campaign trail seeking the support and vote of Canadians. This is a great opportunity for the Manitoba Métis community - Canada's Founding Partner in Confederation - to exercise our democratic right and make our voice heard on Parliament Hill. In Manitoba, the Métis voice is over 52,000 strong. This can be a loud voice! There is not a politician alive that would not want this kind of support.

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It is vitally important for each and every Métis citizen to participate in this federal election. Make your voice heard loud and clear on Parliament Hill. Engage your local candidate. Let them know what is important to our Métis community.

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During this federal election campaign I have directed my communications team to compile and assemble information regarding the positions the various federal parties are taking regarding important Métis issues. We are putting to them questions that we need answers for regarding our land claim, economic development, education and the ASETS agreement, and healthcare to name just a few. We will be publicly posting these questions and the responses we receive on the MMF website.

In fact, you will be able to find a host of important information about this year's federal election online

at www.mmf.mb.ca/elections.php. I encourage you to spend some time here checking out what the various parties and candidates are saying about the important matters facing the Métis community.

To vote in the federal election, you must prove your identity and address. I am happy to announce that we have worked with Elections Canada to ensure our Métis people are able to use their Métis card as one of the two required pieces of ID you must present to verify your identity. For all the information you need to register and vote in this federal election, as required by the Government of Canada, you can visit www.elections.ca.

Everything your democratically elected Métis government, as represented by the Manitoba Metis Federation, has worked hard and listened to your voice and followed your direction. We are now asking you to make your voice heard again. It is vitally important for each and every Métis citizen to participate in this federal election. Make your voice heard loud and clear on Parliament Hill. Engage your local candidate. Let them know what is important to our Métis community.

Typically those who are 40 years old or older vote regularly in elections. This is good! Unfortunately our younger citizens are not voting. What we, as your democratically elected government, have worked for is largely for the posterity of our people and it has the greatest impact on our youth. Our young Métis citizens need to step up and become a vital part of this democratic process. Come out and be heard! Engage your candidates and make it known that you are part of a large Métis community. Let them know you will only give your support to those candidates who acknowledge and commit to working with us in meeting that challenges we face.

In closing, I offer my hopes for our Métis people who are sick or shut in. I also offer my prayers for those who have departed and my condolences to their families, friends and neighbours. My best wishes to all.

Meeqwetch,

Find the latest news online

 ManitobaMetisFederationOfficial

 @MBMetis_MMF

 ManitobaMetisMMF

 www.mmf.mb.ca

 *President David Chartrand, LL.D. (hon), O.M.*

Manitoba Métis able to use Métis Citizenship Card as Valid Identification for Federal Election Voter Registration

With the federal election being called and the campaign underway it is important for our Métis citizens to exercise their democratic right and vote. The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) is happy to report Métis citizens are able to utilize their Métis Citizenship card as one of the required identification pieces in the voter registration process.

“Until recently Elections Canada did not recognize the Manitoba Metis Federation membership card as a valid piece of ID for voter registration,” explains MMF President David Chartrand. “Realizing the difficulty for some of our members – especially our Elders – in being able to provide the necessary documentation to register as a voter, I wrote Elections Canada to express the importance of our members being able to exercise their democratic right to vote.”

To register to vote in the upcoming election, voters must provide valid identification that proves their identity and address. Through the efforts of the MMF, Métis citizens can now use their membership card as a valid ID to prove their voter eligibility and to register to vote in the upcoming federal election.

“It is vitally important for each and every eligible Manitoba Métis citizen to vote in this upcoming election,” states President Chartrand. “With over 52,000 Métis of voting age, the Manitoba Métis represents a large segment of the electorate in our province. I want to encourage every Métis citizen, and especially our Métis youth,



to exercise their democratic right and make their voice heard in this election.”

To help facilitate the sharing of information regarding the various federal party positions and statements on important Métis issues, the Manitoba Metis Federation will be keeping its citizens informed and aware via its website located at www.mmf.mb.ca.

For complete information on how to register, what ID is required, where to vote and advance voting polls, Métis citizens are encouraged to visit Elections Canada website at www.elections.ca.



Stephen Harper is the Prime Minister of Canada and the Leader of the Conservative Party.

Some key points the Conservative party have outlined for this election:

- Banned travel zones to combat terrorism;
- No Netflix tax;
- New, permanent home renovation tax credit;
- Protecting Canadians from the threat of Terrorism.

For more information about the Conservative Party of Canada and their election platform, please visit www.conservative.ca.



Elizabeth May is the leader of the Green Party of Canada.

Some key points the Green party have outlined for this election:

- Sustainable economy;
- A fairer tax system;
- Investing in small business;
- Solving the climate crisis;
- Democratic reform;
- Freedom and civil liberties.

