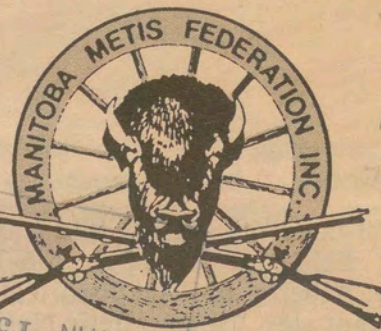
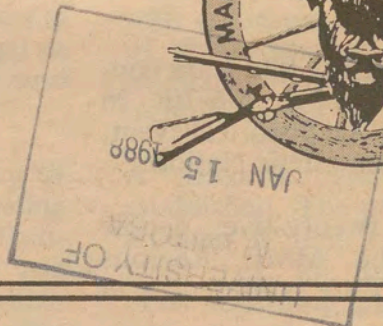


LE MÉTIS

OFFICIAL VOICE OF



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LOUIS RIEL COMMEMORATION

November 16, 1987 marked the 102nd Louis Riel commemoration. This memorial event was held at the grave site of Manitoba's Father of Confederation on the grounds of the St. Boniface cathedral. The event was well attended and included two bus loads of children.

Opening prayers were said by Father Dominique and Metis elder, Leon Guiboche.

M.M.F. president, Yvon Dumont presented a wreath and eulogy.

Other eulogies were made by:

- Joe Bruce—President, Union Nationale de Metisse
- Claire Riddle—Vice-President, Winnipeg Region, M.M.F.
- Guy Savoie—City Councillor

The Manitoba Metis Federation gratefully acknowledges the participation from everybody present on this historical day. We will always remember our Father of Confederation, Louis Riel.



M.M.F. Executive Director, Billyjo DeLaRonde M.C.'d the proceedings.



Louis Riel gravesite at the St. Boniface Cathedral.

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First National Metis Child Care Conference

The First National Metis Child Care conference held on October 5-6-7th in Calgary, Alberta marks a historical event, and a giant step for the Metis Nation.

A delegation of twenty-five people representing all the MMF Regions attended two Child Care conferences in Calgary, Alberta.

The first conference was entitled, "First National Metis Child Care Conference", and it was hosted by Metis Children's Services located in Edmonton, Alberta.

Some of the resolutions that were passed at the conference were:

- i. Formation of a National Child Care Committee which would work together on Metis child care matters.
- ii. Manitoba made a request to host the 2nd Annual National Metis Child Care Conference in the summer of 1988.

Metis Children's Services will be forwarding a final conference report to the Manitoba Metis Federation in the near future and it will be distributed to all the regions.

A grant of \$5,000 was contributed to our trip by the Province of Manitoba through the Native Affairs Office.

The second conference was entitled, "3rd Annual International Aboriginal Child Care Conference." This international Conference was very disappointing to the Metis people because it focused mainly on Indian Child Care issues.



Western Canadian delegates at the Speakers table in Calgary.

I would like to thank all the members of the delegation for their participation and involvement in the conference.

The Manitoba Metis Child and Family Services along with the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc., is willing to take on the challenge of hosting the 2nd Annual National Child Care Conference in 1988.

Only with the support and participation of our members will we be able to make this event become a reality. Therefore, if you would like to volunteer, please contact our provincial office at 942-8304 - Ask for Merv Moar



Conference Co-ordinator, Brenda Blyan

NEW STAFF



Debbie Delaronde

The Manitoba Metis Federation Head Office is pleased to announce the appointment of Deborah Delaronde as secretary/bookkeeper to the tripartite negotiating team. Deborah is sure to be a valuable addition to us and we welcome her and look forward to working with her.

WINNIPEG REGION Membership Information

NOTICE: We need your membership. Anybody wanting membership information is asked to phone the Winnipeg Region at 943-3214 or come to 215-504 Main Street, between 10:00 - 3:00 Monday to Friday. Membership cards are available on request.

NOTICE: While we did not wish to leave out any volunteers of the Metis Pavilion, as listed in the previous issue, some who were not mentioned are: Food: Lorna Paul, Verna Lungan, Jeannine Brisson and Beverley Swain. Entertainment: Lionel Desjarlais. Also the typo error of one, MC John Morrisseau.

