



Le Métis



President's Message

is a person who takes part in an undertaking with another or others with shared risks and profits. As a Treaty, this is the constitutional pact the Manitoba Métis entered when we became Canada's Negotiating Partners in Confederation and when our Ancestors agreed to put down their arms and allowed our traditional territory to become a part of Canada.

The concept of partner comes from an old Middle English word "parcener" which means both partner and joint heir. I like this idea of joint heir. An heir is someone who shares with another the right to inherit something. In this case we, the Métis, Manitobans, and indeed, all Canadians inherit the vision of Métis Leader Louis Riel, the Métis Bill of Rights, and the fruits the Métis Provisional Government.

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Partners have roles, rights, and responsibilities to the partnership and to each other. In a partnership there must be mutual accountability, accommodation and respect.
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Partners don't always do justice to one another, although they should. Sometimes a third party is necessary to bring the partners back together to deal with an issue. As you will recall, in 2013, after 32 years of legal battles, the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) vindicated our people's 143-year-old struggle for justice. The SCC reaffirmed that Section 31 of the Manitoba Act 1870 was to set aside 1.4 million acres of land for 7,000 Metis children. This was a promise from one partner to another that was not kept.

This constitutional obligation was to give the children a head start over the expected influx of settlers from the east. But the Métis were marginalized. The Court acknowledged this promise was frustrated by persistent inattention, negligence, repeated mistakes, delays, and inaction by Canada, and held that this solemn promise was not implemented "in accordance with the honour of the Crown."

We are currently in discussions with Canada as

to taking the next steps forward to renew the partnership between the Métis and other Canadians for meaningful reconciliation and mutual respect. It is our objective to enter negotiations with Canada to reach a comprehensive land claims agreement that will address this outstanding constitutional grievance. It is a commitment of the Liberal Government that negotiations begin immediately.

As one, but perhaps the best, example of Canadian spirit, the Métis have gone to battle both here in our Homeland and abroad in other countries to protect democracy and human rights. Our veterans and their families made great sacrifices. Unfortunately, as an example of one partner insulting another: when many Métis came home they did not receive the veteran supports and respect given to others upon their return. This has still to be addressed.

Our Métis Citizens are hardworking taxpayers. We understand the importance of our tax contributions in continuing to build our province and our country. As one person said: it is the price of a civilized society. I have said many times at our public events and assemblies that the tax collector can easily find us when it is time to pay our taxes. Yet it is apparently difficult to find us and give us back our fair share of tax revenues for our Métis health, education, cultural, social economic and business development, and other self-government priorities.

Getting our share of tax revenue: this is not charity; this is not a handout; this is our right as a recognized equal. We have the right to decide within the partnership which priorities are important and how they will be met. Being self-determining, receiving our share of tax and resource royalty revenues; fully and properly consulted by the Crown; and, being an equal in Crown decision-making: that is true partnership between Partners in Confederation.

Upon closing, I offer my prayers for our friends, family, 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. I also offer my best wishes to all.

Meeqwetch,

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

Winnipeg, also once known as the Red River Settlement, is the Birthplace of the Métis Nation and the Heart of the Métis Nation Homeland. The Métis Nation is Manitoba's largest Indigenous People by both population and by the extent of our traditional territory. The Métis are the Founders of Manitoba and Canada's Negotiating Partners in Confederation. We stand as both proud Métis and proud Canadians.

As Canada's Partner, our Citizens helped build and protect our country and our way of life. What does partnership mean? What is a partner? We all can agree that partners have roles, rights, and responsibilities to the partnership and to each other. In a partnership there must be mutual accountability, accommodation and respect. This will be true in a successful business, lasting marriage, and, as in our anthem: the True North strong and free!

There is the standard dictionary meaning: a partner

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Business Aids, Loans, and Services

The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) supports the need for economic development initiatives amongst Métis entrepreneurs and businesses in Manitoba. Depending on your business requirements, the Louis Riel Capital Corporation and Metis Economic Development Fund have options available to aid you in your company's business demands and services.

The Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC) is a Manitoba Métis-owned lending institution that was created to help finance the start-up, acquisition and/ or expansion of viable Métis, Non-Status Aboriginal, and Inuit controlled small businesses based in Manitoba. LRCC can also help you find business information, identify skills training, and provides ongoing support as needed.

