

LE MÉTIS

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JUNE 1990

Manitoba Metis Federation Position on Meech Lake

Open Letter to National Media:

It appears that some people are not aware of our efforts to work out a common position with the Chiefs of Manitoba. I am writing to provide the facts on this matter.

At our request we arranged a meeting between a delegation of the MMF Board and the Chiefs for April 2 and 3, 1990. The first day was set aside to discuss the pros and cons of the Meech Lake Accord. The second day was to be devoted to working out a common position.

The MMF position on Meech Lake is a result of considerable debate by our Board of Directors. Our rationale was discussed fully with the Chiefs. While we believed we were achieving a common understanding, the Chiefs, regrettably, cancelled the meeting for the second day. We were, therefore, prevented from participating in a discussion to work out a common position.

At a meeting of our Board of Directors on April 28, the Board reaffirmed its position in support of the Meech Lake Accord.

As it turns out, the recent "Companion Resolution" contains Commitments which are of additional long term benefit to Metis. The Prime Minister took unilateral initiative which represents, in our opinion, a break-through for the Metis.

Here in Manitoba, I am acting on the decisions of the Metis as expressed through our collective leadership. In taking action in the express interests of the Metis, I am not, however, doing so in any way intended to be at the expense of any other group, including the Chiefs of Manitoba.

Elijah Harper is our friend. We are proud of him and we respect him. We respect the position of the Chiefs of Manitoba and have taken no action to criticize them or otherwise attack them or what they are doing. We have expected the same courtesy.

I regret to say that this consideration is not being returned to us. The Manitoba Vice-Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Ovide Mercredi, not only publicly maligned the Mani-

toba Metis Federation, he insulted the Metis Nation by attacking the record of Louis Riel. When asked on a radio talk show if the actions could compare to the fight led by Louis Riel he said that there was no comparison. That unlike Riel "who fought for the French", the Manitoba Chiefs were "turning a page by fighting for Aboriginal people".

I have been in contact with Phil Fontaine, President of the Assembly of the Manitoba Chiefs, to confirm that our two organizations will only work publicly in respect of each other. However, the insult to the Metis Nation by Ovide Mercredi cannot go unchallenged. At any time that he is prepared to debate the position or the record of the MMF, in private or in public, I will be very happy to accommodate him.

I trust this information will update you on events as they are unfolding here in Manitoba. I appreciate the support you have provided the Metis of Manitoba in the past and look forward to your continued encouragement in our struggle.

Yours Sincerely,

W. Yvon Dumont

President - Manitoba Metis Federation



M.M.F. President, Yvon Dumont, reaffirms MMF Meech Lake position.

News from....

Lundar, Manitoba

The Annual Lundar Fair took place on the 8th, 9th and 10th of June this year. Lundar and the surrounding communities attended the annual gathering and enjoyed all the activities within the three day event.



Heather Kirby - Miss Interlake 1990.

One highlight that makes Lundar especially proud was the crowning of Heather Kirby as Miss Interlake, 1990. Heather is the 18 year old daughter of Kenneth and Marylyn Kirby of Lundar, Manitoba. Heather will be following in her mother's footsteps by entering university this fall. Heather's mom just graduated from the University of Manitoba this year. Congratulations to you both!

The Lundar local chairperson of the Manitoba Metis Federation, Simone Desjarlais, also shared in the spirit of winning at the Lundar Fair. Her first ever entry to the fair, a jam and jelly creation, captured first place! Congratulations Simone! ■

Rod Carleton - *LE METIS*

More Fish Please!

If there's one thing that Manitoba Lakes have an abundance of, it's rough fish like carp and mullet. Interlake fishermen have been aware of the potential benefits from rough fish production for as long as they can remember. However, there has never been a consistent market available for this specialized product.

Kingo Fish Products is an initiative of Robert Gaudry of St. Laurent, Manitoba, and the Manitoba Metis Federation Interlake Region. Rough fish production has gone from wishful thinking to experimental production. Located in the Manitoba Metis Federation Interlake Region building, Kingo Fish Prod-



Rough fish is cleaned, filleted and washed in one easy process.

LE METIS

MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

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LE METIS

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Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 4X5
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Provincial Natural Resources Minister Harry Enns and Federal M.P. Felix Holtman receive a demonstration.

ucts has been developing for approximately six months, experimenting with a variety of fish products and recipes.