Claire Riddle
Winnipeg Region

EDUCATION

The Michif Languages Project

A concern about the loss of the Michif languages and along with it, Michif culture, prompted in November 1984, the formation of the Michif Languages Committee.

The languages of the Metis people have received little attention and of immediate concern to the committee was the promotion, retention and development of Michif culture through language and oral history. The main language groups are; Michif Cree, Michif French, Michif Saulteaux, Ojibway and Swampy Cree.

Committee members visited the Michif people in Turtle Mountain, Belcourt, North Dakota and made plans to hold a joint workshop to discuss the initial stages of language and culture research and development. On April 11 and 12, 1985, a workshop was held in Winnipeg attended by representative from Turtle Mountain. In June of 1985, the first Metis Languages Conference was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The conference was attended by eighty community delegates from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and North Dakota. Translation and facilitating from the language groups was done by Metis volunteers with fluency in the various languages. Three of the main languages; Michif Cree, Michif French, and Michif Saulteaux are not written languages and this lends itself to the immediacy and difficulty of the work to be done.

"Languages are a bridging gap between isolation and the community. We are here to learn from the elders and to share and exchange information, languages and stories with each other. In the past, the system went to great lengths to try to prevent Metis people from speaking the Michif languages, but Metis ingenuity and tenacity prevented that from occurring. It is important that the Michif take their rightful place in Canadian history. The freedom to express oneself in one's own language is a fundamental and collective right of the Michif people..." Paul Chartrand in his opening remarks to conference delegates.

Yvon Dumont in his address encouraged the delegates to be proud of their Metis ancestry and to help play a role in correcting the unjust and distorted picture of the Metis people given in Canadian history. He said, "Canada would not exist as it is today if it were not for the Metis people in 1870, and that Louis Riel should take his rightful place as a founding Father of Confederation."

Audreen Hourie commented on the significance to her of the Metis Infinity Flag, (ever present at Metis meetings) as being symbolic of Metis resistance and struggle.

Guy Lavallee summarized the feeling of many of the delegates: "I have a feeling of being born again as a Metis. My identity as a Metis has been re-discovered, and particularly my self-esteem and self-worth has been enriched as a result of this Michif Languages Conference. The presence of the elders is refreshing and I leave this conference encouraged."

Yvon Dumont made this closing statement to the delegates: "This conference is a good way to retain and maintain the culture and languages of the Metis. In spite of language differences there is a strong sense of unity at this conference. Even though the history of the Metis is not treated well, the true history of the Metis will always live on in the hearts and minds of elders. This conference gave us a pride as a Metis Nation. **Our work has only begun.**"

Thus, by 1985, the Michif Languages Project was underway. The long term objectives of the project are:

1. To preserve the vanishing languages of the Metis people of Manitoba and thereby promote the cultural survival of the Metis in their traditional homeland.
2. To promote research and language development in the Metis languages of Manitoba.
3. To promote initiatives and research by Metis in the preservation and promotion of their linguistic traditions.
4. To promote the retention and teaching of Metis oral tradition and history.
5. To foster the promotion of heritage studies of Metis culture, thereby strengthening the historical traditions which moulded the Province of Manitoba.

The initial phase of the project consists of finding and recording the raw material of Metis linguistic traditions and culture... that is...the recording, storing, indexing and transcription of oral language. This initial phase will provide the bulk of materials to be used in language and oral history development. The project will in-

volve Metis people doing research in their own communities and to ensure survival of these oral documents, professional standards of recording and archiving techniques will be followed.

A "Michif Languages Archives" has been established. The principles governing the archives include location of the master recordings, location of copies, stipulations regarding public use, background documentation and relation with other language institutions. The project requires that extensive field work be done in the initial phase. During 1985-86 the committee was able to acquire fifty hours of oral and audio visual tape. During September and October of 1987, the committee contracted Mr. Guy Lavallee to carry on the project fieldwork. Mr. Lavallee is doing research towards his Masters degree at the University of British Columbia. His fieldwork in the Metis community of St. Laurent added eighty hours of original tapes in Michif French to the archives with copies to Mr. Lavallee for research purposes. The project has purchased professional recording equipment and this was made available to Mr. Lavallee for testing in the field. Mr. Lavallee's expertise will be invaluable to the committee when planning for further fieldwork. The project will attempt to carry on the work as time and money permits. Eventually the "Michif Languages Project" will become part of the Louis Riel Institute.

