



Le Métis



President's Message

I am very pleased and proud to say the MMF and our Métis Community were very successful in getting out the Métis Vote. In this election we showed the federal parties, their leaders, and candidates that the Métis vote matters. Our people have a voice, and our ballots have spoken loudly. We cannot, and must not, be ignored.

As I have said earlier at our Annual General Assembly and elsewhere, this election was the perfect storm for the parties and their candidates. Our push to get our citizens out to the advance polls or to vote on Election Day showed results and we made a clear difference. We proved our Métis votes matter. We are confident that our Métis Citizens made an informed choice.

To answer how we did bring out the vote, we first begin with the MMF's nine Métis-specific questions that were sent to each of the federal political parties. We asked each party what they would do if they

formed the government or held the balance of power in the case of a minority government. We put those answers in front of our people and gave them the information they needed to make their choice about who to vote for.

Our first question was about our Land Claim. The Liberal, NDP, and Green Party leaders each committed their party would take all the necessary actions to ensure the government would enter negotiations with the MMF and take the steps to reach a land claims agreement. The Conservative party did not respond to any of our questions. However, as we have reported here and elsewhere they did appoint a Special Ministerial Representative to develop and provide recommendations on a way forward.

Other questions included our ASETS and bursaries and scholarship funding, economic development, consultation, procurement, truth and reconciliation and Métis Citizenship. We put all the answers on our website and provided them at our recent Annual General Assembly. The MMF had a great many visits to our election page. We sent out information packages. We also spread our message in the local and national newspapers, and on the television news and newsmagazines. We finished our strong campaign to get out the Métis vote by calling our Citizens to encourage and assist them to the voting booths.

I am pleased our Métis citizens, both young and old, came out in unprecedented numbers to put their "x" on the ballot. I thank our staff and volunteers who contacted friends, family, neighbours and other Citizens to successfully bring out our vote in this election. I also want to thank the leaders and candidates who committed themselves to transparency and the public debate in the campaign. It is a hard road to run in any election and I congratulate them on their efforts.

We cannot be ignored. Our next steps will now be

to engage the government and work to implement their commitments made to us. Now that our citizens have spoken, we will introduce our issues to the new government's ministers - some of whom will already be well acquainted with the MMF and the Métis Nation's Manitoba Métis Community. We will continue our work with Canada to ensure our Métis priorities are addressed and their promises are kept. The responses we received will be our yardstick.

Our push to get our citizens out to the advance polls or to vote on Election Day showed results and we made a clear difference. We proved our Métis votes matter. We cannot, and must not be ignored.

The Métis are hardworking taxpayers. We contribute to building our provincial and our national infrastructure, programs and services. Governments are not giving us anything for free. We have worked hard and paid for these government expenditures. It is time to get our fair share of taxes back for our Métis priorities. We will work with this government to make these are also their priorities.

Soon we will be going into a provincial election. This is just around the corner - taking place six months from now in April 2016. As we have done in previous years, we will be taking similar steps to ensure our Métis Citizens have the information they need to make an informed choice.

I offer my prayers for our friends, family members, and veterans who have passed on and my condolences to those who have lost a loved one. My hopes are with those who are sick or shut in and I offer my best wishes to all.

Meeqwetch,

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www.mmf.mb.ca

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



**Metis
Employment
& Training**

Now Hiring For:
**PROVINCIAL YOUTH
COORDINATOR**
MMF Home Office - Winnipeg, MB

Metis Employment & Training seeks to fill one **Provincial Youth Coordinator** position located at the **MMF Home Office** in Winnipeg, MB.

**Remuneration is
\$35,001 - \$45,001 annually**
(depending on qualifications and experience)

DESCRIPTION: Working with the MMF Minister of Heritage, Sport & Youth and the MET Senior Director, the Provincial Youth Coordinator will assist in the development and implementation of an Action Plan that outlines the direction of the Portfolio. This will include establishing a strong foundation of programming that can be built upon by achieving an increase Metis Youth involvement and commitment to Healthy lifestyles through sport, recreation and educational activities. The Provincial Youth Coordinator is responsible for the assessment, coordination, management and monitoring of these training and employment initiatives. The incumbent is also responsible for facilitating partnerships with industry employers, training institutions, and organizations to deliver programs and services that address labour market needs.

**For a complete list of required
Skills & Qualifications please visit:**

**www.mmfemployment.ca or
www.mmf.mb.ca**

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 not limited to: health and dental insurance, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, short term and long term disability and a retirement savings plan.

