

# LE MÉTIS

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APRIL 1990

## News Release

Yvon Dumont, President of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. announced his strong support for the New Brunswick Companion Resolution on the Meech Lake Accord.

"On behalf of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. and the Metis National Council, I strongly endorse and support Premier McKenna's attempt to solve the Meech Lake Accord impasse.

Mr. Dumont continued, "that passage of the Meech Lake Accord was essential to any further progress on aboriginal constitutional issues."

Mr. Dumont implores all Premiers of this country, especially Mr. Filmon, to take this timely opportunity to get on with Nation Building. Mr. Dumont urges Manitoba's Liberal Leader, Sharon Carstairs, and New Democratic Party Leader, Gary Doer, to move on with ratifying Meech Lake and McKenna's resolution quickly. If there is to be any amendments to the New Brunswick Proposal, I would think it would be in getting stronger wording on getting the "Aboriginal Constitutional Round" on track so that we can dispense with Canada's shame on their treatment of aboriginal people thusfar. I want all three Manitoba Party Leaders to know the demise of Meech Lake is surely the last nail on the coffin of Aboriginal Rights and Self-Government in this country.

"Let me state clearly to the opponents of the Meech Lake Accord, if you participate in the destruction of the Meech Lake Accord, you are also participating in the destruction of the proposed aboriginal process for constitutional reform that is contained in the New Brunswick Resolution.

Yvon Dumont stated that he feels the last opportunity for an aboriginal amendment to the Constitution of Canada rests with the passage of the Meech Lake Accord by all provinces by the June 23rd deadline.

"The only real opportunity for an aboriginal amendment to the Constitution is dependent on approval of the Meech Lake Accord. Without Quebec at the table, we will not be able to move on the aboriginal agenda. Without the Meech Lake Accord passed by all provinces, the aboriginal people will be left outside the constitution for decades and perhaps forever."

Mr. Dumont endorsed and supported the decision by Prime Minister Mulroney to table the New Brunswick resolution in the House of Commons and hold nation-wide public hearings on both the Meech Lake Accord and the New Brunswick Companion Resolution.

"The Prime Minister has displayed timely leadership in attempting to break the impasse over the Meech Lake Accord."

Mr. Dumont continued, "It is absolutely clear that aboriginal people must have Quebec at the table as part of the Constitution of Canada in order to have any meaningful reform on aboriginal constitutional issues."

Mr. Dumont went on to encourage all aboriginal people to appear before the House of Commons Committee on the New Brunswick Resolution to state clearly any possibilities on how the New Brunswick Proposal can be enhanced to address their concerns. Mr. Dumont said, "Let's not miss this constitutional train."

"Let me be very clear," Mr. Dumont stated, "Meech Lake has everything to do with Quebec. It does not address Aboriginal issues at all, except to say that nothing in the Meech Lake Accord detracts from the rights of aboriginal people that are in the Constitution. With the addition of Premier McKenna's Companion Resolution, the Constitution will provide aboriginal people as well as Canadians a forum for constitutional reform in the future."

Mr. Dumont continued by stating that he had the support of Quebec in future movement on aboriginal constitutional matters.

"I am absolutely confident that both the Federal Government and the Government of Quebec would actively support an aboriginal Constitutional process once Meech Lake is passed. We must first get to the negotiating table before we talk about negotiating."

"I say it is time to move forward to the aboriginal issues and I urge all aboriginal people to support Meech Lake on this basis, let those who are sincere supporters of Aboriginal Rights be counted. Support Meech Lake, support Premier McKenna and you will do us a greater service."



# Al Chartrand Leaves His Position

On Saturday, March 3, 1990, an enjoyable Dinner and Social evening was held at the Norwood Hotel in honour of Mr. Al Chartrand. Al officially retired from the position of Chief Court Communicator for the Province of Manitoba on 31 January, 1990 and will be leaving his position as President and Chairman of the Board of the Native Clan Organization effective the end of March.