LRCC offers a list of financial services available to meet your business needs such as Capital Loans, Bridge/Interim Financing, Letter of Credit, and Non-Repayable Equity Contributions. Business services provided by LRCC include Business Loans, Business Development and Counseling Support in Business Term Loans, Developing Business Plans, Analyzing Business Performance, Business Advisory Services, and help with Understanding Financing Options.

In order for an applicant to be eligible for consideration of LRCC services, they must be an individual of Métis, Non-Status Aboriginal, or Inuit and be able to show proof of ancestry. A corporation or other approved entity controlled or owned by Métis, Non-Status, or Inuit are also eligible for services provided by LRCC.

All eligible applicants are required to provide an appropriate amount of equity in their proposed operation, acquisition or expansion. The project must also be viable in the parameters that it has the potential to produce income to cover operating costs, provide a reasonable income for the owner, loan repayment, and exert the potential for long-term profitability. The owner must also demonstrate they have the appropriate skills to successfully carry on the business through training, education, and other experience prior to the approval of funding. Applicants must reside in Manitoba with the applicants business based in Manitoba. All loans must be adequately secured. To learn more information about loans and services with LRCC visit, www.lrcc.mb.ca. You can also follow LRCC on Twitter @LRCC_MB.

The Metis Economic Development Fund (MEDF) is an equity investment fund designed to stimulate the economic development opportunities for Métis people residing in Manitoba. They are a non-profit organization that provides equity and capital for Métis entrepreneurs and Métis businesses to support economic development initiatives to create an Equity Investing Partnership. MEDF provides equity investment in key industries such as Life Sciences, Information and Communications Technologies, Energy and Clean Technologies, Wholesale and Distribution, Advanced Manufacturing, Mining and Natural Resources, and other industries as agreed to by MEDF.

An Equity Investing Partnership with MEDF involves money-invested-in rather than loaned to. The purpose of the partnership is to provide capital for start-ups, acquisitions and expansions or growth phases. However, MEDF will only offer a start-up venture with the business owner if business' viability outweighs the increased investment risk. MEDF offers a maximum financing amount of \$500,000 with a maximum amortization of 10 years, or 35% of the fair value of the company. MEDF also offers your corporation assistance with knowledge, business relationships, and economic development strategies and opportunities in private and public sectors. The partnership also includes no fixed interest rates or principal repayment obligations.

In order to be considered for financing through MEDF your business must be a Métis controlled business within Manitoba with a minimum ten percent Métis-cash equity. However, loans through MEDF are not guaranteed.

To be eligible for equity investment with MEDF your corporation must be owned and controlled by individuals who reside in Manitoba with proof of Métis ancestry

via genealogy. The owner must also have an experienced and well-balanced management team that is able to submit a comprehensive business plan outlining the product and service offering, with a well-defined market, growth potential, and a clear exit strategy. Non-profit businesses will not be considered. The business plan exit strategy must have a target investment time frame of three to seven years with a maximum hold period of ten years. To learn more information about equity partnerships and services with MEDF visit www.medf.ca. You can also follow LRCC on Twitter @MEDFInc.



MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

Finance Account Clerk

The MMF Finance Department seeks to fill one full time **Finance Account Clerk** position located at the 150 Henry Ave, Winnipeg, MB; remuneration is \$28,698 to \$37,528 per annum (*depending on education and experience*) - plus benefits.

Under the direction and supervision of the Finance Officer, the Finance Account Clerk is responsible for the verification, calculation, recording and processing of payables related to travel. This includes preparing and processing requisitions, vouchers and journal entries. The Finance Account Clerk will reconcile all documentation related to the claims to ensure accuracy. They will also assist with the maintenance of general ledger accounts and financial statements.

Skills and Qualifications:

- Accounting related certificate or diploma or an equivalent combination of education and experience;
- Minimum of 2 years finance experience including, but not limited to accounts payable and accounts receivable;
- Experience working in a computerized accounting program, Word, Excel and Outlook;
- Experience working with ACCPAC for Windows is considered an asset;
- Experience preparing correspondence, including reports and letters;
 - Experience maintaining and updating files;
- Experience working with Not-For-Profit Organizations, Boards & Committees is considered an asset;
- Strong analytical, problem solving, time management and organizational skills;
 - Knowledge of Métis culture and history; and
 - Knowledge of MMF programs and services.

Preference will be given to qualified Métis 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, retirement savings plan, as well as a pension plan. We also offer an on-site fitness facility and an in-house restaurant.

Please forward covering letter and resume by Monday December 14, 2015 to the MMF Finance & Human Resources Department, 300-150 Henry Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7, or email to: resumes@mmf.mb.ca or fax to (204) 947-1816.

