



Le Métis



President's Message

Summer is, for many, vacation time. For others, such as those repairing roads or in building construction; fishing guides; fishers; and farmers, just to name a few, it is a time of hard work. For our MMF Regions and Locals there are Métis Days celebrating our culture and community. At the MMF the summer is always a busy season but the last couple of summers have been among our busiest, with Prime Minister Trudeau's Liberal federal government acting as a willing and able partner. This summer will prove even busier. As our farmers say, "make hay while the sun shines."

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Manitoba Metis Federation (Official)



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ManitobaMetisMMF

Summer officially began this past week. June 21st marked the summer solstice and what we call the first day of summer. Across Canada that day is also celebrated as National Aboriginal Day or, as it is now known, National Indigenous Peoples Day. The MMF hosted many June 21st celebrations across our province. I am thankful for all the good work undertaken by our Regionally-elected representatives, staff, and volunteers as well as the musicians, dancers, and masters of ceremonies for making our events successful.

I want to particularly thank Minister Carolyn Bennett and her staff for attending and speaking at our MMF Interlake Region-hosted National Indigenous Peoples Day event in Selkirk. I would also like to thank the City of Selkirk's Mayor, Larry Johannson, and Councillors for their ongoing support. It is with pride that we entered downtown Selkirk and saw our Métis Nation flags flying from the light posts on both sides of Main Street. I also thank Vice President Anderson, and Ministers Park and Buors, for their good work in Selkirk.

The past week was marked by the MMF arguments at the National Energy Board, or NEB for short, about the Manitoba - Minnesota Transmission Project. The role of the NEB is to hold hearings, ask questions, and gather evidence to ensure that environmental assessments are properly done. As part of their mandate, the NEB assesses whether Aboriginal rights and interests have been considered and addressed and Aboriginal Peoples, including the Métis Nation, have been fully, properly, and meaningfully consulted and accommodated.

The MMF legal counsel submitted to the NEB our MMF - Manitoba Hydro July 2017 Agreement as evidence. Manitoba Hydro tried to prevent it from being on the NEB record. We had a big win when the NEB allowed the evidence. This victory at the NEB will be an important weapon in our battle against the Pallister government, which continues to deny the

rights of our Métis Nation.

I want to thank Métis Nation - Saskatchewan President, Glen McCallum, for his kind invitation again this year to attend the Pinehouse Elders Gathering in northern Saskatchewan. While there I met many Métis Elders and Citizens. It was a pleasure to connect with our relatives on the other side of the artificial provincial border. Truly, our ancestral family connections are the ties that bind us together. This summer, the MMF will soon host our annual August Métis Elders Gathering at Grant's Mill in Winnipeg.

On June 15th I signed the *Métis Nation Skills and Employment Training Accord*. Among its objectives is to increase the number of Métis people in the labour force through supports including post-secondary education funding. This is an important breakthrough. This is also the biggest funding agreement to which I have ever penned my signature: more than half a billion dollars over ten years. This agreement will make a great impact on our future. As the Métis National Council Vice-President responsible for negotiating the Accord, I thank The Honourable Minister Patricia Hajdu for her continuing commitment in making this a success.

This week, with many of the MMF caucus and other participants, I am at a workshop called *The Path to Economic Prosperity - A Manitoba Métis Economic Summit*. We are working together to develop a strategy for a holistic approach to strengthening our Métis Citizens, their families, and their communities. We will keep you informed as we move forward on this initiative.

I offer my prayers for our family members, friends, and neighbours who have passed on. I also offer my condolences to their families. It is my hope that those with ill health and pain may be healed. I look forward to seeing many of you this summer as I travel across the province. Best wishes to everyone.

Meeqwetch,

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

Métis Nation signs \$625-Million Skills and Employment Training Accord with Canada

This month, Métis Nation leaders signed an Accord in Ottawa that will provide more than \$625-million over 10 years to the Métis Nation stream of the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program. The funding will help the Métis Nation increase its capacity to deliver employment programs, job training, skill development, and access to post-secondary education.