The Michif Languages Committee is planning to hold a workshop in Winnipeg in the near future. For further information on the project, please contact myself of Yvon Dumont at the Manitoba Metis Federaiton Head Office or Paul Chartrand, Dept. of Native Studies, University of Manitoba (474-9266)

Audreen Hourie
on behalf of
Michif Languages Committee

The M.M.F. wishes to thank and acknowledge the Roblin local (P. Sawatzky) members for their contribution to \$1,000.00 to the Metis Land Claims Court Case.

Any other donation from locals or individuals would be very much appreciated.

Make cheques payable to:

**Land Claims Fund, c/o
Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.
6th fl., 504 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB.
R3B 1B8**

Being Metis is: knowing you can qualify as a Bill C-31, but don't apply.

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

M.M.F. Initiates Tripartite Negotiations on Metis Self-Government in Manitoba

The Manitoba Metis Federation was the first native organization in Canada to enter negotiations on self-government after the First Ministers Conference of March 1987.

In letter to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of Manitoba, Yvon Dumont, President of the Manitoba Metis Federation invited the federal and provincial governments to sit down with the Manitoba Metis Federation to negotiate the implementation of Metis self-government in Manitoba. The tripartite negotiations involve the establishment of Metis institutions of self-government and may serve to further the constitutional entrenchment of aboriginal rights.

The following letters indicate the initiative taken by Yvon Dumont in starting negotiations on self-government.

May 1, 1987

The Right Honorable Brian Mulroney
Prime Minister's Office
Langevin Block
House of Commons
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1A 0A3

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Let me take this opportunity on behalf of the Metis people of Manitoba to express our appreciation for the efforts made by the Federal government during the last First Minister's Conference on Aboriginal Rights. Although there may have been statements made and frustrations expressed on behalf of the Metis National Council, the Manitoba Metis Federation is committed to working towards the resolution of the aboriginal rights question.

We do not want to lose the momentum and interest generated during the last few years. We would like to see a continuation of the tri-partite negotiation process which we instituted together and during which we attempted to arrive at an understanding vis-a-vis aboriginal rights. The tri-partite negotiation process would have achieved more success had not the First Minister's Conference process taken so much time and resources.

It is our belief, Mr. Prime Minister, that to let the process die at this time would be to do a disservice not only to the Metis people of Canada but to the constitutional process itself. We still have the mechanism in place and staff available to continue the process. At FMC 87', Mr. Prime Minister, you stated that Canadians "know the extent to which our history is marked by sorrow that has been Canadian history, inflicted and borned by the Metis people. And I think it reminds us all of our obligations at this conference on behalf of all aboriginal peoples to do better than we have in the past". One of the obligations Mr. Prime Minister, is not to raise the expectations of people and desert them with no conclusion.

In the continuation of the process, we would like to do a number of things. Primarily to address the concerns expressed by the Premeiers and yourself at the last First Minister's Conference and to develop a consultative mechanism which would insure greater involvement of our people at the local and regional levels. At the same time, we would like to continue the work and complete the task we embarked upon during the last part of the process.

Mr. Prime Minister, I am prepared to meet and discuss this vitally important issue. We cannot in good conscience assume that we have achieved resolution to this situation just because we have met the terms of Section 37. At the conclusion of the conference, you stated that we would meet at other times and other places to discuss aboriginal rights. I am suggesting that to ensure equitable treatment of the aboriginal people of Canada that those meetings be convened to chart a new course,

I look forward to your response and am prepared to meet with you and Mr. Hynatyshn as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

W. Yvon Dumont
President
Manitoba Metis Federation

Photo courtesy of Wipe-Son



YVON DUMONT — President of MMF

May 21, 1987

Honorable Howard Pawley
Premier of Manitoba
Room 214
Legislative Building
420 Broadway Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Pawley,

I want to express, on behalf of the Metis people of Manitoba, our appreciation for the support that you have shown for the cause of Metis Self-Government at the last First Ministers Conference.