All our job postings can be found at www.mmf.mb.ca



Left: Kirsten McKay, nominated on behalf of the Manitoba Metis Federation for the Health-North Achievement Award.
 Right: Tracie Leost, nominated for MAYAA's Junior Athletic Achievement Award.

Celebrating Aboriginal Youth Achievement

The 21st Annual Manitoba Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards (MAYAA) was held the evening of November 19, 2015, at the Victoria Inn and Conference Centre in Winnipeg. The MAYAA's were founded in 1994, as a way to counteract the negative image of Aboriginal Youth. MAYAA highlights positive Aboriginal Youth achievement role models and leaders ages 16-24 who excel in their community and activities. Louis Riel Institute was one of the sponsors for this year's event.

Aboriginal Youth are selected by their peers and are nominated through their community or school. This makes the MAYAA's selection process unique. The ceremony recognizes the outstanding achievements of Manitoba's Aboriginal Youth who exhibit high standards of excellence, dedication, leadership and accomplishments in the following areas: Academic, Athletic, Artistic, Cultural, Community/Volunteer, Business/Entrepreneurial, Health, Personal Achievement, and Employment in a Traditional Field.

A total of 16 Aboriginal Youth were selected this year for their outstanding achievements, six of the nominees were Métis. Kirsten McKay was one of the Métis nominated on behalf of the Manitoba Metis Federation and Louis Riel Institute for the Health-North Achievement Award. Kirsten is a third-year nursing student from The Pas. She currently volunteers at the Victoria General Hospital in the emergency room. She plans to return to her home community once she graduates and work for the Northern Regional Health Authority.

Another Métis award recipient for the evening was 16-year-old Tracie Leost. In August 2015, Tracie ran over 100 kilometers from Oak Point, Manitoba, to The Forks in Winnipeg to raise awareness for the missing and murdered indigenous women. She was nominated and chosen for MAYAA's

Junior Athletic Achievement Award.

"I'm really excited, definitely to be an award recipient," said a smiling Tracie Leost. "This definitely helps me as a leader and builds more to my character."

The evening celebrated the accomplishments and strides each recipient made in their home communities and classes. Recipients received a crystal plaque and were honoured with a \$1000 scholarship to help them in their studies and activities. Recipients also had the opportunity to meet with business leaders to discuss their future plans or goals.

"This level of recognition is really able to help me a lot in my future," said Leost. "I'm proud to be able to be here with all the other Indigenous people that have something they can be proud of - it's definitely something I'm proud to be celebrating."

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The Manitoba Metis Federation participates in the 2015 Grey Cup Procession and arrival in Winnipeg.

Welcoming the Grey Cup to Winnipeg – Heart of the Métis Nation Homeland

On November 25, 2015, the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) was honoured to participate in the 2015 Arrival of the Grey Cup Procession as the Grey Cup arrived in Winnipeg – the Birthplace of the Métis Nation and Heart of the Métis Homeland.

With the Métis being the Founder of the Province of Manitoba, Canada's negotiating partner in Confederation, and Manitoba's largest Indigenous people, the MMF played an important and critical part in welcoming the Grey Cup, the players, spectators, and dignitaries from across the country.

The procession began at Upper Fort Garry where Louis Riel's Provisional Government first sat, and ending at the Manitoba Legislative Building, where the current Provincial Government of Manitoba now sits. This was a very interesting and historic journey between two significant places and periods in Métis history.

The procession of the Grey Cup included Citizens of the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community pulling two traditional Métis Red River carts. The first cart featured traditional Métis music played by Métis fiddler Glenn Hewgill accompanied by Métis Guitarist Michael Lauze. The second Red River cart carried the Grey Cup escorted by 13-year-old Métis Youth, Brayden Anderson. The Metis contingent was guided to the Legislative Building by Richard Genaille, the MMF Minister responsible for Culture, Heritage, and Youth.

Upon the arrival of the Grey Cup at the Legislative Building, along with others, Métis Elder George Fleury provided opening prayers and blessings of the Grey Cup and the festival opening. Following the prayers, Jason Smith, President of the 103rd Grey Cup Festival, David Asper and Gene Dunn Co-Chairs of the 103rd Grey Cup Festival, Provincial Sport Minister Ron Lemieux, and Mayor Brian Bowman welcomed the 2015 Arrival of the Grey Cup to Winnipeg for the official kick-off of the championship festivities.