“This agreement will change the lives of tens of thousands of our Métis citizens,” said MMF President David Chartrand, speaking as Vice-President of the Métis Nation Council and its Minister of Social Development. “We know that it will help fill the gap that exists for our people in Canada’s economy in both trades and educational opportunities. Now we have a federal government that understands the steps needed to assist the Métis Nation in becoming a true partner in this economy.”

This is the first sub-accord under the Canada- Métis Nation Accord signed by Prime Minister Justin



MMF President Chartrand and the Honourable Patty Hajdu sign the first sub-accord of the Canada-Métis Nation Accord in Ottawa.

Trudeau and Métis Nation leadership in 2017. The agreement was signed by Métis Nation leadership and the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour.

“Every Canadian deserves a real and fair chance at

success. Today, we make history as we sign the first sub-accord of the Canada-Métis Nation Accord, in the spirit of a true nation-to-nation relationship,” said Minister Hajdu. “Access to education and skills training has the power to change generations.”

Myrtle De Meulles receives Order of the Métis Nation

On June 16, MMF Citizen and respected Métis elder Catherine (Myrtle) De Meulles received the Order of the Métis Nation: the highest honour given by the Métis National Council.

The Order of the Métis Nation is presented to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of Métis rights and aspirations in cultural, educational, political, judicial or other fields. De Meulles received this honour for her dedicated efforts passing on Métis knowledge and traditions to future generations.

De Meulles was president of the Churchill Métis Local from 1985 to 1999, where she helped to establish the Heritage Hall, showcasing hundreds of Métis heirlooms and artifacts and hosting many events and fundraisers in the space. Heritage Hall was destroyed in a tragic fire in 2015. Although De Meulles lost precious items to the blaze, she continued to pass her invaluable knowledge on to other Métis.

MMF President David Chartrand and Métis National Council President Clement Chartier attended the event, as well as MMF Ministers and De Meulles’ family members.



MMF President Chartrand and Métis National Council President Chartier present Métis elder Catherine (Myrtle) De Meulles with the Order of the Métis Nation.

“If it wasn’t for people like Myrtle at the community level, who dedicate themselves to making things better for our people, we wouldn’t be here today,” said Chartier. “This is a very well-deserved award.”

Métis Elder honoured at Keeping the Fires Burning

Métis elder Elizabeth Genaille was inducted as an honoured grandmother at the 17th Annual Keeping the Fires Burning event, held June 14th in Winnipeg as a celebration of Indigenous elders.

Genaille is a highly-respected elder in her community of Duck Bay, Manitoba, where she spent 41 years teaching grades K-6. She is a traditional healer and language keeper, a community volunteer, and an active member of her Métis local, serving as the elder for the Northwest Métis Council.

As part of the Keeping the Fires Burning ceremonies, MMF Minister Mona Buors presented Genaille with a red shawl and a feather.

“I like to be a role model to others,” said Genaille on being inducted at the event. “To be kind to others, to be patient, and to love other people no matter what.”



Battle of Seven Oaks Monument in Winnipeg.

Celebrating 202 Years of Métis History

On June 19, the Manitoba Metis Federation celebrated the 202nd anniversary of the Victory of Frog Plain with a free community BBQ and commemoration at the Battle of Seven Oaks Monument on Main Street in Winnipeg. The event featured presentations by several MMF Ministers and music by Métis fiddler Jason Lepine.

Also known as the Battle of Seven Oaks, the Victory of Frog Plain was a key milestone in the emergence of the Métis as a distinct Nation, both culturally and politically. Cuthbert James Grant led the Métis to triumph at Frog Plain on June 19, 1816. The conflict began when Hudson's Bay Company Governor Robert Semple and his men opened fire on Grant and sixty Métis, who were crossing Frog Plain to deliver provisions for allies at Lake Winnipeg. Grant and the Métis retaliated. Semple and twenty of his men were killed, allowing the Métis to seize Fort Douglas. The battle is also notable for being the first recorded use of the "infinity" flag by the Métis. The flag was flown by Cuthbert and his men en route to Fort Douglas and continues to represent Métis Nationhood to this very day.