For more information on the Green Party of Canada and their election platform, please visit www.greenparty.ca.



Justin Trudeau is a Canadian politician and the leader of the Liberal Party of Canada.

Some key points the Liberal party have outlined for this election:

- Fairness for the middle class;
- Environment and economy;
- United and inclusive Canada;
- Fair and open government;
- Canada and the world.

To find more information about the Liberal Party of Canada and their election platform, please visit www.liberal.ca.



Tom Mulcair is the leader of the New Democratic Party of Canada.

Some key points the NDP have outlined for this election:

- Good jobs;
- Childcare;
- Environment;
- Communities;
- Retirement security;
- Healthcare.

For more information on the NDP and their election platform, please visit www.ndp.ca.

Métis National Heritage Centre

On Friday, July 31 the Government of Canada through the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage committed \$998,537 in funding to support the development of the Métis National Heritage Centre (MNHC) at the Upper Fort Garry Heritage Provincial Park near the Historic Forks.

President David Chartrand said, "We are pleased to be receiving support from the Government of Canada towards the development of the Métis National Heritage Centre. We would like to thank Minister Glover and the Department of Canadian Heritage for this financial contribution and we look forward to receiving further assistance from other governmental and private sponsors."

"The Upper Fort Garry site is one of the most significant historic sites in the development of western Canada," President Chartrand explained. "We will continue to work with governments, partners and the Friends of Upper Fort Garry in the development of this world class heritage site in downtown Winnipeg."

"The Métis National Heritage Centre is the Métis Nation's vision to showcase our legacy and the significance of the Upper Fort Garry site in the development of the Canada," President Chartrand went on to say. "The site is intimately involved with the Métis Nation - Canada's negotiating partners in Confederation - as home of Louis Riel's Provisional Government, the Bill of Rights, and the creation of Manitoba."

This showcasing will be done by providing education on the history, heritage, language and culture, methods of governance and contributions of the Métis Nation before, during and after Confederation. Through interpretive displays, artifacts, interactive programming, educational components and community gatherings held at the centre, the MMF will continue to promote and preserve the history and culture of the Métis people. The presentation and interpretation of

the Métis identity and experience will also include the Métis interaction of other Peoples and our common histories.

The construction of the MNHC is anticipated to begin August 2016 and conclude August 2017 with its grand opening slated for November 2017.



The Métis National Heritage Centre will be built at the location of Louis Riel's Provisional Government in Upper Fort Garry.

CORRECTION - In Loving Memory of Marielee Nault

The last issue of Le Métis indicated Marielee Nault would be honoured at the MMF's 47th Annual General Assembly. The article incorrectly stated the dates for the AGA as September 26 & 27, 2014. The dates should have read September 26 & 27, 2015. We apologize for the error. We look forward to seeing you at the AGA where the MMF will honor Marielee Nault with the Order of the Sash.

Line Worker Certification Training Program

Manitoba Metis Federation Metis Employment & Training in partnership with Forbes Bros is accepting applications for people interested in becoming skilled labourers in the power line construction industry.

Individuals that successfully complete this 4-week program will be referred for entry-level positions with Forbes Bros.

Who Can Participate

- Unemployed or Underemployed Metis, Non-Status, or Inuit individuals;
- Must be 18 years of age or older;
- Possession of a valid Class 5 Driver's License or higher is an asset;
- Physically fit, able to work in extreme temperatures;
- Mobile and willing and able to relocate to Winnipeg for the 4 week training program and for employment opportunities after training.

If you are interested in pursuing employment as a skilled labourer please contact:

Amy Dowsett, Recruitment Coordinator
MET Recruitment.

(204) 586-8474 or
amy.dowsett@mmf.mb.ca

Application Deadline: August 17, 2015



**Metis
Employment
& Training**

Call for Musicians

MÉTIS NATION ANTHEM

The Métis Nation will be celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Métis Nation infinity flag on June 19, 2016. The Métis National Council is seeking Métis composers/musicians to develop a Métis Nation Anthem to debut as part of these celebrations.

The criteria for the development of the Métis Nation Anthem is as follows:

1. The composer/musician shall be a citizen of the Métis Nation;
2. The anthem must be no longer than two (2) minutes;
3. The anthem may be in English, but will later be translated to Michif and French; and
4. The accompanying music score shall include fiddle music.
5. Deadline for submission is May 2, 2016

The successful composer/musician will be invited to be in attendance at the 200th Anniversary celebrations on June 19, 2016 to debut the Anthem.

\$5000 will be awarded for the Anthem that is chosen!



SEND YOUR COMPOSITION TO:
Métis National Council
340 MacLaren Street, Ottawa, ON K2P 0M6
Fax: 613-232-4262
email: loriannr@metisnation.ca