The evening began with a dinner for some 150 guests, many from outside the city and several from out of the province. Several guests gave comments, both complimentary and "roasting" Al. Offering their comments, along with good wishes, were Ms. Claire Riddle, V.P., Winnipeg Region of the M.M.F., who spoke on behalf of the Native Clan Board of Directos; Judge Harold Gyles; Mr. David Bond; Mr. Gord Holloway, Correctional Services of Canada; Mr. Gavin Sealy, President, Project Neechewam; Dr. Chester Cunningham, President, Native Counselling Services of Alberta and Mr. Cliff White, Executive Director of the Allied Indian & Metis Society of British Columbia.

On behalf of Al's friends and colleagues, Mr. Clark Morrisett and Mr. Brian Lamirande presented Al with a suitably engraved plaque, luggage and an air ticket gift certificate. Al thanked everyone for the gifts and their participation in the evening's festivities. The evening concluded with dancing to music provided by "Bruce".

Those who know Al Chartrand also know that the word "retirement" is not common to his vocabulary. Al will, however, be "moving on". Recently appointed to the National Parole Board for a five year term, we know he will, once again, serve the Native community well and that we can look forward to the reality of "Justice for All" in the future.



Mr. Al Chartrand

## Metis Acquire Office Building

MMF Northwest Council plans to have cultural centre in Dauphin

*Submitted by Ron Richard*

The Northwest Metis Council has purchased a downtown Dauphin building that will house its office and a proposed Metis cultural centre.

In an interview, Manitoba Metis Federation Vice-President Ron Richard said the council is moving from its rented location on 2nd Avenue N.W. to a building across from the CN Station on the corner of 1st Avenue N.W. and 1st Street N.W.

He added a centre to promote Metis culture and history will be included.

The council used a \$38,500 Community Places Program grant and a bank loan to purchase the building.

Richard, who recalls operating out of the back room of a bingo hall near Bacon Ridge when he first became involved with the council, said the purchase is a step towards self-government.

"We talk of self-government and now we are on to it with a permanent office," Richard said.

He said the building will be renovated in hopes of an official ribbon-cutting ceremony in the spring.

Richard describes the proposed cultural centre as an area with library and resource materials, "stuff students can use that are currently taking courses in Dauphin."

He added it will be a place where "people can get answers or information on things they require, such as services."

"It is very important to have a cultural centre," Richard said. "The Metis culture is not being taught anywhere or it is biased. Metis are painted as historic rebels or on welfare. We are trying to get away from that."

He said one of the centre's proposed goals is to develop a teaching curriculum for Metis history and culture that could be used in area schools.

He said it is important to teach students that the Metis history is proud, particularly in the area of the province's social development.

"Metis were involved in every aspect in the development of Manitoba. There are buildings in the city named after early Metis leaders. We were not always called rebels.

We want students to know you have a history that you can be proud of", Richard said.

### EVERYONE WELCOME

He added although the centre will be geared to Metis everyone is welcome.

Culture, Heritage and Recreation Minister Bonnie Mitchelson announced the grant.

"The Manitoba Metis Federation has developed a network of regional offices to better serve its members throughout Canada," Mitchelson said. "With the purchase of the building in Dauphin, the members in this region will now have a centre for their activities."

Richard added the council will honor the leases of businesses and apartment dwellers currently in the building.



## CITY OF WINNIPEG FIREFIGHTERS

The City of Winnipeg, Fire Department wishes to recruit strongly motivated persons with a sincere desire to serve the public, to staff a limited number of anticipated vacancies for Firefighters. Further details regarding this lengthy and highly competitive selection process which includes; written, fitness and job related physical tests, medical examinations and comprehensive interviews will be supplied upon application.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- demonstrated employment stability, reliability and punctuality;
- construction, mechanical knowledge and experience;
- ability to make decisions; initiate appropriate action and perform safely and effectively in stressful, demanding and hazardous situations;
- good interpersonal and communication skills and a commitment to a term oriented approach;
- complete Manitoba Grade XII or Manitoba Grade XII G.E.D. or equivalent;
- valid Class 5 Driver's Licence with no more than four (4) demerits on Driver's Abstract as assessed by the Personnel Department;
- vision that meets current Fire Department Standards:
  - no less than 20/30 binocular vision without corrective aid;
  - no less than 20/30 vision in weaker eye without corrective aid;
  - normal colour vision;
  - no correction by radial keratotomy;
- physically fit, physically capable and mentally able to meet Firefighter duties, responsibilities and academic training standards (as measured by relevant tests);
- valid Class 4 Driver's Licence, St. John's Ambulance First Aid Certificate and C.P.R. Certificate by August 31st, 1990;
- Canadian Citizen or Landed Immigrant;

