



Sept. 27, 2023

David Chartrand, President
Manitoba Metis Federation
300-150 Henry Ave.
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0J7

Dear President Chartrand,

Thank you for engaging in this critical election. We appreciate the advocacy from the Manitoba Métis Federation and all that your organization does to serve Manitoba Métis families. We are pleased to respond to your survey.

As a priority, the MMF would like to work with Manitoba to develop and implement a Red River Métis health strategy to increase our participation in decision making, including jointly developing and implementing Red River Métis self-governed and administered programs and services. If your party forms the next government, will you commit to working with the MMF on a government-to-government basis to implement this priority and how will you do this?

The Manitoba NDP Government is committed to ensuring there is a nation-to-nation relationship with the Red River Métis and is committed to working with the MMF on a government-to-government basis.

Métis families, like all Manitoba families, are coping with a crisis in health care created by the Pallister-Stefanson government. Our team is ready with common sense solutions. We'll undertake the largest healthcare retention and recruitment campaign in Manitoba's history - 400 doctors, 300 nurses, 200 paramedics. Once staff are in place, we will take a phased approach re-open the ERs at Victoria, Concordia, and Seven Oaks, which Stefanson's PCs closed. And we'll build a new rural ER in Eriksdale.

Métis families deserve high-quality, culturally sensitive healthcare. The Manitoba NDP will work with the MMF and health professionals to ensure Métis families receive the services they need when they need them.

The Manitoba NDP will work with Metis organizations and leaders to bring more Metis people into the health-care system as doctors, nurses and other health-care professions.

We'll also work with you to improve health equity by addressing social determinants of health and following the TRC's calls to action on health care.

The MMF is addressing the housing needs of its citizens by making investments in culturally sensitive housing and accommodation for 55+ elders and seniors, youth transitioning out of care, and individuals and families who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. If your party forms the next government, how will you partner with the MMF to support our work addressing the housing needs of Red River Métis?

All families need safe, affordable housing. The Manitoba NDP is a party of builders, and we are committed to building more housing in our province to help meet Manitobans' needs. We will remove the PST from new rental builds to support the construction of affordable housing in our province.

The Manitoba NDP has always been a strong advocate for renters. We've introduced legislation to stop unfair rent increases. We will bring in stronger rent controls to protect renters and we'll end the unfair rent hikes. We'll reverse Heather Stefanson's cuts by creating a \$700 renters tax credit and freeze hydro rates to help renting families and seniors save money each month.

We will also work with the MMF to build culturally sensitive affordable housing for Metis people, including options that meet the needs of seniors, people with disabilities, single people, and families.

Harvesting is an integral part of Red River Métis traditional practices and traditional economies. Today, harvesting contributes to the economic success of our nation and the MMF recognizes the need for responsible resource management. If your party forms the next government, will you commit to: a) entering a co-management agreement on big-game management with the MMF? b) entering a consultation protocol to ensure meaningful consultation and accommodation on decisions having potential impact on Red

River Métis claims, rights and interests? and c) recognizing and respecting our harvesting rights in our traditional territory through to Churchill?

The Manitoba NDP will consult with the MMF to ensure the Constitutional hunting and harvesting rights of Métis Manitobans are upheld.

The MMF wants to partner with Manitoba to develop and implement a distinctions-based Red River Métis K-12 education strategy. In addition, the MMF is already investing in the future of Red River Métis by providing scholarships and bursaries to citizens in post-secondary education and would like to expand this program. Our citizens would like to know: a) how will your government build a partnership with the MMF to develop a Red River Métis K-12 strategy? And b) if your government will commit to matching funding allocations for the expansion of MMF's scholarship and bursary program?

The Manitoba NDP will work with the MMF to ensure culturally sensitive education is available to Métis students, and provide strong bursaries, grants and student aid for post-secondary students. We will work towards matching funding allocations for the expansion of MMF's scholarship and bursary program to help students in our province succeed.

The loss of the land that was once the thriving Red River Métis town of Ste. Madeleine, near Binscarth, MB, remains a painful reminder of the 20th century land clearing policy resulting from the federal Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act (PFRA). The experiences of those who were displaced remain in living memory. Each year, Red River Métis gather at this site to remember, honour and celebrate the former town and the families who survived, despite the terrible loss. Will your government commit to concluding the transfer to the MMF of the Ste. Madeleine town site, and other significant historic sites?

The expropriation of the Métis land at the town of Ste. Madeleine is a story of racism and exploitation. The Manitoba NDP will honour the lived experiences of the residents who were pushed off their land by consulting with the MMF to explore paths to reconciliation.

Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to respond. The Manitoba NDP look forward to working with the MMF to move towards a shared vision for a thriving and sustainable community that helps families raise their children to enjoy a bright future.

Sincerely,

The Manitoba NDP