



# Le Métis



## President's Message

At the heart of our Métis Nation is our culture, shared in community and passed down through generations. Our culture stands for Métis values such as respect for our Elders, care for our children, and working hard to support one another in times of need. Our culture is also rooted in traditions

and celebrations including music, dance, food and special gatherings.

We have had many opportunities to celebrate our successes these past few weeks. On June 28, I was pleased to present, with Minister Denise Thomas, a significant donation to CancerCare Manitoba Foundation. These funds, raised in May at the Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund gala "A Hunt for the Cure," will support patient and family services for Manitobans fighting this terrible disease. The donation was made possible through the hard work of Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund and MMF elected representatives and staff. We are committed to helping families have better chances for the future. The gala and resulting donation represent the strength of our Nation working together to bring hope for families facing difficult times.

Those who were able to attend the July 1 celebrations at Lower Fort Garry had a fantastic day of Métis music, dance and food. They were also witness to an historic moment as the Fort raised our Métis Nation flag alongside our Canada flag. This symbolic gesture has real consequences for our Nation. It represents recognition for our role as Métis in bringing Manitoba into Confederation. It also signifies our continuing presence and rights on our Métis Homeland. This celebration is a milestone in an ongoing relationship with Lower Fort Garry and Parks Canada to spread awareness of our rich heritage as Métis Citizens.

Riel House National Historic Site of Canada also hosted special celebrations on July 1, inviting children and families to explore sash-weaving and bannock-making. If you have not been to Riel House, I encourage you to pay a visit to the former

home of Louis Riel's family, where programming and interpretation from the Louis Riel Institute connects Riel's place and time to our thriving culture today. Throughout the summer, Riel House hosts free community gatherings on Thursday evenings from 6-8 pm. We welcome all to share in Métis music, dance and friendship at the Riel House Soirees.

Our biggest celebration of the summer is just around the corner. The Back to Batoche cultural festival is an annual gathering hosted by Métis Nation - Saskatchewan and taking place this year from July 19th to 22nd. Ten thousand of our Métis Nation Citizens will gather from across the Great Plains, and beyond, to share community and culture. Bring your tent and be sure not to miss our Manitoba artists showcased on Saturday, July 21st, alongside incredible talent from across the Homeland.

Back to Batoche is not only a great opportunity to enjoy the best of Métis fiddling, jigging and square dance. It is also a time for our Métis Citizens to share experiences and plan for the future. The days leading up to the festival will feature a Métis Nation Youth Conference and the Métis Nation General Assembly. Together, we will shape our shared destiny: defending our Nation, advancing our rights, and protecting our people.

I send thoughts and prayers to those who are sick and suffering. May you find the comfort and love of family, as well as the protection and strength of community. For those who have lost a family member or friend, I offer deepest sympathies and condolences. For all readers, I share best wishes for a safe and festive summer. I hope to see you in Batoche!

Meeqwetch,

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

## Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund donates \$65,000 toward Improved Care for Manitoba Cancer Patients and Families



MMHF donates funds raised from May 2018 Gala Fundraiser to program helping Northern Manitoban patients and families have access to services that aren't readily available in remote communities.

The Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund (MMHF) donated \$65,000 to the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation on June 28, with funds raised from their successful fundraising gala held in the spring.

The gala, called "A Hunt for the Cure," was held in support of CancerCare's Toward Improved Care for Underserved Populations program. The program helps Northern Manitoban patients and families access services that may be less available in remote communities.

"The Foundation is very grateful for the Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund's generous donation," said Annitta Stenning, President and CEO of CancerCare Manitoba Foundation. "This incredible partnership will benefit many cancer patients across our province who are living with cancer today or who will be diagnosed in the future."

The MMHF is the official charity of the Manitoba Metis Federation, established to help support disadvantaged individuals, children, and families of the Manitoba Métis Community. The MMHF raised \$50,000 for Children's Hospital Foundation last year, and they hope to continue surpassing their fundraising efforts in the future through an annual event.

The charity chooses a new partner each year for the fundraiser, but MMF will sustain an ongoing relationship with CancerCare.

"We'll continue to be a long-term partner with CancerCare," said MMF President David Chartrand at the cheque presentation. "I think we have the same vision, the same challenge and the same aspirations... It's about helping Manitobans, and helping families, get a better chance and hope for their dreams, and their lives, and their future."

The next MMHF gala is scheduled for spring 2019.

## Metis Economic Development Fund hosts Economic Summit in Hecla

On June 25 and 26, the MMF held a Manitoba Metis Economic Summit on Hecla Island. This was the first meeting in a series of engagements with Manitoba Métis Nation Citizens called "The Path to Economic Prosperity."

