



Le Métis



President's Message

On May 23, 2018, as your Métis National Council (MNC) Vice-President, I participated and took a lead role in a series of Canadian Chamber of Commerce events in support of the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project. Afterwards, I was able to get our Métis Nation message out on national media such as the CBC Program *On the Money* and *CTV Power Play*. I also co-signed a joint open letter with Mr. Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, published this week in the *Ottawa Hill Times*.

The open letter can be found on our MNC website at www.MetisNation.ca, while the interviews are on the network websites. I suggest you visit the sites. The Métis Nation is the largest Indigenous population in western Canada and, when we move together, we can have a big impact on political decision-making across the country. It is important that we, as the Métis Nation, share our perspectives and ensure that both the environment and economy are considered and balanced in any decision-making towards a sustainable future.

The Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project will have direct and indirect benefits of construction, operation, and additional revenues for all Canadians, including Indigenous Peoples. Our most westerly Métis Nation Governing Members, situated along the path of the project in Alberta and British Columbia, have already signed mutual benefits agreements to provide revenues and other opportunities.

On this, and other natural resource development projects, it is critical that our communities reap the benefits and are compensated for the costs of the impacts on our Aboriginal rights and traditional economies. For example, here in Manitoba, we entered into agreement with Manitoba Hydro several years ago to address issues including transmission lines on our territories and interference with the exercise of our rights. It is unfortunate that the province of Manitoba has directed Hydro not to proceed with our agreement. As a result, we will be going to court in the coming days.

In many of our communities across the Métis Nation Homeland, our Citizens welcome opportunities from projects that support training, jobs, and business. Many of our communities have high unemployment. Our traditional economies of forestry and fishing have declined over the years. Other industries, such as fur trapping, have crashed and in many areas are now virtually non-existent. Our people are concerned about the short and long-term impacts.

The kind of activist accountable for the crash of our traditional fur industry is now trying to bring an end to the Trans Mountain Expansion Project. While doing their anti-fur demonstrations throughout North America and Europe, such individuals did not consider the impact of the loss of the fur industry on Indigenous peoples. Now, some oppose the pipeline without considering its impacts for us. The Métis don't need to be protected from the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project. We are a well-educated and hard working people. We can handle ourselves.

Sustainable development requires responsible decision-making. This includes following environmental assessment processes, respecting outcomes, and meeting the requirements set out by regulators and, if necessary, go to the courts. It also means considering future generations. Getting children a good education and jobs for their parents, lifting our people out of poverty and enjoying

higher living standards, ensuring good personal and community health, and promoting environmental initiatives including dealing with climate change, all require investments.

Governments need money to make these investments. Governments need taxes to raise money. Taxes are raised through permits, fees, royalties, and income taxes. All these require a strong economy. A strong economy, which includes the search, development, and transmission of energy including pipelines, is the foundation for supporting both our economic and environmental investments. To transition to other cleaner energy sources, we also need to make use of the resources we currently have to work with today.

Hopefully common sense will prevail. We know we are facing a climate challenge and our use of oil is part of this challenge. The Manitoba Metis Federation, through the MNC, participated in developing the *Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change*. This Framework is designed to meet emissions reduction targets, grow the economy, and build our resilience to the world's changing climate. Indigenous Peoples throughout Canada were consulted and we continue to be part of working groups to implement the plan.

When it comes to natural resource development, there will be both short-term and long-term benefits and costs. In any and all projects, ecological concerns must be addressed and our environmental responsibilities must be taken seriously. Mitigation and monitoring, consultation and accommodation with all Indigenous peoples, including the Métis Nation, are essential in moving forward. Investments in clean energy and clean growth must also continue to be made. Together we must take the next bold steps into the future for the benefit of our grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Meeqwetch,

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

MMF celebrates new housing units in Selkirk with ribbon cutting ceremony

Fourth project completed since Housing Initiative began in 2013

On Monday, May 14, 2018, the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) celebrated the completion of four new housing units in Selkirk with a ribbon cutting ceremony. This is the fourth housing project completed by the MMF since partnering with Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation in 2013 to develop affordable housing for Manitobans.