**NOTE:** Preference will be given to non-smokers.

**Persons wishing to compete in this Firefighter Selection Process, must apply in person, producing their Driver's Abstract\* and proof of education\*\* (resume—optional).**

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 17th - Friday, April 20th, 1990

**LOCATION:** Fire Department Training Centre  
1350 St. Matthews Avenue

\* Driver's Abstract is obtainable from the Motor Vehicle Branch, 1075 Portage Avenue.

\*\* High School Diploma, University Degree, or certified transcript.

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## The Pas Regional Office

The Pas Regional Office has completed a review of the fishing industry and considered the options and recommendations resulting from this work. The recommendations are as follows:

1. The establishment of a steering committee to oversee the completion of all of the following. The steering committee must include the full participation of the aboriginal fishermen of Manitoba and will ensure that the aboriginal fishing community must be fully involved in the establishment and management of such a development vehicle.
2. To proceed with the establishment of an organization which will be held in trust of all aboriginal fishermen. The name of the organization shall be the Manitoba Aboriginal Fishermens Council Trust (MAFCT).
3. The design and registration of a trade mark to promote and market commercial and farm reared fish in the province.
4. The design and registration of a trade mark to promote fish produced by aboriginal people.
5. The development and delivery of support programs to communities, businesses and individuals.



*Hubert Sinclair and Buddy Mead, Northern Vice-President.*

## LE MÉTIS

### Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.

*LE METIS is funded by the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc., donations and advertisements. This month's newsletter may not be the most professional paper in the world, but it has free distribution and freedom of speech. This will be a monthly provincial paper sent to political groups including Manitoba M.P.'s and M.L.A.'s. We welcome letters to the editor. Please address issues to:*

**LE METIS**

*c/o The Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.*

*408 McGregor Street*

*Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 4X5*

*586-8474*

*Articles must be in each month by the 12th of each month.*

# "The Metis Vision: Meeting the Economic Challenge of the 90's"

## METIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The Northwest Metis Council of The Manitoba Metis Federation is hosting a Metis Economic Development Conference to be held in Winnipeg April 20, 21 and 22, 1990 at the International Inn.

In light of the dire economic picture faced by many Aboriginal people, the emphasis of the conference should prove timely.

The Northwest Metis Council of The Manitoba Metis Federation felt that in light of the recent renewal of the Federal Government's commitment to Aboriginal Economic Development and the implementation of a new national strategy i.e. C.A.E.D., that the timing was right to organize a Provincial Economic Development Conference.

The organization also recognized that a definite need exists for an opportunity for aboriginal people to gather information from various sources to assist them in developing a general economic strategy.

The general objective of the organization is to garner available information and resources in order to develop a general economic development strategy for the Metis people of Manitoba. At the completion of the conference, an impact study will be prepared in conjunction with the conference organizers to assist the Federation in its' objective.

The conference will begin Friday evening with a keynote speaker and an opportunity to view displays and enjoy a reception.

Saturday will offer a realm of information through the various workshops being offered. Topics will range from entrepreneurial support programs, ways to access funding, to the role of co-operative development in setting up a business enterprise.

Also on Saturday, the luncheon keynote speaker, Mr. Charles Coffey, Vice-President of the Royal Bank of Canada, will discuss "The Role of the Bank in the 90's". As well, the Royal Bank will host a hands-on workshop on "Lending Procedures" and "Business Plan Preparation".

Various Metis business and community leaders will give "Testimonials" on Sunday.

It is hoped that this conference serves to initiate associations with business organizations to establish a networking system to serve as future support groups. Also it is hoped to attract Metis women to the conference and to address their specific needs as they relate to women business owners.