Kingo Fish Products have been turning out fish patties, nuggets, smoked fillets, fish sausage and whole fillets. Robert Gaudry senses that the economic time is right for their unique line of fish products. With the groundwork for the fish plant completed, Kingo Fish Products has embarked on an aggressive marketing concept that could see the operation on the cutting edge of the rough fish production market.

A demonstration and sampling of Kingo Fish Products was held at the Provincial Legislative Building on April 25, 1990 and offered a number of Provincial Cabinet Ministers the opportunity to try out the fish products for themselves. Provincial Natural Resources Minister Harry Enns together with Federal M.P. for Portage/Interlake Felix Holtman, visited the Kingo Fish production plant in St. Laurent on July 4, 1990 for a full production demonstration and were able to witness the operation of the fish plant, from the moment that the whole fish is brought to the door, cleaned and processed to its final form. ■

Rod Carleton - *LE METIS*

St. Adolphe Bridge Named for Delorme



V.I.P.'s were on hand to perform the plaque unveiling.

The bridge crossing the Red River at St. Adolphe has been officially named the Pont Pierre Delorme Bridge.

Highways and Transportation Minister Albert Driedger, along with officials of the Rural Municipality of Ritchot and the Delorme family, officially unveiled plaques today naming the bridge after the prominent Metis leader.

Pierre Delorme was a close ally of Louis Riel during the Red River Resistance. Throughout his life he worked for Metis rights and in 1870 he was elected member for St. Norbert South in the first Manitoba election. He was the first Member of Parliament for the constituency of Provencher and later, under Premier John Norquay, served as Minister of Agriculture.

Delorme's house was located next to the present site of the bridge on Provincial Road 210 and some of his great-grandchildren live in St. Adolphe close to the bridge.

Driedger said that the Delorme house at one point was used as a way station for stage coaches on the Pembina Trail which served travellers from Fort Garry to St. Paul, Minnesota. The house has now been relocated in the St. Norbert Provincial Heritage Park.

"At the request of the Rural Municipality of Ritchot we have most appropriately named the bridge at St. Adolphe after Pierre Delorme, a prominent man who definitely left a mark in history in the province," Driedger said.

The bridge was constructed in 1975. ■



Mrs. Evelyn Theoret:
Last surviving grandchild of the late
Pierre Delorme.

5th Annual St. Laurent Metis Days August 3rd to 6th, 1990

FEATURE EVENT: "Coureur De Bois Contest"

Log Sawing, Arm Wrestling,
Sling Shot, Tug-of-War,
Pillow Fight & Leg Wrestling

- Daily games and rides for all -

FRIDAY:

\$\$ Monster Bingo \$\$

SATURDAY:

Parade, Fiddling & Jigging Contests,
Charlemagne & Dance

SUNDAY:

Beer Garden, Square Dancing,
Pancake Break, Slowpitch

MONDAY:

Contest Finals

"EVERYONE WELCOME"





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"WOODRIDGE INN" – A Grand Opening



The Woodridge Inn – A proud landmark once again.

The community of Woodridge, Manitoba, had reason for celebration on June 16th, 1990. This was the day that long-time Woodridge residents, Albert and Jeannette LeBleu swung the doors open for a grand opening celebration for the brand new Woodridge Inn.

The combination restaurant and lounge replaces the former Woodridge Inn that had served the community as a grocery and general store since 1910. Commencing in September of 1989, Albert and two friends worked at renovating the Inn from top to bottom. Work was done or co-ordinated entirely by themselves, during weekends and evenings or whenever time allowed them. Albert and his crew extend gratitude to all the surrounding communities that lent them a hand with their renovations, and for the support and encouragement they received.

The Woodridge Inn face-lift was a mere eight months in the process and opened for business on May 14th, 1990. The new Woodridge Inn now boasts a 79 seat restaurant and 38 seat lounge. The restaurant offers a menu designed to satisfy any taste, the result of a new kitchen staff that can serve up a fast snack or a full course meal for a crowd.

Soft lighting and mirrored walls set the tone for the lounge of the Woodridge Inn. Attention to detail was the mandate in



Shaun Nault, Aylmer Nault and Alex Carriere entertain in the lounge.

designing the lounge. Patrons will find they can relax in an intimate setting for two or easily gather around with a group of friends to enjoy live entertainment or dance to their own selections from the jukebox.