Please forward cover letter and resume
by **Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015** to:
MMF Metis Employment & Training Dept.
300-150 Henry Ave.
Winnipeg, MB, R3B 0J7
email to: metresumes@mmf.mb.ca
fax to: (204) 947-3251



Supreme Court of Canada Hears MNC Arguments

On October 8, 2015, the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) heard the Daniels Appeal on whether the Métis are included in section 91(24) of the Canadian Constitution. This was an appeal from an earlier Federal Court of Appeal decision. In that earlier decision, the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) was an intervenor and was successful in having the court accept our arguments.

As President Chartrand wrote back in April 2014, we are "pleased that the MMF statements are prominent in the Court's written decision. Our arguments that we put forward carried the day. The Court wrote that it would 'restate the declaration as proposed by the Manitoba Métis Federation.' We got exactly the decision that we wanted."

Unfortunately that decision was appealed to the SCC. At the SCC hearing this month the MMF again intervened this time as part of the Métis National Council (MNC). The MNC argument included statements on the purpose of Section 91(24), its necessary role in the relationship to reconciliation between Métis and the Crown, and that the lower courts had correctly included the Métis in Section 91(24).

President Chartrand in earlier Le Metis President's Messages has spoken about the Daniels case at the lower Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal. In those Messages he explained what this means for the Métis people:

"There is a principle that with jurisdiction and authority come responsibilities and obligations. Métis under 91(24) means the federal government has exclusive legislative authority for the Métis. The other side of the coin is Canada can no longer hide from its responsibilities by saying they don't have jurisdiction for the Métis. In the past, Métis issues fell between the cracks and were not addressed because of Canada's denial to accept its obligations. The Métis have been a hot potato and political football for Canada.

"I want to assure our Métis Citizens, as I have earlier, that this does not mean the Métis will be Indians, either status or non-status, as we normally think of the term. Think of Indian, in this section of the Constitution, as being a more general term like native, aborigine, Aboriginal or Indigenous People. Within this general term, the Métis will remain distinct. We are the Otepayemsuak or the independent ones, Michif, Métif, Métis, Métisse, the New Nation, and the Métis Nation."

President Chartrand has also gone on to explain: "the MMF will continue to protect our separate, distinct, and unique identity. The MMF will oppose any suggestion or action by Canada to put us under unwanted, out-of-date, and arbitrary legislation such as the Indian Act. The Métis are Canada's Partners in Confederation: A Founding People. We expect to be recognized and treated as equals. As partners we will continue to exercise our rights of self-definition, self-determination, and self-government within a united Canada."

A SCC decision is expected in late winter or early spring. If the SCC acknowledges the Métis are in section 91(24) it will have positive "implications upon Métis access to programs and services, and for the protection of our lands and rights" concluded President Chartrand.

An Historic Turnout, an Historic Result

Métis turnout in large numbers and make their voices heard

In this election Métis Citizens have demonstrated to the federal parties, their leaders, and candidates that the Métis vote matters. We have a voice, and our ballots have spoken loudly. We cannot, and must not, be ignored.

“This election was the perfect storm for the parties and their candidates,” says Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) President David Chartrand. “Our push to get our Citizens out to vote in both the advance polls and on Election Day has made a clear difference. We proved our Métis votes matter and we are confident our Métis Citizens have made an informed choice.”

During this lengthy campaign, the MMF worked diligently to put our concerns in front of the federal parties. Each party leader was asked to answer nine important questions and we provided their answers on our website at www.mmf.mb.ca/elections.php. Our Métis Citizens used this information and made a decision for the party that offered the best plan to meet our priorities.

“The Métis Citizens of Manitoba congratulates Prime Minister-elect Justin Trudeau on his victory in yesterday’s election,” says President Chartrand. “Our next steps will be to engage his government and work to implement their commitments to us. The MMF will continue our work with Canada to ensure our Métis priorities are addressed and promises made are kept. The responses we received will be our yardstick.”

Background

For a complete list of the questions asked by the MMF and the federal party



responses, please visit www.mmf.mb.ca/elections_qa.php.

For a copy of the Liberal Party commitments to the Métis, please visit www.mmf.mb.ca/docs/elections/Liberal_Advancing-and-achieving-reconciliation-for-the-Metis-people.pdf

Real CHANGE

ADVANCING AND ACHIEVING RECONCILIATION FOR THE METIS NATION

The Métis are one of this country’s three constitutionally-recognized Indigenous Peoples. Over the last several years, courts have repeatedly recognized that Métis communities possess Aboriginal rights protected by s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, and that certain Métis communities have outstanding claims with the Crown.