The two duplexes are located on Dufferin Avenue, each containing a four-bedroom and a three-bedroom unit.

"This is a very proud day for the Metis Nation," said MMF President David Chartrand, who spoke about the MMF's housing initiative during his welcoming remarks. "We have a vast strategy and plan in place, and I'm looking forward to keeping my promise to the people that this would be a big priority for us. We're going to commit ourselves to ensuring that it becomes reality."

President Chartrand emphasized the necessity to continue building affordable housing units in areas of need, along with the need to address other housing issues in the province, including social housing, home ownership, and homelessness.



The MMF celebrates new housing in Selkirk at ribbon cutting ceremony with the Mayor of Selkirk and Manitoba's Minister of Housing.

Other notable participants in the ribbon cutting ceremony included Manitoba Minister of Housing, Scott Fielding; Larry Johannson, the Mayor of Selkirk; MMF Vice President of the Interlake Region, Alfred Anderson; and MMF Minister of Housing, Will Goodon.

"Education is important, our health is important, but it starts at the housing level," said Minister Goodon

at the ceremony. "If a family and children are safe, are secure, are warm, then all these other things fall into place."

The MMF's next housing project will begin in The Pas later this year.

Employment & Training Opportunities!

- **PROVINCE-WIDE Recruitment for Line 3 Pipeline Training Program**
- **Administrative Assistant in Winnipeg**
- **Mobile Registry Clerk in Winnipeg**



**Metis
Employment
& Training**

Visit www.mmfemployment.ca for more information and to view all of the employment and training opportunities.

A Hunt for the Cure

MMHF Gala event in support of CancerCare Manitoba Foundation

On Saturday, May 12th, the Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund (MMHF) hosted their second annual fundraising gala at the Fairmont Hotel in Winnipeg. The MMHF is a registered charity, affiliated with the Manitoba Metis Federation and mandated to support economically disadvantaged individuals, children, and families of the Manitoba Métis Community.

This year's gala, themed "A Hunt for the Cure," raised funds for the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation.

Hosted by MMHF Board Chair Minister Denise Thomas and Honourary Co-Chair Mr. H. Sanford Riley, the event welcomed 400 participants for an evening of Métis culture in support of a good cause.

The Fairmont was transformed for the evening into a traditional Métis setting, featuring fiddle music and a hunting cabin. Entertainment was provided by Clint and Riley Dutiaume as well as Dan Deeds. Elder George Fleury provided a blessing in Michif before a tantalizing meal of Métis delicacies that included pickerel, venison, wild rice and saskatoons.

CTV's Rachel Lagacé emceed the gala, alongside Métis elder Oliver Boulette. Speakers included MMF

President David Chartrand, Sanford Riley, Hunter Goodon and Sherelle Kwan, who each delivered compelling personal stories of cancer's impact on their lives and on the lives of their loved ones.

The gala also featured a Silent Auction, a Rainbow Auction, and a Live Auction led by Rachel Atherton, all made possible by generous donations from supporting businesses and individuals.

All funds raised at the gala will remain in Manitoba to help deliver high quality research, patient care, treatment and support for patients living with cancer and their families. Proceeds from the event will support CancerCare Manitoba's efforts toward improved care for underserved populations in general and Métis, First Nations, and Inuit peoples in particular.



The MMF Mobile Office is



ON TOUR

Marchand ∞ Saturday, June 2

1 P.M. TO 3 P.M.

Pine Grove Senior Centre Parking Lot

Selkirk ∞ Sunday, June 3

11 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

Selkirk Friendship Centre

Winnipeg ∞ Sunday, June 10

11 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

Winnipeg Goldeyes Baseball Game

Selkirk ∞ Thursday, June 21

ALL DAY STARTING AT 9 A.M.

Selkirk Park (Aboriginal Day)



Come see us if
you need a:

- ∞ Citizenship Card
- ∞ Harvester Card
- ∞ Information on education and training programs



Email: citizenship@mmf.mb.ca

Visit: www.mmf.mb.ca