



# Le Métis



## President's Message

the wrongs of the past and for believing that reconciliation is important and necessary for making a better future. Today, Trudeau's vision and the Métis vision coincide. Together, the positive changes we make now will last for generations.

This program is a good example of reconciliation in action. This Program is just the beginning of many more announcements to come. So, to all our first-time homebuyers, to all our parents, grandparents, and youth, I can't say how proud I am of our Métis Government and our relationship with the Government of Canada. While Métis Citizens are the direct beneficiaries of the Program, all Manitobans win.

The Program will officially roll out this spring under the management and administration of the LRCC. With an anticipated 400 Métis families receiving the grant in the first year, we expect a total contribution of \$9 million to the provincial economy, \$7 million of this in one time closing costs, for example realtor fees, legal fees, etc. and \$2 million annually in the ongoing costs of maintaining the home, for example property taxes and repairs among other annual costs. In addition, we anticipate approximately \$80 million in total home purchases. This represents only a fraction of the total economic contribution of the Manitoba Métis Community to the provincial economy.

The MMF has a strong economic arm that supports Métis entrepreneurs throughout Manitoba. Now with the Métis First Time Home Purchase Program, this contribution is only going to grow. While all Manitobans win, Premier Pallister has missed another opportunity to partner with the Government of the Manitoba Métis Community.

In fact, Premier Pallister misses the mark on many issues affecting Métis Citizens. Without consulting the Métis Government or the Leadership Council, Pallister and his Minister of Families, Heather Stefanson, announced that they are moving to a block funding model for child welfare programs in Manitoba. The Premier has made these significant changes without consulting the MMF or the First

Nations leaders who also sit on the Leadership Council. In so doing, his government has yet again attempted to by-pass the Government of the Manitoba Métis Community. This type of decision-making flies in the face of reconciliation. There are so many unanswered questions with the move to block funding. We need to ensure the Métis Agencies that support our children and families are not short changed.

On March 7th Métis Economic Development Fund and the Louis Riel Capital Corporation, two MMF Affiliates, are hosting a Métis Business Conference at the Fort Garry Hotel. The keynote speaker will be Juno winner, David Usher. He's going to speak with young Métis entrepreneurs about using creativity to change their day-to-day lives. This is great chance for networking and growing opportunities for the Métis business world. I believe the more Métis businesses can work together to help each other grow, the better it is for our entire Nation. For more information contact either the Louis Riel Capital Corporation ([info@LRCC.mb.ca](mailto:info@LRCC.mb.ca)) or Metis Economic Development Fund ([info@MEDF.ca](mailto:info@MEDF.ca)).

Just a few days ago, MMF locals throughout the province were busy hosting Louis Riel Day events in honour of our great leader. This is a special day for Métis to take time and reflect on the legacy Louis Riel has left for us in our province. We must take the time to appreciate his foresight in protecting our rights by way of the Manitoba Act, 1870. Today we carry his vision forward with our work of self-government.

Louis Riel Day can also be a great time to take in those special moments together with friends and family. I wish all the best for those pursuing their dreams and hope you feel the support of your Métis Government behind you. I want to send my best wishes to all those who are sick or in shut-in situations, and to our locals and citizens. Together, let us celebrate the reconciliation we have developed with Prime Minister Trudeau and get back the head start that was taken from our families.

Meeqwetch,

Last Friday we launched the Métis First Time Home Purchase Program (Program) which will help Métis Citizens with a down-payment and closing costs to purchasing their own home in Manitoba. Our People work hard to support themselves and their families. Yet with the high cost of living many struggle to save a down payment for a home. If you are a Métis Citizen who is purchasing your first home, I encourage you to apply for the grant through Louis Riel Capital Corporation (LRCC).

You will not have to pay the grant back if you remain in your home for at least 10 years. It includes 5% of the purchase price up to a maximum of \$15,000 towards a down payment and 1.5% up to a maximum of \$2,500 towards closing cost. This is \$17,500 towards the purchase of your first home. It is enough to cover the down payment and most of the closing costs on a \$285,000 home. In the last few days we have gotten over 150 calls and emails from applicants. The phones are ringing off the hook at LRCC with people wanting to learn more.

This is the beginning of the head start that was stolen from our People, from your great-grandparents, in 1870. They were promised title to the land in and around the Red River so that they could pass that land to their children. Their land was taken from them and with it your inheritance. This Program revives that promise made to the Métis People in the Manitoba Act, 1870.

Today, with the support of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's federal government the dream of home ownership is a possibility for Métis Citizens. The MMF would like to thank Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his government for correcting

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

## MMF announces new Metis First Time Home Purchase Program

The Manitoba Metis Federation has announced the launch of a new program to help Métis home buyers with the costs associated with buying their first home.

In the Manitoba Act of 1870, which brought the province of Manitoba into Canadian Confederation, the Manitoba Métis were promised "...a portion of such ungranted lands, to the extent of one million four hundred thousand acres." This land was meant to be a head start for Métis families to build their homes and a sense of community, but the Métis never received the 1.4 million acres that were promised.