Although business opened on the 14th of May in 1990, the official opening and ribbon-cutting ceremonies took place on the 16th of June, 1990. The Chairperson of the Manitoba Metis Federation Woodridge local, Marilee Nault, was the key organizer in this event. MMF President, Yvon Dumont, performed the ribbon-cutting and commended Albert and Jeannette for the dedication and hard work that they demonstrated in rebuilding the Woodridge Inn. A quick look through the crowd and one could see; Southeast Region Vice-President – Joyce Gus, Southeast Region Board of Director – Denise Thomas, Manitoba Metis Federation General Manager – Ed Swain, MMF Economic Development Officer – Gordon Smith, and Le Metis Reporter – Rod Carleton.



Albert LeBleu, MMF President Yvon Dumont and Jeannette LeBleu cut the ribbon on the new Woodridge Inn.

The community response for the new Woodridge Inn has been overwhelming and Albert and Jeannette may even be faced with further expansion in the future. The Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. was proud to have played a part in assisting the LeBleu's in realizing their dream come true. We sincerely hope that you experience every success that you rightly deserve. ■

Rod Carleton - LE METIS

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"Francorama" Comes to La Broquerie!



"Francorama"

Generally speaking, the first time that a new event or activity takes place, that event is normally plagued with problems and runs somewhat less than smooth.

Well, organizers in La Broquerie, Manitoba, have proved that is not always the case. The annual St. Jean Baptiste Day celebrations had an added attraction for this year's festivities. La Broquerie introduced "Francorama" as part of their annual St. Jean Baptiste Day celebrations.

Francorama had all the ingredients to ensure a successful debut; great food, lively entertainment and three pavilions offering a multitude of displays. Keen planning topped with marvelous weather helped to create an event that was enjoyed by all that attended.

La Broquerie is a small, predominately French speaking and Metis community located approximately 50 miles southeast of Winnipeg. St. Jean Baptiste Day (a Quebec national holiday) is celebrated here every June 23 and 24th. Organizers of this year's festivities included Manitoba Metis Federation, Southeast Region Vice-President, Joyce Gus, and MMF Woodridge Local Chairperson, Marilee Nault. The idea of hosting a mini-Folklorama had been discussed for a few years, and the idea



Plenty to see in the Metis pavilion."

was finally implemented in 1990. Pavilions were set up with the hosts being Quebec, France, and of course the Metis. Ambassadors from these pavilions greeted and guided visitors throughout their pavilions and offered history notes, explaining the displays, etc.

The Metis pavilion received an impressive response from the community and neighboring residents. Displays included a wide array of handicrafts, traditional Metis clothing and a Metis



Ambassador Ralph Audette, Woodridge Local Chairperson Marilee Nault, MMF S.E. Region Vice-President Joyce Gus and long time Woodridge resident John Carriere. Reg Bouvette performs on the stage.

informational table. Ambassadors for the Metis pavilion were Ralph Audette of Marchand and Diane Verriere of La Broquerie. 78 year old John Carriere baked 21 bannocks for the pavilion and nearly all of them were sold! Thanks John! Reg Bouvette and his band performed on the main stage and Reg was kept busy between sets signing his albums and tapes that were available in the Metis pavilion.

Francorama is sure to be back next year and organizers are already discussing the possibility of expansion. Congratulations for such a successful event and we'll see you next year!

Rod Carleton - **LE METIS**



Reg Bouvette was kept busy signing his records and tapes in the Metis pavilion.

FAREWELL

All good things must come to an end, and so it is at the Head Office of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. Three of our staff have decided to move on to bigger and better pastures. Tripartite secretary Nancy Chartrand has a growing family and she will be devoting herself to them. Nancy was with the tripartite team for almost three years. Her level of professionalism and attention to detail will be missed by her co-workers. Nancy has future plans of setting up a secretarial service and will be operating it out of her own home.

Sadly, Mervin Moar (Provincial Co-ordinator of Child and Family Services) and Dennis Spence (Tripartite Researcher in Child and Family Services) have made the decision to return home to Crane River, Manitoba. Mervin and Dennis were tireless workers who were famous for charging through bureaucracy to get the help that their clients needed. The loss of Mervin and Dennis will not only be felt by the rest of head office, but also by the multitude of clients that came to rely on them for finding assistance for problems that they encountered in the area of Child and Family Services.

The management and staff of the Manitoba Metis Federation extend their sincerest best wishes to Nancy, Mervin and Dennis. We hope that they will stay in touch or drop in and visit us from time to time. Good Luck. ■



Mervin Moar, Nancy Chartrand and Dennis Spence.

MMF ANNUAL ASSEMBLY CALLED

November 16th, 17th & 18th, 1990

The Winnipeg Region will be hosting the
Annual Assembly for 1990.

