Our ancestors have called Manitoba home for more than two hundred years. This long history leaves its mark on the land. They have left us cherished places, old trails, buildings, and the traces of their activities now buried below the ground.

Everything our ancestors left is part of our cultural heritage. Cultural heritage includes the belongings, knowledge, stories, and traditions we pass from one generation to the next. It defines us as Métis Nation citizens.

Development in the province we founded has impacted our cultural heritage. We can take action to protect the places and belongings of our ancestors.

How Can We Protect It?

The Manitoba Métis Federation is developing a cultural heritage policy. This will be a statement on how the Red River Métis want to manage their cultural heritage. The Manitoba Métis Federation can take this statement to the table when negotiations over development projects occur. With the implementation of a policy, we can voice our concerns and expectations around our cultural heritage and play a role in ensuring the places of our ancestors are still here for our descendants.
How Can You Be Involved?

We need your help to build a Métis Nation specific cultural heritage policy! Make your voice heard in community consultation sessions on November 3rd and 4th, 2021, centered around questions like these:

- What parts of our past are most important to protect?
- How do you teach others about the places of your ancestors?
- How do you want to share Métis Nation historic places with future generations?
- What are some core values about Métis Nation cultural heritage that should be included in the policy?
- What is important to you about Métis Nation cultural heritage?

The sessions will be both in person and via Zoom. Please contact Seana Levesque at 1 431 887 4642 or via email to slevesque@mmf.mb.ca to confirm your attendance.

Who Are We?

Dr. Kisha Supernant is a Métis/Papaschase/British woman whose family relations include Gray, Gladu, Knott, and Gauthier among others. She is the Director of the Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology at the University of Alberta and of the Exploring Métis Identity Through Archaeology project. She has been recently collaborating with Indigenous communities in their search for unmarked residential school graves.

Emily Haines is a Métis/Polish-Canadian woman originally from north-end Winnipeg and currently living in Edmonton, Alberta. Her family relations include Millitaire/Malaterre, Larocque, McIvor, and Fleury among others. She is a master's student at the Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology at the University of Alberta, where she researches the histories of Métis cultural heritage in Edmonton.