



Le Métis



President's Message

Education and learning have always been central to the Métis Nation's culture. The Red River Resistance was, in part, about ensuring access to appropriate schooling for our children. In 1870, cultural expression was important and intended to be passed to our children by guaranteeing the right to the French language and to education in the Catholic Schools. This was part of our Treaty - becoming key articles in the Manitoba Act.

Unfortunately, both of these articles were ignored along with the unkept promise of lands to our children. In the early 1980s, the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) went to the courts. In 2013, the promise to land was recognized by the Supreme Court of Canada. As I announced immediately following the decision: "our time has come." We are now in negotiations to right the wrongs. Looking back across a century and a half of Métis struggles for nationhood, it is remarkable to see how far we have come in advancing our dreams for our children's future.

In the darkest period of our history, the promises of the Manitoba Act for the education of our people were not kept by the provincial government. Some of our youth were subjected to trauma and violence at Residential and Day schools. Others kept far away from schools altogether, learning from family and from the land. This history of being marginalized and excluded from the education system was reflected for many years in lower levels of educational attainment and higher

unemployment for the Métis. We had become the "forgotten people."

Our past leaders created the MMF with a vision for writing a new chapter in this history - one that advances the social and economic interests of all Manitoba Métis Community Citizens. Education was clearly important to this vision. In 1988, after years of research and groundwork, the MMF led the creation of the Louis Riel Institute (LRI) to address the educational concerns and aspirations of Manitoba's Métis. Today, the LRI serves to empower a strong Métis Nation made up of skilled and proud Métis Citizens, families and communities.

The LRI's mandate is flexible and wide-ranging. With its Adult Learning Centre, the Louis Riel Vocational College, and abundant secondary and post-secondary student funding opportunities, the Louis Riel Institute offers aspiring students the resources needed to achieve their learning goals. As a new school year approaches, our youth and adults can look forward to pursuing their dreams while supported by a strong commitment to continuing their education and career goals.

Our next goal is to develop a Métis university, or a university college as the first step to a Métis university, managed by Métis, with Métis students taught by Métis professors. Already, the LRI supports the University of Winnipeg through teaching in the University's classes. This is the next step.

The Canada- Métis Nation Accord was signed last year between the Government of Canada and the Métis National Council (MNC) Governing Members, including the MMF. This Accord identified Employment and Training, Education, Youth and Early Learning as negotiation priorities. As the MNC Minister responsible, and as the Lead Negotiator, I am pleased to say that the very first sub-agreement under the new Accord was signed in Ottawa on June 15, 2018. This agreement, the Métis Nation Skills and Employment Training Accord, invests over \$625 million over the next

ten years for the MMF and other MNC Governing Members to deliver skills and employment training opportunities that best serve the needs of our people.

In particular, the agreement will support and expand services delivered by our MMF Employment and Training Department to those who are building their careers. The Métis Nation Skills and Employment Training Accord will improve the lives of tens of thousands of our Métis Citizens, helping to fill the gap that has existed in their access to learning and employment opportunities. It is good to see we finally have a federal government that understands the steps needed to include the Métis Nation as a true partner.

Of course, education does not begin with college or career counselling. Your Métis Government is also working with other MNC Governing Members and the Government of Canada to improve early learning supports for Métis children. We are developing a Métis-Nation-wide Early Learning and Child Care Framework to better support the unique early learning and child care needs of our children and families. We can expect the expansion of Head Start programs for Métis children, and continued support for successful initiatives such as our Little Moccasins program for new parents and parents-to-be.

In closing, I share my thoughts and prayers with those who are facing sickness and struggle. May you find healing, comfort and community. For those who have lost a loved one, I share my deepest condolences and sympathy. For students, as you prepare to greet a new academic year, know that the MMF stands behind you to assist you in preparing for your future success. And may our readers of all ages have the opportunity for continued learning with access to the resources and training to realize your dreams. Strong individuals and strong families - these are the foundations of our prosperous Métis Nation.

Meeqwetch,

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

MMF Southwest Regional Meeting held in Brandon

Manitoba Metis Federation leaders, citizens, and staff gathered in Brandon for the Southwest Regional Meeting on July 28.

Regional meetings are an integral part of MMF governance, providing the opportunity to learn about the good work happening in each of our Regions and to hear from our Citizens on the issues that are important to their communities.

The meeting included financial reports, along with addresses from MMF Ministers Anita Campbell and Jack Park, as well as Southwest Region Vice-President Leah LaPlante and Southwest Regional Directors John Fleury and Will Goodon.

For more information on the Southwest Region, visit the Southwest Regional Office website at southwestmmf.ca or call **204-725-7520**.



Upcoming MMF Regional Meetings

AUGUST 11

Northwest Regional Meeting, Swan River
Telephone: 204-638-9485

SEPTEMBER 8

Southeast Regional Meeting, Grand Marais
Telephone: 204-754-2721

SEPTEMBER 9

Winnipeg Regional Meeting, Winnipeg
Telephone: 204-589-4327

SEPTEMBER 15

The Pas Regional Meeting, The Pas
Telephone: 204-623-5701



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www.mmf.mb.ca



Manitoba Metis Federation (Official)



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ManitobaMetisMMF

MMF President David Chartrand honours victims of Toronto shooting



MMF President David Chartrand laid a bouquet of flowers down on Danforth Avenue in honour of victims of the mass shooting in Toronto.

Two youth were killed in the July 22 attack: Reese Fallon, 18, and Julianna Kozis, 10. Thirteen others were injured in the gunfire, some suffering from life-changing injuries.



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

Metis Employment and Training in partnership with Southern Health-Santé is recruiting 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

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

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

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



www.mmfemployment.ca



**Metis
Employment
& Training**

St. Laurent Metis Days 2018 Celebration

Not even rainy weather could dampen spirits at the St. Laurent Metis Days celebration over the weekend. Métis from across Manitoba made the trip out to St. Laurent to join in the festivities from August 3-5.

The annual celebration was jam-packed with events and activities, including a slo-pitch tournament, strong man and strong woman competitions, a parade, jigging competitions, and children's games. Mud bogging on the Sunday drew a large crowd, with many participating in a foot race through the mud for a cash prize to the amusement of everyone in the audience.

The Little Miss Metis contest was a family affair this year, with Métis youth Alexis Medeiros winning the 2018 crown a year after her older sister Asha-Lilly Allard was crowned 2017. It is always great to see youth celebrating their culture with pride.

St. Laurent Metis Days kept the entertainment going all weekend, with performances from The Norman Chief Memorial Dancers, Metis Club Traditional Dancers, The Gifford Anderson Memorial Dancers, Sacred Stone, and musician Darren Lavallee.

More than 3000 people attend the event each summer. For information on upcoming community events, visit www.mmf.mb.ca.



Save the Date!

2018

ANNUAL
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Defending our Nation ∞ Advancing our Rights ∞ Protecting our People

September 21-23

ASSINIBOIA DOWNS
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA



**Manitoba Metis
Federation**
METIS GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