Although the Conference was seen by some to be a complete failure, I can assure you that the Manitoba Metis Federation recognizes that significant progress has been made during the last five(5) years in advancing our cause in terms of recognition of rights in the constitution of Canada.

Many participants of First Ministers Conference were reluctant to support any kind of amendment because they didn't understand what it all meant.

The Tri-Partite process that was sparked by our Bi-lateral agreement with the Province of Manitoba could go a long way toward educating those people and could possibly be a basis on which a process could be established to deal with aboriginal constitutional issues in the future.

Unfortunately, since the apparent failure of First Ministers Conference this process also came to an abrupt halt. We do not want to lose the momentum from the First Ministers Conference in getting provincial support, and we feel that the province can and should play a leading role in getting this process re-established on the strength of the exchange of letters between yourself and myself in November 1985, in which we agreed to undertake specific research and developmental activities in the following area in an effort to make Self-Government more understandable.

- economic initiatives;
- education initiatives including culture, heritage and language;
- an assessment of all programs and service delivery that affect Metis people and measures might be taken to ensure that the programs and services are adequately responsive to social, economic and political needs of Metis people, including a review of legislative and administrative arrangements in Northern Affairs communities.

In addition we recommend the inclusion of the following areas:

- housing initiatives;
- social service initiatives including Child & Family services;
- Metis enumeration.

We also agreed that these would be practical measures to ensure that:

a) Metis people participate in government decision making, in matters directly affecting them.

b) Metis people participate in the design and delivery of services and programs directed to meeting their particular needs and circumstances.

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

- c) Metis culture and heritage is preserved and enhanced.
- d) Metis economic development is promoted.

Given the commitment expressed by the Prime Minister and yourself in advancing the cause of aboriginal people, we see this process as the most practical approach to achieve our objective.

I have already written to the Prime Minister requesting that this Tri-Partite process be re-established and I am requesting your government to recommit itself to that process by your writing to the Prime Minister expressing your desire to participate as well as your desire to have their participation.

Sincerely,

W. Y. Dumont
President
Manitoba Metis Federation

June 25, 1987

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block, Parliament Building
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A2

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

In your recent address to Canadians on the Quebec Accord, I was glad to hear your reference to federal willingness to work towards a constitutional resolution of Aboriginal self-government issues in the future. My government would encourage renewed national discussion to this end. In addition, regional initiatives such as the Metis tripartite discussions in Manitoba can provide a demonstrable yet practical link to such an objective.

I understand that The Metis Tripartite Process on Metis self-governing institutions which has been proceeding in our province over the past two years is momentarily suspended awaiting a federal review and decision in view of the results of the March 1987 FMC. I am writing to assure you that my government is prepared to reaffirm its commitment towards continuing Metis tripartite discussions; I am confident that your support can also be

anticipated. As we have done in the past, Manitoba is prepared to commit funding for the discussions and we would hope that federal cost-sharing will continue to be provided based on levels and areas of expenditure which could be determined by officials and appropriate ministers following your reply to my letter.

Manitoba is prepared to carry on with the developmental work currently in progress in accordance with the principles outlined in our correspondence of November, 1985 and in the following areas:

- economic development initiatives;
- education initiatives;
- assessment of programs and service delivery to ensure adequate response to Metis needs; and
- review of legislative and administrative arrangements for northern communities.

Manitoba is also supportive of the MMF proposal to add the items of Metis child and family matters and development of a data base to the current agenda.

As Manitoba and the MMF are both anxious to reconvene this process at an early date, I would suggest that appropriate ministers and officials meet with the MMF leaders as soon as can be arranged. I have asked the Honourable Elijah Harper, Minister Responsible for Native Affairs and the Honourable Roland Penner, Attorney General, to instruct their officials to follow-up with your designate.

Mr. Prime Minister, I look forward to your positive reply to this worthy initiative which will reassure Metis peoples of Manitoba that their aspirations and concerns will continue to be addressed through a tripartite forum in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Howard Pawley

b.c.c.: Native Affairs Committee of Cabinet
Yvon Dumont/Manitoba Metis Federation
Jim Westasecoot
Lloyd Gurman

Thompson Region Vice-President concerned about N.C.I. Cut-Backs

Thompson Region, Vice-President, Buddy Meade stated that he is sad to hear the Native Communications Inc. has plans of discontinuing their community-based program in communities such as Cross Lake, Norway House and The Pas.