The Victory of Frog Plain helped to define the Métis as a strong, self-governing, self-sufficient, and culturally distinct Nation. This year's 202nd anniversary serves as an important reminder of the Métis' strength of spirit, self-discipline, and cultural pride across more than two centuries of Red River history.

Now Recruiting Indigenous Workers for Line 3

The Manitoba Metis Federation has been working with our partners to recruit and secure employment opportunities on the Enbridge Line 3 pipeline project starting this summer.

Applications are welcome from candidates with all levels of experience.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

- Class 1, 2, and 3 Drivers
- Heavy Equipment Operators
- Skilled Labourers
- Oilers
- Welders

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those who meet the eligibility requirements will be considered for employment and training.

If you are interested in this opportunity submit a resume to metresumes@mmf.mb.ca using the subject:

**Line 3 Opportunity
by Friday, July 20, 2018**

If you require assistance creating a resume contact:

**Metis Employment and Training at
204-586-8474.**

www.mmfemployment.ca



**Metis
Employment
& Training**

Indigenous Adult Health Internship Program September 10, 2018 - December 14, 2018

Metis Employment and Training in partnership with Southern Health-Santé is recruiting for eligible participants for a 14 week pre-employment program. The program and staff provide assistance to adults who are unemployed, and/or under-employed. The goal is to provide adults with support and guidance to either return to the education system, enroll in training opportunities, or obtain employment.



Requirements to apply for the program:

Identify as Metis, Non-Status or Inuit; 18 years of age or older; Minimum Grade 10 education; Demonstrated ability to maintain confidentiality; Demonstrated excellent attendance in training; Must submit Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check, Child & Adult Abuse Registry Check

We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those who meet the eligibility requirements and are selected for an interview will be contacted.

**For more information call Lori Valley, Project Officer,
MMF Southwest Region:**

204-725-7525 or lori.valley@mmf.mb.ca

www.mmfemployment.ca



**Metis
Employment
& Training**

MMF Celebrates 13th Annual Aboriginal Day in Selkirk

June 21 marks the first day of summer. This year, it also marked the first National Indigenous Peoples Day, formerly called National Aboriginal Day. The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) celebrated the occasion with their 13th annual celebration in Selkirk, Manitoba.

Hosted by the MMF Interlake Region and Selkirk Local, this all-day celebration of Métis culture, music, dancing, art, and nationhood kicked off with a free pancake breakfast, prepared by volunteers.

"I want to thank all those volunteers that make it happen," said MMF President David Chartrand in his welcoming remarks. "This is about family and making sure that everybody can have a great time and those that can't afford it can always take part and eat with everybody that is at this function."

Joining President Chartrand at Selkirk Park were Federal Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Carolyn Bennett, Mayor of Selkirk Larry Johannson, MMF Vice-President of the Interlake Region Alfred Anderson, and several other members of MMF elected leadership.

"As we come here to the Métis Homeland and Treaty 1, it's a very important time for me to be with you," said Bennett, who traveled from Ottawa to attend. "This is about us reimagining Canada, reimagining a Canada where the Métis Nation comes out of the shadows."

During the welcoming ceremony, MMF Education Minister Joan Ledoux announced a new partnership between Assiniboine Community College (ACC) and the Louis Riel Institute (LRI), an affiliate of the MMF. LRI will donate 250 thousand dollars toward establishing a new bursary endowment fund at ACC, which will be known as the Louis Riel Bursary.

After welcoming remarks, the day was filled with performances by talented Métis musicians and dancers on the main stage, including featured artists Art Gladu & Deputy with guest fiddler Patti Kusturok, the Metis Club Traditional Dancers and the Norman Chief Memorial Dancers. A petting zoo, bounce-a-roos, races, Métis artisans and information booths rounded out the festivities.

Join us again next June 21 in Selkirk Park!