Contact your regional office if you would like more information or planning to attend.

Regional Notes...

The Pas

A regional meeting took place in The Pas on June 2nd and 3rd, 1990. Local delegations were present from Baden, Barrows, Big Eddy, Cormorant, Cranberry Portage, Easterville, Grand Rapids, Mafeking, Moose Lake, Pelican Rapids, Red Deer River, Sherridon, The Pas, Umperville, Westgate and Youngs Point.

The meeting convened with welcoming remarks from MMF President, Yvon Dumont. Opening comments were also heard from: His Worship Bruce Unfried - Mayor of The Pas, Mr. Tony Lussier - President of Keewatin Community College, Mr. Marcel Francoeur - Chairperson of The Pas Local, and Mr. Hubert Sinclair - Vice-President of The Pas Region MMF.

The Pas Regional Board, Hubert Sinclair, Ed Head and Cecil Asmus reported their activities and regional concerns to the delegation and briefed the members on upcoming regional issues that they will be involved in. Regional office updates were submitted by departmental staff in the areas of Child and Family Services (Allan Fourre), Housing (Joe Nabess) and a general regional office update (Diana DeLaronde).

Presentations were heard from head office staff in the areas of Housing, Tripartite, Economic Development and Education. Gordon Ranville (Assistant Director of Tripartite) presented an information package of Land Claims. The Constitution and By-Laws segment of the meeting was presented by Dave Gray. Winnipeg Region Vice-President, Claire T. Riddle, was in attendance throughout the meeting as well.

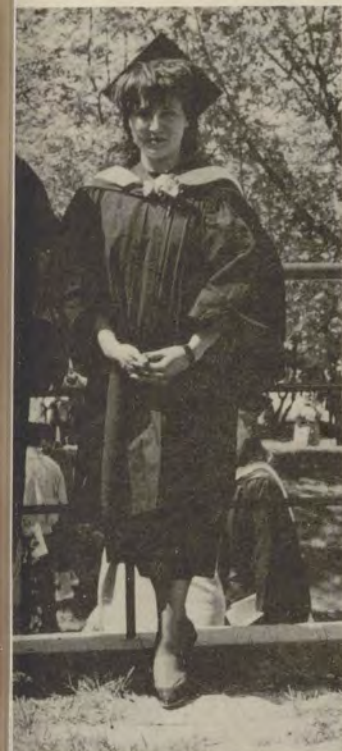
Discussions between the presenters and locals followed each of the presentations with many positive comments and courses of action coming from the local representatives. The input and constructive activity that comes from the locals are always taken with the greatest appreciation and the high rate of local involvement within all sectors of the Manitoba Metis Federation will ensure continued success and strength for The Pas region. ■

Submitted by Laurie Fenner



June 2nd and 3rd, 1990. The Pas Regional meeting.

Veronica "Van Gogh"



Veronica P. LaJambe of The Pas, Manitoba, led the graduating class of the University of Manitoba Fine Arts Program for 1990. Veronica graduated at the head of her class and received the University Gold Medal for "Highest Standing in the Honours Program in Fine Arts". Her degree is officially a B.F.A. Honours, First Class.

The 28 year old Metis student entered the arts program at the U of M in September of 1985 armed with an already impressive art background. Veronica was raised and educated in The Pas, Manitoba. While her interest in art started as a hobby at an early age, it was school that allowed Veronica the opportunity to create and

expand her interest in art. Her schooling in The Pas resulted in being named the art star for her outstanding achievements during her early art experiences.

Through the University of Manitoba Access Program, Veronica enrolled in the Bachelor of Fine Arts Honors Program. While attending University, Veronica has also exploded into the art scene with a variety of her sculptures and paintings being selected for exhibitions in no less than seven gallery shows since 1987. In between her art creations and university studies, Veronica held positions such as, Acting Social Director of the Fine Arts Student Council, President of the Ceramics Club - U of M School of Art and performed with the "Dok Trinaires Travelling Show".

Veronica's dedication and drive for excellence in art has resulted in her greatest achievement to date, acceptance into three separate California universities to further her studies. Veronica chose to pursue the Master of Fine Arts Program at the University of Santa Barbara. A full scholarship and teaching assistant position has been awarded to Veronica for that university.

In between her studies at the Santa Barbara University and strolling the celebrity studded sands of Malibu, Veronica will continue with her sculpting and painting at the exhibition level.