To have commenced a process of consultation as a springboard for the establishment of businesses owned and operated by the Metis people is the most important objective.

Further details regarding the conference can be obtained by contacting: Eveline Holtmann, Valerie J. Hueging or Jo Ann S. McLeod at Prairie Perspective Inc. 453-0668 or your local representative. Brochures will be mailed out shortly.



**Donald Roulette**  
General Manager



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## 'Business Start' Program Launched

More than 750 businesses are expected to start-up during the next five years following the introduction of the Manitoba government's new Business Start loan guarantee program.

The Manitoba government will conduct orientation seminars to acquaint applicants with the program and assist them in completing the application form. The applicant then submits the application to one of the participating financial institutions for assessment. Upon approval, the applicant participates in a two-day business seminar focusing on sales and marketing, bookkeeping, financial management and business management.

Bonnie Mitchelson, Culture, Heritage and Recreation Minister, said the initiative creates a strong partnership between entrepreneurs, the participating chartered banks, credit unions and Caisses Populaires and the Manitoba government.

The government will serve as a loan guarantor, and since sound entrepreneurship is based on sound business practices, the government will ensure that the new businesses benefit from solid business advice.

The program is open to all business sectors except insurance, professions, real estate, financial and primary industry. The proposed business must be located in Manitoba and be the major source of employment for the applicant.

For more information contact Joan Rogers, 945-7721.

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## Metis Propose Child Welfare Agency

New Michif Agency would help provide  
"culturally-appropriate services"

Submitted by Ron Richard

The Northwest Metis Council is proposing to run its own child and family services agency.

In a recent interview, Manitoba Metis Federation Vice-President Ron Richard said the agency, named Northwest Michif Child and Family Services is incorporated and looking for money.

Richard said it is lobbying Manitoba's Minister of Community Services, Charlotte Oleson, and the federal government.

Richard said the agency is set up on paper but needs money to get off the ground.

"We know pretty well what we need. The resources are lacking," he said.

According to Richard, the council has identified which "culturally-appropriate services" are needed in the area. He says, "all areas of family and child services" will be addressed.

"Family violence is part of it, counselling victims, safe houses, foster families and others.

"We are trying to heal a lot of wounds," he said.

Richard said the agency, to employ between six and 12 staff, will complement and not replace existing services. But he said it would be culturally-sensitive as workers would have an ability to work with natives.

"Existing services are short-staffed or workers are not

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trained properly. We want to supplement existing services," Richard said.

He added Michif will enhance existing services by setting up more community-based services.

For example, he said Michif is trying to set up a safe house in Camperville.

Richard has been pushing for a child and family services agency for some time.

During a Native Justice Inquiry hearing in Camperville last April 19, he mentioned it to Mr. Justice A.C. Hamilton and Judge Murray Sinclair.

### VICTIMS

His brief coincided with two presenters who said they were victims of poor or ignorant social services.

David Chartrand said he was taken from Camperville and away from his mother when he was six.

He said he was placed in a foster home for two years and at the age of eight, adopted by a couple from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

He said he was told his mother was sick, which was why he was taken away.

An angry Chartrand questioned the reason for being taken away and whether the adoptive parents were "checked out."

He said he was physically abused by the father "who was an alcoholic."

At 14, Chartrand said he couldn't take it anymore and ran away from home.

He said he spent the next eight years living on the streets. "I had a hell of a time. I had to survive. If you are in a city there is only one way to survive. I had to steal to eat. I became a real criminal," Chartrand said.

He added, "I believe it was just a big black market (in baby-trading)."

The inquiry also heard from a woman who said she was taken from her home and put up for adoption.

Gloria Thompson said she was sexually abused by her adoptive father and ran away from home, leading to a life on the streets.

"In the long run, it ruined my life and childhood," she told the inquiry.

Richard said stories like this prompted the council to seek its own agency.

While he does not blame existing agencies, Richard said problems may have been avoided if Metis were involved in their own child and family services.



## The Younger Bros. Westbrook Inn

There are thirteen siblings in the Dutiaume clan, hailing from Richer.

