



Le Metis



President's Message

I really enjoy the summer months. I enjoy seeing kids outside having fun. Isn't it good to hear our children laugh as they play together and explore the great outdoors? But, none of this is fully possible unless a child has a safe, stable home to go back to at the end of the day.

Housing is a social indicator, a social determinate of health. It is proven by many studies that children do better when they have a safe, adequate and stable home. Housing has interrelations with other social aspects such as health, education, poverty reduction, child welfare, senior care, youth outcomes and improved services for women. A change in any one area influences at least one or many of these other areas. When families have the opportunity have and own their own home, they can set down life giving roots in their towns and villages and have a firm foundation from which to adequately provide for needs in all those identified areas.

When families are denied opportunity for a home, or when housing is inadequate, it leads to negative effects and outcomes. When a person has no home, they have no place to rest or recreate. They become disconnected from family and friends, from the very place and people that can support them. When families cannot afford their homes, when they are simply struggling to survive, they cannot grow and

thrive. The lack of safe, affordable housing leads to broken homes, fractured communities and stunted growth within our Nation.

This in turn can lead to an increase of preventable illnesses. If you have no clean or suitable housing, or if you find yourself cramped into tight quarters with large numbers of people, illnesses can easily spread amongst each other. Not being able to afford your housing can also lead to stress and anxiety related illnesses that place an unnecessary burden on our healthcare systems.

The Manitoba Metis Federation believes that every child and every family should have opportunity to receive safe, affordable and sustainable housing. To this end, your Métis government has been working to help provide just that to our Métis Citizens. In Winnipeg, we created a beautiful quad plex near the MMF Home Offices. In Brandon, last year we opened safe and affordable housing units on 12th Street. We are currently in the final stages of approval for building units in Selkirk this year.

As the government of Manitoba's Métis Community, the MMF is committed to providing results that lead to healthy, happy and complete homes. We are investing to help provide a resilient, thriving and safe community for all Métis Citizens. We are investing to create that lasting place that was promised to our ancestors over 140 years ago.

This week key members of our Métis government are meeting with officials in Ottawa to discuss what our housing needs are as Métis Citizens. We are working to develop a Métis specific, Métis designed approach that is focused on obtaining long term solutions that will bring our Citizens to a place of positive economic

participation and stability. In our vision, we will not only consider core housing need, but also develop a housing plan for longer term sustainability.

In 2006, we were part of the Kelowna Accord process where priorities were identified and outlined that showed off reserve core housing needs were 76% higher among Aboriginal households than non-Aboriginal households. In the North, this number nearly doubled to 130%. That agreement remains relevant today and there has been a recommitment by the federal government to fulfill these points in the Accord as it states:

"address the unique housing needs of Métis through investments and maintenance in order to improve Métis delivery and control of affordable social housing; and work towards developing a regionally focused Métis Nation Housing Institute"

Let us continue to work together towards this vision for safe, affordable and sustainable housing for all Métis Citizens. I encourage you to begin that vision right at home, in your towns and villages. Support each other and hold one another up. If you have a little extra, share with someone who has a little less. Get involved in social action initiatives that seek to improve the welfare and outcomes for our people. Support your Métis government - get involved.

Finally, I send my thoughts and prayers to those of you who are hurting, sick or shut in. May you find peace, comfort and hope in your families, friends and community. Be safe this summer. Enjoy the blessings you have around you. Take care and I hope to see you this summer as I travel throughout the regions.

Meeqwetch,

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

Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund Invests in Improved Emergency Childcare at Children's Hospital

On Thursday, July 6, 2017, at 10 a.m. the Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund (MMHF), the official charity of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF), donated a cheque of \$50,000 to the Children's Hospital Foundation. The donation is to help support the Translating Emergency Knowledge for Kids (TREKK) program, at the Children's Hospital Research Centre.