He went on to state the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc., does not only represent these three communities, but also 18 other communities in The Pas region who have always supported N.C.I. and its programs.

Therefore, if any cut backs and termination of funding for these programs were to occur, the very communities involved would not be the only ones to suffer, but also all the surrounding areas in conjunction to those communities; not to mention our trappers and fishermen who are and have become extremely dependent on this program as a line of communication and also as part of their livelihood.

On behalf of the Manitoba Metis Federation, Thompson Region, the Vice-President wrote a memo to Ron Nadeau, Manager, N.C.I. regarding these concerns and recommending that N.C.I. reconsider their plan of action and reinstate any funding and services that were to be considered in their cut backs.

Manitoba Metis Federation Inc., Thompson Region is requesting support of all the other native organizations, and representatives of these communities that would be affected by the cut backs.



Buddy Meade
Vice-President Thompson Region

Northern Housing Conference

On October 16, 1987, Thompson Regional Vice-President Buddy Meade met with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Housing, Joan Miller in Winnipeg concerning the Northern Housing conference.

The Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. Thompson Region stated that they were not only concerned, but also frustrated with the continuous cancellations and postponements of the conference that has been on the drawing board for approximately a year by M.H.R.C.

"The results of the meeting were somewhat fruitful," Meade stated. Joan Miller indicated that her department was willing to begin working on some definite dates for the conference and confirmed that the conference would be held in Thompson.

At the time of printing, the dates of this conference list became known to us. The conference will take place on January 16 and 17, 1988.

Being Metis is: Using your scarf as a sash when you lost yours and need one quickly.

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

METIS NATIONHOOD A METIS STORY

Due credit should now and again be given to those people who have volunteered their time and effort for the betterment and growth of our Metis Nation. Starting with Winnipeg Region Executives and Local Chairpersons, this and coming reports shall be comprised of stories of today's Metis people. In each we shall outline how we came to strongly believe in our Metis Nationhood.

For background purposes, I would like to tell you about my involvement with the MMF. I have been a Bosco Local member since 1970. I have been attending meetings at the Local level until the present time. How it was in the beginning, however, was that my dear father, the late J. Arsene Spence practically had to twist my arm and jump up and down to get me to attend meetings. In those early days he tried to educate me on the importance of the Manitoba Metis Federation as the new political organization representing the Metis people. In the end his love and support of the Metis cause became understood to me. I began to understand Metis Nationhood—our life, our heritage. I am most thoroughly convinced that this is truly hom, here at the forks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. It is here that the Metis Nation was born.

I became Vice-Chairperson of Bosco Local in 1977 and attended my first Annual Assembly at Rivers, Manitoba. At that time the city of Winnipeg was included in the Southeast Region of the MMF, and Ernie Blais of St. Vital was the Vice-President. That summer he found work for me on a summer project and subsequently hired me to work as regional secretary which I did until March 15, 1986 (first for Southeast Region from January 1978, then for Winnipeg Region from November 1982). I have had the opportunity to work with such well known Metis as Ernie Blais, Joyce Gus, Bernie Wood and the high profile late J. Angus Spence (who was one of the original founders of the MMF) through these years and I have most assuredly learned many positive facts about Metis Nationhood from them.

Since 1980, as a volunteer, I have been continuously involved in Metis concerns in our Metis community in Winnipeg. Some service organizations I have been involved with (and most I am still involved with) are: Bosco Local MMF, Kinew Housing Inc., Me-dian Credit Union of Manitoba Ltd., Indian and Metis Friendship Centre of Winnipeg Inc., Native Clan Organizan, Court Communicator Justice Advisory Committee, Winnipeg Regional Housing Authority, Metis Investments Inc., Winnipeg Core Area Initiative Advisory Council, Program 6.3 and others.

I must thank my dear departed uncle, J. Angus Spence for providing the "training ground" for me regarding interest in the politics of the MMF. Even so I would not have had the courage to become involved on that level were it not for the support and encouragement from my long time associate who I greatly respect, Stan A. Fulham, and my fellow Baord member, Stirling A. Ranville who said, "you'll never know unless you take the risk".

