

*Celebrating 150+ Years of
Métis History in Canada*



89th Annual General Assembly
2016 – 2017 Annual Report
Métis Nation of Alberta



Métis Nation of Alberta



Métis Nation of Alberta Vision

A strong Métis Nation embracing Métis rights.

Métis Nation of Alberta Mission Statement

To pursue the advancement of the socio-economic and cultural well-being of the Métis people of Alberta.

Métis Nation of Alberta Guiding Principles

- We believe in the national definition of Métis;
- We believe in continuing to build our foundation for future generations;
- We believe in fairness and respect for all people;
- We believe in the need to work in unity and harmony;
- We believe in Métis participation in building our Nation;
- We believe in encouraging and assisting Métis people to achieve their goals;
- We believe in honesty, integrity and professionalism;
- We believe we will achieve self-government; and
- We believe in our Métis rights as recognized and affirmed in Section 35 of the Constitution Act (1982).

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89th Annual General Assembly

Business Meeting Agenda

Saturday, August 12th, 2017 – Sunday, August 13th, 2017

Annual General Assembly Business Meeting	Saturday, August 12th 9:00am – 4:00pm
	Sunday, August 13th 9:00am – Closing
Opening Prayer	9:00am – 9:15am
Meeting Called to Order	Establish Quorum
	Election of Chair & Vice-Chair
	Appointment of Sergeant at Arms
	Adoption of Agenda
	Selection of Resolutions Committee
Report to Officers	President – Audrey Poitras
	Secretary – Karen Collins - Summary of Motions
	Treasurer – Bev New - Auditor’s Report Financial Statements 2016/2017
	Resolutions - Métis Judiciary Council Committee Special Resolution #1
Adjournment Closing Ceremony	Closing Remarks – President Audrey Poitras
	Closing Prayer

Greetings from the Métis Nation of Alberta President



Audrey Poitras

Greetings from the President

I am honoured to welcome you to our 89th Annual General Assembly of the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA). This year, Métis people throughout Alberta gather in Peace River to celebrate our unique past, present, and future.

This past year, Métis Nation of Alberta has taken actions to meaningfully implement our historic victory of the Daniels Decision with the signing of the MNA-Canada MOU on Advancing Reconciliation, MNA-Alberta Framework Agreement, and Canada-Métis Nation Accord. These three agreements demonstrate our positive strides with the Provincial and Federal Governments and establish important mandates to foster a nation-to-nation, government-to-government relationship between the Métis Nation and the Provincial and Federal Governments. I believe we must seize upon the opportunities that are before us.

As 2017 marks Canada's 150th year since Confederation, the theme of this year's assembly is Celebrating 150+ Years of Métis History in Canada. Our rich and diverse Métis culture is rooted in the stories of our founding families and traders. Our ancestors were an integral part of the fur trade who made a significant impact on Canada. Today, we continue to celebrate and recognize our cultural history while striving toward a strong Métis Nation envisioned by our ancestors. Now more than ever, the time has come to continue the building of our Nation.

I would like to sincerely thank Region 6 President Sylvia Johnson, Vice President Carol Ridsdale, Regional Council, and all those involved for making this year's Annual General Assembly a success.

On behalf of our Provincial Office, I wish you a wonderful weekend at our 89th Annual General Assembly.

Kind Regards,

Audrey Poitras
President

Dignitary Greetings



Indigenous and
Northern Affairs CanadaAffaires autochtones
et du Nord Canada

Message from the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, M.D., P.C., M.P. Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs



Tawnshi! I am honoured to extend greetings to you in Peace River Alberta for the 89th Métis Nation of Alberta Annual Assembly. I would like to offer my warmest wishes to all who have made the journey to be here, to the delegates and individuals, who continue to ensure that the voices of the Métis Nation of Alberta are heard.

This year's theme is *Celebrating 150+ Years of Métis History in Canada*. This assembly will not only pay an important tribute to your history, it will also help to determine the path forward for the next 150 years. I look forward to walking this path together, in a true spirit of reconciliation, based on the recognition of rights, respect, partnership and cooperation.

Métis have made and continue to make exceptional contributions as partners in Confederation. We are committed to working together with the Métis Nation to advance our government-to-government relationship and shared priorities.

The discussions over the next few days will help raise the priorities of the Métis Nation of Alberta, guide the next steps, and ensure we are working together to build a better future for all.

Thank you, merci, and marsee.

Hon. Carolyn Bennett



Premier of Alberta



Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada

Message from Honourable Rachel Notley Premier of Alberta

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to all members and supporters of the Métis Nation of Alberta.

Alberta is proud of its Métis heritage and celebrates the contributions of Métis people to our province. Our government is committed to renewing our relationship with Indigenous people in all corners of Alberta and working together on the road to reconciliation. The Métis Nation of Alberta is an important partner in this process.

I commend the Métis Nation of Alberta for your ongoing mission to ensure that Métis people thrive in all aspects of our society. As you look back on the past year's accomplishments, I hope you are energized for the year ahead.