The cheque presentation began with a prayer by Elder Oliver Boulette which included a few notes on the fiddle to honour the Métis way. The cheque was presented by the MMHF to the President and CEO of the Children's Hospital Foundation, Lawrence Prout, as well as the CEO and Scientific Director for the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba and Network Director for TREKK, Dr. Terry Klassen.

"The majority of sick and injured children in Canada are managed within nursing stations or emergency departments that are not part of a children's hospital," stated Dr. Terry Klassen, CEO and Scientific Director, the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba and Network Director, TREKK. "Thanks to the Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund for supporting the delivery of the right resources and training for all children in emergency rooms across the country, no matter where they live - urban, rural, or remote. Because of this presentation today, there is a greater chance a child's life will be saved."

The TREKK program is a national network of researchers, clinicians, partners, patients and families that share the common goal of improving emergency care for children. TREKK takes a "story telling" approach used by the Children's Hospital while delivering care to children as they visit emergency rooms, making families and children feel more



Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund donates \$50,000 to the Children's Hospital Foundation in support of the TREKK program.

comfortable during their experience. The program also helps families understand what is happening to their children while in care.

The funds for the TREKK program were raised through a partnership with the MMF, the Children's Hospital, and the Children's Hospital Foundation at the MMHF's inaugural gala fundraiser "A Night to Remember", on May 12, 2017. On Manitoba Day, more than 400 guests filled the Fort Garry Hotel and were presented the unique opportunity to immerse themselves in Métis culture while raising funds for a meaningful cause.

The MMHF would like to again thank the many

individuals, volunteers, and sponsors who contributed to the gala's success. These include Media Sponsors - CTV Bell Media and NCI Radio; Diamond Sponsors - Metis N4 Construction Inc. and Forbes Brothers Powerline Construction Ltd.; and Platinum Sponsor - the Manitoba Metis Federation.

As the official charity of the MMF, the MMHF looks for opportunities to partner and invest in programs and services that directly impact Manitoba's Métis Community and the province as a whole. The MMHF invites any charitable organization wishing to partner for next year's Manitoba Day gala event to please contact the MMHF at **204-586-8474 ext. 331** or by email at mmhf@mmf.mb.ca.

Minister Campbell Receives Governor General of Canada Award



Minister Campbell holds the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers she received from the Governor General of Canada at a ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

On June 19, 2017, Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Minister of Finance and Infinity Women Secretariat Spokesperson, Anita Campbell, was given the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers by the Governor General of Canada, the Honourable David Johnston, in recognition of outstanding Indigenous leadership. This is the first of several special presentations that will recognize individuals for their grassroots-level engagement, their contributions to the nation or their work towards achieving reconciliation in communities across the country.

As a dedicated supporter of the Métis people, Anita Campbell, has collaborated with the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Métis Women of Manitoba for several years. She has helped to deliver vital services and programs to members of her community, and has inspired others to follow in her footsteps.

For her commitment and her work within the community, Anita was awarded the provincial award for Community Development from the Original Women's Network in 2001. She also received the Interprovincial Association on Native Employment (IANE) Bill Hanson Award in 2007, as well as the Thompson Trail Breakers Award for Community Leadership in 2011.

Minister Campbell is still curious as to who nominated her for the medal.

"It was a lengthy process to go through, and it's not a well-known award, so someone would have to have gone through lots of trouble to nominate me," she said. "I've tried to find out [who], but no one would give me their name."

Congratulations Anita!

Hiding in Plain Sight: Discovering the Métis Nation in the Archival Records of Library and Archives Canada

The Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) in partnership with Library and Archives Canada (LAC), and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), and in collaboration with the Centre du patrimoine and the Saint-Boniface Historical Society, is pleased to announce the opening of a traveling exhibition that showcases some of the rich histories of the Métis Nation.

Hiding in Plain Sight: Discovering the Métis Nation in the Archival Records of Library and Archives Canada presents selected artwork and photographs about the Métis.