The summit discussed MMF's economic past, present, and future, as well as the gaps that need to be bridged along the road to economic growth. MMF ministers, board members, and directors from MMF departments and affiliates spoke at the summit about how the MMF can better serve Manitoba's Métis Nation with economic opportunities.

The meeting welcomed Métis entrepreneurs and business leaders from across the province,

with representatives from sectors such as housing, tech, and communications. Speakers discussed the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities that will inform long-term goals to secure a thriving economic future for the Métis Nation in Manitoba.

The Metis Economic Development fund is an affiliate of the MMF, which promotes and supports the economic development of Métis businesses and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit their website at [www.medf.com](http://www.medf.com).



MMF discusses economic opportunities with Métis entrepreneurs and business leaders from across the province to benefit Manitoba's Métis Nation.



The Métis flag flies alongside the the Canadian flag at Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site in St. Andrews, MB.

## Métis Flag raised at Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site on Canada Day

The MMF celebrated a milestone in Métis history this Canada Day, as the Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site raised the Métis flag alongside the Canadian flag for the very first time.

The Fort's "Canada Day Métis Friendship Celebration" was hosted as part of a new collaboration between the MMF and Parks Canada. In addition to self-guided tours, children games, and face-painting, participants enjoyed the talents of Métis musicians and dancers including the Métis Club Traditional Dancers, Norman Chief Memorial Dancers, Darren Lavalley, Art Gladu, Megan Mowatt, and many more.

Built in 1830, Lower Fort Garry served primarily as a supply depot for the Red River settlement and surrounding communities of Métis, Cree and Anishinaabe people. In 1871, Treaty 1 was signed at the Fort. The Government of Canada designated Lower Fort Garry as a National Historic Site in 1958.

The MMF is proud to see the Métis Nation flag flying at Lower Fort Garry and looks forward to celebrating Métis Friendship there in years to come.

## 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](mailto:lori.valley@mmf.mb.ca)

[www.mmfemployment.ca](http://www.mmfemployment.ca)



**Metis  
Employment  
& Training**

## Reedy Creek Métis couple celebrates 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to Robert and Matilda Rodericks, who recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary!

Robert and Matilda, both 94, are from

Reedy Creek, Manitoba. They fell in love at 12 years old and got married at 24. Together, they have raised six children and numerous foster children, opened their doors to other relatives who wanted to stay, and launched a home for individuals living with intellectual and mental health disabilities.

Robert worked as a construction worker and mailman, while Matilda ran the very busy household, with upwards of 30 people under her roof some years.

They are every bit in love as they were on their wedding day in 1948. Here's to many more years of happiness!



## Elders Gathering Honours Métis Traditions

On June 17-21, MMF President David Chartrand had the honour of attending the 8th Annual Pinehouse Elders Gathering, held in the Northern Saskatchewan community of Pinehouse.

The yearly gathering is held in recognition and memory of those who have passed in the previous year. The gathering is not a mournful occasion, but rather a celebration of culture and life, as well as a time to honour Métis elders and traditions.

The four-day event was packed full of activities,



including canoe races, jigging contests, sharing circles, a talent show, an old-time dance, and more. The gathering also offered the chance to participate in traditional Métis practices, like hunting and fishing, beading, hide making, and skiff building.

These traditional activities at the gathering give an opportunity for the community's elders to pass their knowledge on to the next generation, as is the case with Gabe and Annie Natomagan. The Métis couple from Pinehouse participate in many traditional practices, including smoking fish, drying moose meat, building skiffs, and making pemmican. They enjoy sharing their cultural practices each year at the gathering.



More than 100 people visited from outside the community for the event, including federal participants from the Métis Awareness Program. The program was co-developed with Pinehouse to provide federal public servants with interactive training on the culture and history of the Métis Nation. It is an opportunity for public servants to learn directly from the Métis Nation about who the Métis are, and the Métis Nation's rights to self-determination and governance.



"I didn't know a lot about Métis communities, so having this opportunity to go to a Métis community opened up my eyes to the similarities but also the distinct culture that the Métis have," said Dolorès Adlard, a two-time participant of the Métis Awareness Program. "It is such an enlightening experience to engage and get first-hand experience and be immersed in traditional Métis activities and connect with community members."



Pinehouse is Métis community 350 kilometers north of Saskatoon, with a population of just over 1,000 people.

The MMF will host an elder's gathering in Winnipeg on August 30-31.

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.mmfemployment.ca)



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