The Metis First Time Home Purchase Program was created with the vision to give Métis families and individuals the head start that was promised back in 1870. The program will provide loans to Métis Citizens to cover the down payment of their first home purchase to a maximum of \$15,000, plus closing costs up to \$2,500. The loans will be forgivable after 10 years, helping Métis families and individuals get a head start on life.

"Today many of our hardworking Métis families who descend from the would-be beneficiaries of the broken promise, can't even afford the down payment on their home," said MMF President David Chartrand. "Oftentimes they pay more for rent than the cost of a mortgage, but they don't have the ability to save for a down-payment.



MMF Minister of Housing and Property Management Will Goodon addresses the media at the Metis First Time Home Purchase Program press conference announcement, February 15, 2019.

Through the Metis First Time Home Purchase Program, the MMF has revived that head start for our Citizens. Home ownership is more than a purchase; it is a promise of security for today and for our future."

The program will officially launch in the spring under the management and administration of the

Louis Riel Capital Corporation. Eligible applicants must qualify for a mortgage with a financial institution.

For more information on applying for the Metis First Time Home Purchase Program, email [info@lrcc.mb.ca](mailto:info@lrcc.mb.ca).

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 MÉTIS NATION



# Metis Business Conference

-Winnipeg 2019

**Keynote Speaker: DAVID USHER** • Unlock Your Creativity and Change Everything!

**March 7, 2019 - Fort Garry Hotel**

Made possible through the economic development initiatives of the Manitoba Metis Federation



## Métis Citizens receive honours at Aboriginal Circle of Educators Awards Gala

A handful of Métis Citizens were honoured at this year's Aboriginal Circle of Educators (ACE) Conference and Education Awards Gala, held on February 14 and 15 in Winnipeg. This year's recipients included:

**Joel Boyce**, Director of the Louis Riel Institute Adult Learning Centre, received the Leadership Sustaining Our Ways Award, which is awarded to individuals entered in a Masters or Ph.D. program who have proven their commitment to increase the success of Indigenous students. One recipient is chosen each year.

**Laura Forsythe**, University of Manitoba's Métis Inclusion Project Coordinator and Louis Riel Institute Board Member, received the Trailblazer Award, which is awarded to individuals committed to Indigenous education in varying capacities.

The late **Patsy Millar**, Speaker, Mentor, and Language Keeper, received the Indigenous Language Education Award, which is awarded to individuals dedicated to the conservation of Indigenous languages through various initiatives.

**Lawrence Barkwell**, Coordinator of Métis Heritage and History at the Louis Riel Institute, received the Honouring Our Allies Award, which is awarded to non-Indigenous individuals who demonstrate a commitment to promoting Indigenous education.

Congratulations to all our Métis Citizens and allies who received awards this year! The Manitoba Metis Federation is proud to see our Nation represented in the field of education.



**Manitoba Metis Federation**  
METIS GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

# We're hiring!

## Director of Early Learning and Child Care

Posting Number: 19-005-00

Application deadline: March 5, 2019

Submit your cover letter (referencing posting number), resume, and salary expectations to:

MMF Finance & Human Resources Department  
300-150 Henry Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7  
Email to: [resumes@mmf.mb.ca](mailto:resumes@mmf.mb.ca)  
Fax to (204) 947-1816

**Visit [www.mmf.mb.ca](http://www.mmf.mb.ca) to view the full list of duties and qualifications for this position.**



# Louis Riel Day at Le Musée de Saint-Boniface Museum

Hundreds of people gathered to attend Louis Riel Day celebrations in Winnipeg on February 18. The event was hosted by Le Musée de Saint-Boniface Museum in partnership with the Manitoba Metis Federation. The afternoon was filled with Métis music, art, history, crafts, and more.

Music entertainers included Miguel and Cabrel Sorin, Patti Kusturok, featuring Jeremy Russo, Erin Okrainec, and Double the Trouble, a trio made up of twin brothers Luc and Aidan Wrigley and their father. Fiddle music floated through the halls of the museum all afternoon as attendees explored the exhibits.

Historian Dr. Philippe Mailhot was on site to guide guests through significant historical events including the Red River Resistance, Louis Riel's trial, and more. Many of Louis Riel's artifacts are on loan to the museum from the Manitoba Metis Federation and Louis Riel Institute, including his sash, field telescope, and clippings of hair taken from Louis Riel's beard.

Children and adults alike had the opportunity to learn finger weaving and make their own mini-sash. This gave guests a chance to see just how much time, effort, and attention to detail is required to create beautiful, full-sized Métis sashes. In addition, several Métis artisans set up tables to display and sell their beadwork, moccasins, and carved antler jewelry.

Guests were treated to bannock and hot chocolate throughout the day, and had the chance to connect and embrace the spirit of the day. It was truly a day of learning and celebration in honour of the life and legacy of Louis Riel. The Manitoba Metis Federation looks forward to continuing this tradition for years to come.