"We are proud to work with our partners the Library and Archives Canada and the Saint Boniface Historical Society in sharing these images of Métis 'Hiding in Plain Sight.' This is an important step in acknowledging our shared histories, filling the gaps, correcting the oversights, and better understanding and renewing the relationship between Canada and the Métis Nation," says President Chartrand.

The exhibit premiered in Ottawa and then traveled



Left to right: Centre du patrimoine Executive Director, Gilles Lesage; MMF Minister Mona Buors; and LAC Curator, Beth Greenhorn.

to Paris, France, where it was shown at UNESCO House. The exhibition can be seen at the Centre du patrimoine, 340 Provencher Boulevard, Saint-Boniface, Manitoba, and will run until October 28, 2017. After the exhibit ends in Winnipeg it will move to Edmonton and Red Deer, Alberta, then onto Saskatoon and Batoche, Saskatchewan. The dates

and details will be published on Library and Archives Canada's website at www.bac-lac.gc.ca/events.

The Manitoba Métis Federation hopes one day to establish a permanent home for the exhibit right here in the Birthplace and Heart of the Métis Nation Homeland.

Hiding in Plain Sight: DISCOVERING THE MÉTIS NATION IN THE ARCHIVAL RECORDS OF LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

EXHIBITION

From June 27 to October 28, 2017

Centre du patrimoine, 340 Provencher Boulevard,
Saint-Boniface, Manitoba

bac-lac.gc.ca/events



Library and Archives
Canada

Bibliothèque et Archives
Canada

Canada

Mobile Outreach Office Unveiling

On Monday, June 26, 2017, Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) President David Chartrand and Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, unveiled the MMF's new mobile outreach office during an afternoon event at the MMF Home Office.

Lunch for special guests and staff began at noon, which included entertainment by Oliver Boulette and Al Desjarlais, also featured Métis youth square dancing group, the Lil Bitty Steppers. At 1:00 p.m., emcee and MMF Minister Will Goodon invited Minister Denise Thomas to provide the opening prayer before the unveiling.

Minister Goodon acknowledged all of the honoured guests from Manitoba's community who attended this event, including the Honourable MaryAnn Mihychuk, Members of Parliament, Dan Vandal and Terry Duguid.

Minister Bennett was invited to share a few words. In her speech she recognized all of the entertainers who performed. She also expressed that it is of the utmost importance that youth are proud share their culture and heritage with the community.

"It is the youth that will keep our traditions alive," said Minister Bennett. "You can see the passion each young Métis Citizen has for their culture."

She acknowledged that together, the MMF and Canada have made leaps and bounds in the past few years, such as the Memorandum of Understanding signed--- last year. Although there is still much more work to be done, the investment provided for this mobile outreach office is another step in the right direction.

"Many Métis do not live close by a Regional Office and have no means of getting to one. Without cars or bus access, many Youth, Elders and shut-ins, cannot get a ride to a Regional Office," said President Chartrand. "This mobile office will have staff to talk to, face-to-face, about Youth, Elder and other services we already provide or are currently developing with our federal government partners."

The MMF would like to thank Minister Carolyn Bennett and her team at INAC for working with us



The MMF unveils new mobile outreach office to help connect Métis Citizens across Manitoba with their Métis Government.

on this Citizen-focused mobile outreach initiative. With nearly 50% of Métis Citizens living in rural and remote areas across the province, the new mobile office will bring services directly to our Citizens. This investment will help the Métis government meet the needs of its Citizens, wherever they may be in the province.

The mobile office will begin its service tour at the annual gathering of the Métis Nation at Back to Batoche Days from July 20 - 23. It will then travel to Portage la Prairie on July 24 to start a circuit of the Southwest region to villages and towns such as Minnedosa, Rossburn, St. Lazare, Elk Horn and Oak Lake. The complete tour, including location and dates for stops, will be posted on the MMF website and Facebook page. Look for the mobile office visiting your community soon!



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