When the four youngest brothers formed their country-rock group, they realized that the family surname was too unwieldy for a band name, so they decided on the name — wait for it — The Younger Bros.

And in this short time, the newest band to emerge from what has been a stagnant local grassroots country scene has managed to secure steady work on the basis of its determination, musical direction and those irrepressible harmonies often found in an all-in-the-family affair.

The deep-frozen regions of the province should prove to be lucrative market for the band, as the players make their Metis heritage work in their favor, says a guitar/fiddle player in the band.

Clint, 25, a three time winner of the M.A.C.A. instrumental of the year award says, "We've been doing pretty well so far; the fiddles do help (three of the four play) and we do have a little bit of a hook with the brother thing."

So why didn't Clint, Tom, Jim and Keith come together sooner, instead of toiling as hired guns in other people's groups?

"I don't think we were ready," says Clint, who released a fiddle LP called "Here Comes The Kid" in 1982. "We had to go through the Errol Ranvilles and the Lionel Desjarlaises before we could decide — it's a big responsibility."



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Al Desjarlais — 694-8668

### CLIFF MAYTWAYASHING

768-2025

### KINISOTA BAND

Eldon Campbell — 767-2253

### BARN BURNERS

Ken Woods — 732-2001

### PERCY TUESDAY & THE SILVER BUCKLE BAND

Ron Ericson — 725-3035

### HAVE MUSIC, WILL TRAVEL

Bob Chartrand — 582-5975

## CONGRATULATIONS!!



### DAVID CHARTRAND

was recently hired as Chief Court Communicator replacing Al Chartrand.



## CITY OF WINNIPEG

### POLICE CONSTABLE

The City of Winnipeg wishes to recruit strongly motivated persons with a sincere desire to serve the public, to staff a limited number of anticipated vacancies for Police Constables.

Details regarding the selection process, which includes written testing, physical testing, medical examinations, interviews and background investigations, will be available at the time of application.

#### APPLICANTS MUST:

- have a complete High School Education (equivalent to a Manitoba Grade XII);
- possess a valid Class 5 Driver's Licence;
- have no more than 4 demerits on Driver's Abstract (as assessed by the City of Winnipeg Personnel Dept.);
- be at least 18 years of age;
- be a Canadian citizen or a landed immigrant;
- meet current Police Department vision standards;\*
- be physically fit and physically capable of undertaking police duties, as assessed by relevant tests;

**NOTE: Persons who received an interview during 1990 are not eligible to apply for this recruitment.**

Persons wishing to compete in this Police Constable selection process must apply, in person, producing their Driver's Licence, a recent Driver's Abstract,\*\* and proof of education.\*\*\*

**DATE:** May 14 - 18, 1990 ONLY

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Winnipeg Police Training Academy  
130 Allard Avenue

Map of location available from:

- Police Personnel, 151 Princess Street
- City of Wpg. Personnel, 100-510 Main St.

\* Vision and color blindness are tested at the time of application. Those who wear contact lenses should not wear them when they apply.

\*\* Driver's Abstract is obtainable from the Motor Vehicle Branch, 1075 Portage Avenue.

\*\*\* Original High School Diploma, University Degree, or certified transcript.

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## Results of New Drinking and Driving Law Released

In the first three months following introduction of the Manitoba government's tough drinking and driving laws, 373 driver licence suspensions have been handed out while 706 vehicles have been impounded.

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DENNIS or MERVIN at 586-8474 (Winnipeg) or  
JANICE MOAR at 732-2490 (Crane River)

## Children's Zoo To Open

WINNIPEG — A new children's zoo in Assiniboine Park was opened to the public on March 24, 1990.

The Children's Zoo, to be known as the Kinsmen Discovery Centre, will replace Aunt Sally's Farm, a children's petting zoo established more than 20 years ago.

The new facility includes a barn with domestic animals, a corral, a silo with an observation deck, a play area and a small amphitheatre. The zoo will have animals from many countries, and will stimulate and educate children from a broad range of ethno-cultural backgrounds. It will have no traditional cages, and visitors will walk through a large free-flight aviary and enjoy the close contact of domestic animals.