Following her completion of the courses in Santa Barbara, she may decide to live in California for three more years or return to Manitoba. ■

Rod Carleton - **LE METIS**

- REMINDER -

METIS FOLKLORAMA PAVILION - Bertrand Arena (294 Bertrand)

AUGUST 12 - 18, 1990 6 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Co-ordinator: Kelly Moar - 944-4247

Entertainment: Marcel McIvor - 477-1045

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Veterans may qualify for Veterans Benefits....

WANTED:

Metis, Status and Non-Status Indians who served in the Canadian Armed Forces, Overseas or in Canada, during the First, Second World War or The Korean Conflict.

If you know of such a person, or are one, please call or write to:

Archie Phillips

387 St. John's Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba

R2W 1H5

(204) 582-3084

Congratulations

PAULINE & ED SWAIN



Le Metis is proud to announce the marriage of Pauline Hansen and Ed Swain. The marriage was performed on the 23rd of June, 1990, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Family members and a few close friends attended the ceremony and reception. Pauline and Ed met each other in 1982 at a housing conference and the attraction has finally resulted in a wedding. Ed Swain has worked for the Manitoba Metis Federation for approximately 10 years and is currently the General Manager of the MMF. We wish the Swains all that is good in life and that your lives together will be happy and fulfilled. ■



HIGH AND DRY NITE-CLUB

*HIGH and DRY NIGHTCLUB:
Say YES! to the Good Times.*

High and Dry is the first adult, non-alcohol Nite-Club to open in Winnipeg. Located at 572 Selkirk Avenue, High and Dry offers a unique club atmosphere that abstainers and non-drinkers can call their own.

Club Manager, Clayton Doota had the idea for such a club 2 years ago. Lacking the necessary management skills and business know-how to actively pursue the venture, Clayton applied and was accepted into the Entrepreneurial Support Program offered through the Core Area Initiative. The 6 month Management and Small Business Course provided the skills and opportunity for the High and Dry Nite-Club idea to be realized.

High and Dry opened on March 22, 1990 and offers a relaxed social setting with dancing until 4:00 a.m. Thursday to Saturday. Refreshments consist of soft drinks, coffee and snack bar. The non-alcohol concept was identified as a need for people who want to stay away from alcohol or environments that could lead a person to drinking. Clayton Doota, who has worked at the Main Street Project (city drunk-tank and detox centre) for the past 5 years, has seen too many problem drinkers sober up, only to fall back into a drinking pattern for lack of safe environment where they can relax and socialize with others that also want to maintain sobriety, or just not drink.

The first 3 months of High and Dry's operation has garnered a response that caught everyone by surprise. The 180 seat room has been consistently at and above capacity level. Members from all segments of the community have shown that they would much rather spend their evenings out in a non-alcohol environment as opposed to the bars.

Doota expects to have a permanent home for his club in the fall of 90, and if the current level of participation continues, he anticipates a need for 3-4 thousand square feet.

The Manitoba Metis Federation congratulates and commends Clayton Doota for his efforts and contribution to building a safer and more enjoyable community for all of us. ■

Rod Carleton - **LE METIS**

BINSCARTH METIS ASSOCIATION

invites you to attend

STE. MADELEINE COMMEMORATION DAYS

July 20th to 22nd, 1990

~ EVENTS ~

Friday, July 20th:

At old Ste. Madeleine Heritage Site (P.F.R.A.)

6:00 p.m. Elders Gathering and Oral History story

- This event filmed by *Brandon University*

SATURDAY, JULY 21st: (A.M.)

Gate opens at 10:00 a.m.

Horseshoe Tournament - Prize Payout

Children's Activities

Wagon Trail - Tour of Ste. Madeleine

Bois Brulé Competition - Logsawing, Tug-of-War,

Arm Wrestling, etc. - Prize Payout

Bannock Baking - Outdoor Cooking/Valleyview Local

(P.M.)

Outdoor Jamboree - Country Still Band

Fiddle Contest - Jigging Contest

Square Dancing Contest and Demonstration

Trophies and Presentations

Pelly Trail Local Slow-Pitch Tournament

(Call Wally - 773-2299)

Old-Time Dance at Binscarth Community Hall

SUNDAY, JULY 22nd:

12:00 Noon: Commemoration Mass at Ste. Madeleine
with Archbishop Exner

2:00 P.M.: Unveiling of Plaque and Cairn Ceremonies

Beef and Buffalo Bar-B-Que to follow - \$5.00

Phone entries to: 532-2155, 532-2351, 532-2389 or 532-2029