Best wishes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Notley', written over the printed name.

August 12-13, 2017



Message from **Richard Feehan** Minister of Indigenous Relations

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to congratulate you on the 89th Annual Assembly of the Métis Nation of Alberta. The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) is a strong and passionate voice, advocating for a better, brighter future for the Métis people of Alberta.

The Government of Alberta is proud of the progress we have made together in the past year on significant matters such as the signing of the 10-year Framework Agreement.

Through this agreement, the Alberta government commits to working nation-to-nation with the MNA to promote the social and economic well-being of Métis people and to preserve your unique identity and cultural heritage in Alberta.

Indigenous Relations is looking forward to our continued work with the Métis Nation of Alberta on this agreement, as well as the Métis Harvesting in Alberta Policy, the Non-Settlement-Métis Consultation Policy and the Indigenous Climate Leadership Initiative.

We are proud that our province has the highest Métis population in the country, with more than 96,000 Métis people calling Alberta home. We thank the Métis people for your past and present contributions to making Alberta a strong and vibrant province.

Office of the Mayor



On behalf of the Town of Peace River let me welcome everyone to our community.

It's a great honour for our town to host to the 89th annual general assembly of the Métis nation of Alberta. Our community prides itself on our inclusive nature and our natural beauty and I sincerely hope you experience the best Peace River has to offer.

We are also home to a thriving Métis culture and community. From Métis week in the fall, to our annual summer Aboriginal Art Show and the Peace River Pow Wow, our Métis community has helped to build long standing traditions in our community that we all benefit from.

While you're here I sincerely hope you will take some time to check out our many nice shops, restaurants and our scenery, and that you enjoy every minute of your time in Alberta's Northwest.



Mayor Tom Tarpey

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Chris Warkentin

Member of Parliament for Grande Prairie Mackenzie

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August 2017

It is my sincere pleasure to welcome all of the delegates to the 89th Annual Métis Nation of Alberta Assembly. The Métis Nation in Alberta has played an important role in our shared history and is an inseparable part of the fabric of our province and communities. The traditions of Alberta's Métis peoples and their strong sense of community are an example to all of how to cherish the unique aspects of our culture and to care for our neighbours.

As you commence this 89th Assembly, I am encouraged by the great quality of leadership that can be found in this room. I know that you are trusted to represent the needs of your people, compelled with compassion for all, and driven to create a better tomorrow for every person you represent. In these objectives we find common ground and you have my continued support and best wishes in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Warkentin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament
Grande Prairie-Mackenzie Constituency

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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Arnold Viersen, MP

Peace River—Westlock



Greetings!

As your Member of Parliament, I would like to personally welcome all participants to the 89th Métis Nation of Alberta Annual General Assembly.

Organizing an event of this size requires a tremendous amount of hard work and dedication. The Region VI Métis Nation has gone to great lengths to make this event a success. I hope you enjoy your stay here and that you take a moment to enjoy the great amenities Peace River has to offer.

As you celebrate Métis contributions to the Dominion of Canada's 150 years of history, take time to acknowledge your achievements as individuals and as a nation. Your efforts have manifested great things.

I wish you all the very best as you continue your service to the Métis Nation of Alberta.

Sincerely,

Arnold Viersen, MP
Peace River—Westlock



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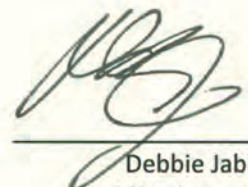


August 11th, 2017

It is with great pleasure I welcome members of the Métis Nation from across the province to Peace River for the 89th Métis Nation of Alberta Annual Assembly.

The Métis people and nation are an integral part of the history of the Peace region, and they have contributed, and continue to contribute, to the rich diversity, vibrancy and strength of Alberta's north. As we recognize 150 years of Canada's history as a confederacy, it is fitting that we acknowledge the important role the Métis people have played in building our nation.

I know you will enjoy these days together learning, sharing, and strengthening the Métis culture, and I look forward to spending some time renewing friendships and building new relationships with all of you. I hope you will also find time to enjoy the beauty of the Peace River region and experience the warm hospitality of Alberta's north!



Debbie Jabbour
MLA Peace River

Alberta Peace River Constituency
PO Box 6299, Peace River, AB T8S 1S2
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Report from Committee Member Muriel Stanley Venne

Introduction

I am honoured to present my report to the Métis Nation of Alberta 89th Annual General Assembly in regards to the two organizations where I represent Métis people of Canada: *The National Aboriginal Advisory Committee to the Commissioner of Prisons (NAAC)* and the *Remembering the Children Society*, which is dedicated to identifying the unmarked graves of children who died in Residential Schools and assist other organizations who wish to do similar work.

National Aboriginal Advisory Committee to the Commissioner of Prisons

I was honoured to receive a request from Métis National Council, as a former Provincial Vice-President to represent you as Métis people at the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Conference in Regina Saskatchewan March 30, 2016. My presentation, which mentioned the lack of resources for Métis representation, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)*, the *Call to Action* by the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission* and the organizations I am involved in—such as the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women and the Aboriginal Commission on Human Rights & Justice—was well received.