The \$40,000 was made available under the Winnipeg Attractions Program and is part of the \$30 million Canada-Manitoba Tourism Development Agreement.

Employment and Immigration Canada provided funding totalling over \$150,000 towards construction of the centre.

## Women's Institute Convention April 30-May 2

From April 30 to May 2, women from all over Manitoba will meet at the International Inn in Winnipeg for a conference marking the 80th anniversary of the Manitoba Women's Institute.

The three-day program is designed to inform, challenge and entertain all those with an interest in current issues. While the conference is the official annual meeting of the Women's Institute, everyone is welcome to attend. The registration fee is just \$5 per day or \$10 for the complete convention.

The theme of this year's program is "Together Women Achieve."

To find out more about the Women's Institute Conference, contact Gwen Parker, Women's Institute - 945-8976.

## The Child and Family Services Department of the M.M.F.

The Child & Family Services Department of the Manitoba Metis Federation has been operating as a provincial program for the past five years.

The case work is divided provincially as follows: Dauphin — Marlene Dyck; The Pas — Allan Foure; Interlake Region — Violet Taylor; Thompson — Stephen Head. The Provincial co-ordinator of the program, Mervin Moar, takes on case work for the southern portion of Manitoba through the head office in Winnipeg. Dennis Spence — Tripartite Needs Researcher, assists Mervin at head office to identify and assist with the cases that are encountered through head office.

This team of workers have assisted people and families to overcome every problem imaginable. Problems that range from drug and alcohol abuse program placements, adoptions, acquiring medical and pharmaceutical services, social services and unemployment programs.

What ever the problem may be, the C & FS department attempts to assist with every case that comes to their attention.

Dennis Spence recently applied for, and was granted, an Honorary Probation Officer Certificate from the Provincial Department of Justice. This allows Dennis to help individuals that have come into conflict with the law. This assistance includes, support in bail hearings, legal referrals, educating clients on the court systems and bail supervision.

Throughout the course of their work, a need was identified. Case after case had shown that resources were required to assist individuals in times of great need. Bus tickets to hospitals, funeral transportation costs, preparation costs for admittance to substance abuse programs, etc.

These cases were generally a one time, unique circumstance where financial assistance on a small scale would make a world of difference to the client. These clients had special needs and emergencies that could not be assisted under any existing program in Manitoba.

At the outset, Mervin and Dennis would help out these individuals from a few small donations that they had received, as well as from their own personal resources. The further they pursued their work, Mervin and Dennis realized that a stronger source of revenue had to be put in place to accommodate the growing number of emergency assistance cases. As an alternative to turning these people away, Mervin and Dennis undertook to create, "Metis Emergency Services".

On their own initiative, Mervin and Dennis launched an aggressive fund-raising campaign to build a source of revenue that would be used for their emergency assistance cases. (It should be noted that Metis Emergency Services has been a voluntary effort created solely by Mervin Moar and Dennis Spence, and is administered by them. Metis Emergency Services is not a department or subsidiary of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc., or any of it's affiliates.) The fund-raising campaign has proven successful and has enabled Mervin and Dennis to help people where there has not been any help before.

The Metis Emergency Services fund-raising efforts are ongoing and the community at large applauds Mervin Moar and Dennis Spence for the voluntary effort that they have demonstrated in formulating, "Metis Emergency Services".



**ED HEAD** — Newest old Board Member, attending his first board meeting as a board member from The Pas. He's an old timer and has replaced Elsie Lajambe, who has moved to Lynn Lake.

## Rossbrook House To Get \$20,000 Grant

Education and Training Minister Len Derkach has announced a \$20,000 grant to Rossbrook House Inc. to assist with the delivery of a specialized educational program for students who are unable to function in the traditional school system.

In co-operation with Winnipeg School Division #1, Rossbrook House delivers a formal education program to students at the junior and senior high school levels who have been chronic non-attenders, exhibit profound deficits in basic academic skills and are totally alienated from the traditional school system.

For more information contact Laurent Bisson, 945-0511

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