Family wise, I am married to George John and have four sons, RJ 14, Francis 9, John 3 and James 2. My mother is the former Adeline Chartrand of Crane River whose parents were Michel Chartrand and Nancy Eastman. I have 4 brothers and 3 sisters.

My belief as to what is important is this: once I was convinced by my father, I have always felt that the MMF and its objectives are of the utmost importance in the long run for our Metis Nation. I strongly support our leaders in the MMF who work toward and know that:

1. We are owed no less than the rights accorded to the Indian and the Inuit
2. We are owed a land claims debt
3. We are owed recognition of Louis Riel as a Father of Confederation
4. We are owed the truth regarding our real and alive participation in the history and development of Western Canada.

The following issue of Le Metis will have in its Winnipeg Region report the story of Stirling A. Ranville, Board Member of Winnipeg Region.



Claire Riddle.

**I would like to extend my sincerest best wishes
for this holiday season
and all the best for the New Year.**

**W. Yvon Dumont
President**

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

Beatrice Culleton Resigns

Beatrice Culleton, well-known Metis author, has resigned as Manager of Pemmican Publications Inc. as of October 30, 1987.

Beatrice worked for Pemmican since November 15, 1982. It was through her effective managerial skills that Pemmican became the flourishing Metis publishing house that is now recognized across Canada for the quality books it produces.

IN SEARCH OF APRIL RAINTREE, Beatrice's first novel, was first published in 1983 and since has sold over 27,000 copies making it one of Manitoba's best known novels. In addition, Beatrice revised *In Search of April Raintree* to *APRIL RAINTREE* for schools. She also wrote, *SPIRIT OF THE WHITE BISON* which is on the Provincial Dept. of Education's school curriculum.

It was her yearning to write that made her decide to leave the demanding job of being Manager of Pemmican Publications to, "write two more novels" she said.

I am sure that you as well as her thousands of other readers will be anxiously awaiting to read more of her writing. We wish her happiness and success.



Beatrice Culleton, Metis author.

**"Do not worry about your Future:
for it's really only your Past
that you have not lived yet."**

Greetings From The Pas Region Vice-President

TANSI. First of all I would like to take this opportunity to say hello to all the delegates that made it to our Annual Assembly this past summer. It was nice having you and hopefully you have enjoyed your brief stay with us. The overall coordination of putting such an Assembly of this calibre was tremendous. It took a lot of countless, thankless time and effort of the Regional Board members, Stan and Sandra, the Regional Office staff and other numerous volunteers that helped put this together. I personally want to thank them for it.

This past summer I have been busy attending meetings in regards to our Region, and I will be filling you in on the activities of that at our Regional Meeting. Which by the way is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, and Sunday, December 6, 1987. I will be looking forward to seeing the Regional delegates at that time.

On other important issues, at this time Limestone comes to mind, and I would like to let you know that I was elected to be the Chairperson of the L.A.P.D.B., also give you some background on this and how it came to be. When Limestone was first planned we had some consultation meetings to discuss Native involvement with the mega project. Consultation without the Northerners of Native Ancestry relative to how the "Limestone Plan" would impact upon us, caused us a lot of concern to the fact that the Provincial Government and Manitoba Hydro had proceeded to develop their "plan" and we wanted to be a part of it.

On February 25, 1985 in Thompson, the Limestone Aboriginal Partnership Directorate was formed. To represent the interests and concerns of persons of Native Ancestry in regards to training, employment opportunities, resulting from the development of the Limestone Hydro Electric Generating Site.

This eleven member board consists of the Manitoba Metis Federation, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc., Northern Association of Community Councils, Metis and Non-Status Women's Group and South-east Resource Development Council. I must also say that there was no intention to exclude the interests and concerns of other Native organizations not represented on the Board, but they do have the opportunity to relate with the Directorate. Our goals and objectives are easy to summarize and basically we want to participate with the Government, make sure employment opportunities are there for our people, training for gainable employment at the end of job training or ways to go about it.

I tend to believe that we have made some progress in this area, while I realize that we still have a long ways to go. But, I am confident that these issues will be addressed as time goes on.

