



MANITOBA MÉTIS FEDERATION

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

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Barbara Fleury
Regional Executive, Southwest Region

Dear Red River Métis leader,

Thank you for agreeing to serve the Red River Métis as Minister of Culture, Heritage, and Michif Language with the support of your Associate Minister, Marielle Gauthier.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate you on your successful election. Putting your name forward to lead shows your dedication to your Nation, and your victory at the polls shows the trust your Nation has chosen to place in you. I look forward to working with you during this term.

The MMF – the National Government of the Red River Métis – has seen unparalleled growth in recent years. Growth centred on the legacy of our Ancestors and the vision of the leaders who came before us. We've signed major economic agreements that will benefit the entirety of our Nation. We've entered into historic recognition agreements, including a Self-Government Agreement and Treaty. We've negotiated the transfer of funds and programs that our leaders in 1967 could have only dreamed of. We've built an asset base that will ensure no outside government, federal or provincial, can harm us.

Of course, our work does not stop there and we will need your expertise to finish what we started.

Cabinet-wide Mandates

In this election, I spoke at events from Boissevain in the south to Thompson in the north. At every event, my commitment to our Nation was clear. This term, we will: ensure the Treaty passes through the final stages of the House of Commons, negotiate a settlement for the Land Claim, continue to make generational investments in our Nation's future, protect the section 35 rights of our People, and safeguard and strengthen our government and its institutions.

For our government to fulfill this ambitious mandate we must all commit to a shared philosophy. Regardless of your portfolio, all leaders will be bound to the following principles:

- 1) We are a listening government, hearing the vision of our grassroots leaders, valuing collaboration, and building programs and services that meet these visions.
- 2) We are bridge-builders, dedicated to breaking down silos with your fellow Cabinet Ministers and advancing multi-portfolio strategies that place our People first.
- 3) We are fiscally responsible, committed to making timely budgets and pursuing external, non-MMF funding streams.

As you know, since the days of the Buffalo Hunt, we have relied on the voices of our grassroots Citizens and Elders to help guide us every day. As such, I am once again mandating every elected official to work within your Region to find innovative ways to support your existing Locals through enhanced communication, revitalize the Locals that have been deemed non-active, and establish new Locals in villages where there's significant interest and population base.

I am also mandating every Minister to work with the Minister of Beyond Borders to develop a strategy to implement programs and services Beyond Borders. Now more than ever we need to unite, serve, and protect our Citizens living outside of Manitoba.

Your Portfolio's Mandate:

In addition to this, your portfolio will prioritize the following immediate actions during your mandate:

- 1) Lead the development of a Red River Métis cultural strategy.
- 2) Develop programs, host workshops, and work with existing language speakers to increase the number of Michif Speakers.
- 3) Chair the Michif Language Funding Application Review Committee to ensure that Citizens, Locals, Regions, MMF departments and community partners are able to access funding and lead grass-roots programming.
- 4) Participate in the upcoming 5-year review of the Indigenous Languages Act and conduct a review of our own program's terms of reference to ensure it is maximizing the impact on Michif speakers.
- 5) Work with the Minister of Pemmican Publications to increase the number of Michif publications every year.
- 6) Collaborate with the Minister of Education to develop ways to incentivize students to take Michif Language courses offered in post-secondary institutions or private institutions.

Of course, you do not carry this weight alone. You can rely on your Cabinet colleagues, the full support of my team wherever needed, and the expertise of our public service to ensure these directives are converted into reality. To track these mandates, you must work with your Directors to send a report to the President's Office and Policy and Delivery Unit every 6 months.

The Chief Operating Officer will be in touch with you to connect you with the department(s) that will be supporting you in fulfilling this mandate.

As your President, I have the utmost confidence in your abilities to fulfill these mandates. Thank you for your leadership, your dedication to our People, and your commitment to protecting the legacy of the Red River Métis.

Meeqwetch,

[Original Signed]

President David Chartrand
MMF – National Government of the Red River Métis