- Work with Métis people, as well as the provinces and territories, to establish a federal claims process that sets out a framework to address Métis rights protected by s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, recognize Métis self-government, and resolve outstanding Métis claims against the Crown.
- Convert current year-to-year funding – made available to provincial Métis communities for Métis identification and registration – into a permanent initiative. This will provide an ongoing and reliable base of funding for these groups to undertake this important work of identifying Métis rights-holders.

The unique rights and claims of the Métis Nation require the federal government – in collaboration with Métis people, the provinces, and territories – to meaningfully engage, negotiate, and reach just and lasting settlements with Métis communities. This is essential to how reconciliation will be meaningfully advanced and achieved with the Métis Nation.

IMPROVING MÉTIS QUALITY OF LIFE REQUIRES DISTINCT AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES, AND REAL PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MÉTIS NATION, AS WELL AS THE PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES.

Strengthening economic outcomes and opportunities

Métis individuals and communities face unique socio-economic issues and challenges based on their

A Liberal government will:

- Immediately establish a negotiations process between Canada and the Manitoba Métis Federation in order to settle the outstanding land claim of the Manitoba Métis community, as recognized by the Supreme Court of Canada in *Manitoba Métis Federation v. Canada* (AG).

ADVANCING AND ACHIEVING RECONCILIATION FOR THE MÉTIS NATION

distinct histories, geographies, and on-the-ground realities. Improving Métis quality of life requires distinct and innovative approaches, and real partnership with Métis people, as well as the provinces and territories. A Liberal government is committed to working with these partners to achieve results for Métis children, youth, families, and communities.

A Liberal government will:

- Undertake a collaborative review, in partnership with Métis communities, of existing federal programs and services available to the Métis Nation, to identify gaps and areas where strategic investments are needed in order to improve Métis quality of life.
- Renew the Aboriginal Strategic Employment and Training Strategy (ASETS), including the continuation of nation-to-nation and distinctions-based approaches. These respect the unique realities of First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation, in the delivery of these programs and services to their communities. We will also expand ASETS funding by \$50 million per year.
- Work with Métis communities and existing Métis financial institutions to develop a Métis Economic Development Strategy that identifies strategic federal investments that can be made to enhance Métis entrepreneurship, as well as Métis participation in business development and economic growth. We will also provide \$25 million over five years to implement this new strategy.
- Fulfill the commitment in the Kelowna Accord to enhance existing scholarships and bursaries available to Métis students, at various colleges and universities across Canada, in partnership with the Métis Nation.

LEARN MORE AT **Real CHANGE**



**Metis
Employment
& Training**

Now Hiring For:

PROJECT OFFICER
Southwest Regional Office - Brandon, MB

Metis Employment & Training seeks to fill one **Project Officer** position located at the **Southwest Regional Office** in Brandon, MB.

Remuneration is \$31,446 - \$41,943 annually

(depending on qualifications and experience)

DESCRIPTION: Under the direction of the MET Regional Coordinator, the **Project Officer** will develop and implement training and employment initiatives undertaken by the MET Dept. The Project Officer is responsible for assessment and management of these initiatives. The Project Officer is also responsible for facilitating partnerships with industry employers, training institutions, and organizations to deliver programs and services that address labour market needs.

**For a complete list of required
Skills & Qualifications, please visit:**

www.mmfemployment.ca or www.mmf.mb.ca

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 not limited to: health and dental insurance, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, short term and long term disability and a retirement savings plan.

Please forward cover letter and resume
by **Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015** to:
MMF Metis Employment & Training Dept.
300-150 Henry Ave.
Winnipeg, MB, R3B 0J7
email to: metresumes@mmf.mb.ca
fax to: (204) 947-3251

Best Wishes for Harvesting Success

Now that the federal election results are in, many Métis will turn to other interests and needs. As we are in the fall hunting season, some of us will be going on our duck or big-game hunt to provide our families with food gathered in our traditional ways. For all our harvesters, be sure to have with you your Metis Harvester Identification Card validated with your Conservation Trust Fund Sticker. If hunting big game, be sure you have your big-game management tags. In all your hunting, make sure you follow the Metis Laws of the Harvest.

For those harvesters outside of the Harvesting Zone with a validated harvester card and who have purchased a provincial hunting or fishing license or permit, please bring these licenses and permits into your MMF Regional Office for an application for full reimbursement.

The Metis Laws of the Harvest can be downloaded from the MMF website at:

www.mmf.mb.ca/docs/Metis-Laws-of-the-Harvest_FINAL.pdf