I am ecstatic that we have the "Le Metis" going again, for the simple fact that we can reach a lot of our membership out there. It's very important that we keep you informed of our organization, that communication linkage should always continue and information going out to our Locals.

I was very fortunate to be asked to be Deputy Mayor of our Metis Pavillion this past summer. I enjoyed that very much, representing our Region. It was a good feeling being part of this, in all, a representative of the Metis Nation.

I think I have run out of space on this issue, but I look forward to the next one, so on behalf of The Pas Region I would like to close off saying, "Au revoir" for now.

Jack McPherson
Vice-President
The Pas Region

STE. MADELEINE: Community Without A Town BOOK LAUNCH

On December 9, 1987, the Manitoba Metis Federation hosted a book launch for Pemmican Publications latest publication, "Ste. Madeleine: Community Without A Town"

This book clearly demonstrates the plight of the early Metis with regards to land claims and could have a significant effect on present day land claim efforts.

Authors, Victoria and Ken Zeilig, travelled to the area where Ste. Madeleine once flourished (near the Saskatchewan border) and spoke to five of the elders formerly from Ste. Madeleine. These interviews were compiled to create the book.

Approximately 150 people came out to Artspace to participate in the celebration. Special honored guests were former Ste. Madeleine residents, Lean Fleury, Louis Pelletier, Agnes Boucher and Joe Venne. Others in attendance were the Premier of Manitoba, Howard Pawley and his wife Adele, the Minister of Northern and Native Affairs, Elijah Harper and M.M.F. president, Yvon Dumont.

Master of Ceremonies, Billyjo Delaronde introduced the key speakers and words of praise were shared by all. The celebration included Metis entertainment and traditional Metis food which was enjoyed by all.

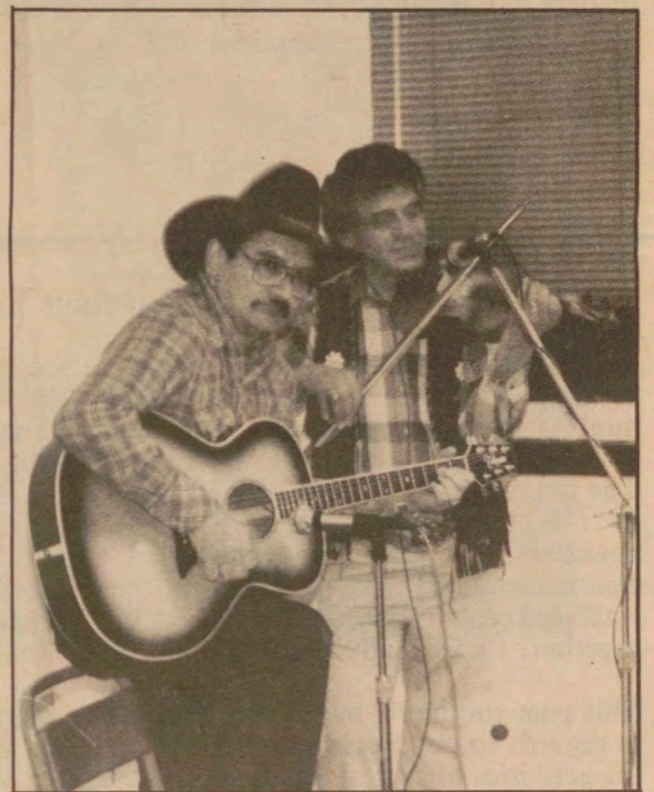
The book, "Ste. Madeleine: Community Without A Town" is available from Pemmican Publications Inc. and through bookstores in Winnipeg. We want to wish Victoria and Ken Zeilig every success with their book.



Premier Howard Pawley and M.M.F. President Yvon Dumont share a light moment while M.M.F. executive director, Billyjo DeLaRonde looks on.



Yvon Dumont comments from the speakers table.



Stirling Ranville and Lawrence (Teddy Boy) Houle provide some first rate entertainment.

**Being Metis is: Never worrying about what people say
or write about you . . . even if it is untrue.**

You will be missed "Gil"



Claire Riddle and Lu (the grin) Swain mingling.

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.