Métis Elders in the Federal Prisons

Ted Norris and I, the Métis committee members, requested lists of the Métis Elders who go to the Prisons in order to verify that they are available to help Métis prisoners. Because of this request Corrections Canada has now completed an inventory of all the Elders in the Federal prison system, another way of recognizing their value.

Review of National Aboriginal Advisory Committee

I have requested a full review of the National Aboriginal Advisory Committee to evaluate the

usefulness of the Committee and the results of the work of the Committee. I believe that the Office of the Correctional Investigator could be a friend and supporter of the National Aboriginal Advisory Committee since he is able to conduct investigations and make solid recommendations in addition to submitting his Annual Report to the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Ralph Goodale and to the Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Rising Numbers and Cost of Putting People in Jail

I am very alarmed about the 87% increase in the number of Aboriginal women going to prison and 47% increase for Aboriginal men. The IAAW office is only three blocks away from the Women's prison in the west end of the city. Métis women from across the Prairies came to speak to me at their workshop in the prison. The latest figures on the cost of keeping a male offender in a provincial jail is \$115,000.00 - \$156,000.00 in a federal prison, \$219,000.00 for a female offender. If preventative services and help are available, the government could save a lot of money while benefiting everyone in society.

Solitary Confinement

The call to discontinue the use of solitary confinement has been ignored by Federal Prisons until June 2017 when the Liberal Government presented a bill to Parliament to limit Solitary Confinement to 15 days "in the hole," especially because a Métis prisoner from Québec committed suicide after 19 months in Solitary. The United Nations requested that all the member states (countries) stop using Solitary Confinement because it is considered cruel and unusual punishment.

This Assembly proclaimed by the resolution passed two years ago that this method of punishment must stop in all jails in this country. I would like to request that the Métis Nation of Alberta present this resolution to the Métis National Council urging

the Minister responsible for the Prisons abolish this punishment because of the deadly consequences and inhumane suffering that result from isolation. As a member of the Committee, I will be asking for the Bill as it has been presented to Parliament.

Remembering the Children Society

Over the past years, I have served as Vice President of Remembering the Children Society, representing the Métis Nation. There has been a full support and participation in the organization, both in granting the use of the MNA Boardroom and supplying lunch from time to time and in Beatrice Demetrius in helping find the relatives of the children and my involvement. We are encouraging this commemoration to remain fully in the hands of the Indigenous organizations such as the Métis Local and the Red Deer Friendship Centre and the Churches.

This Society is composed of Treaty 6, 7, 8, Métis Nation of Alberta and the United Church of Canada. We appeared at the Truth & Reconciliation Conference, held in Edmonton, to put forth the information gathered over the last five years. They have also given their report with the Call to Action to the government and to all of us as Canadians to now respond to these recommendations. It is gratifying that the City of Red Deer has proclaimed June 11 as “Remembering the Children Day” and has involved the Schools in this remembrance.

Presentation

Last year, because of illness, I was unable to attend the Annual General Assembly and present to your President Audrey Poitras the commemorative plaque given to Métis Nation of Alberta on behalf of the Métis children who attended the Red Deer Industrial School. There are at least nine Métis families whose children attended this school. If you go to Fort Normandeau, near Red Deer, you will see the Residential School on binoculars, which are set up to show where the School was located. Twenty seven markers have been found with five wooden markers now located in the Red Deer Museum.

In addition, a beautiful memorial plaque will be set up in the City of Red Deer Cemetery to commemorate the children who died during the flu epidemic. On September 28 2017, there will be an



Heritage Recognition Award

unveiling of the Monument for these children who died and were buried there because no one was able to bury the bodies near the School or on the School property. It is ironic to note that these are the only children that are named and will be commemorated and remembered formally by the people of Alberta in this way. All are welcome to attend and see this monument. I will be sending the invitation to the Métis Nation of Alberta through its communication process.

Conclusion

I have been informed by your National President Clément Chartier that there is a request for additional members to be recommended to sit on the National Aboriginal Advisory Committee to the Commissioner of Prisons Mr. Don Head. Previously, there had been no Métis on this Committee.

I am honoured to represent the Métis people in the two organizations. I believe that I have an obligation to report back to you, the Métis people of Canada and ask for your concurrence, concerns, and your opinion. Métis Nation of Alberta has agreed to forward these concerns to the Métis National Council. I am grateful to David Boisvert for assisting me in the writing the resolutions that I submitted for your consideration and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel Stanley Venne C.M., B.A. (Hon.)
Former Vice President, Métis Nation of Alberta



Ministerial Reports





Drying Meat, St. Francis Xavier, MB – Wm Armstrong

Ministry of Métis Health, Children, and Youth



Sylvia Johnson
Minister of Métis Health,
Children, and Youth

Greetings from Sylvia Johnson

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit the report on the Ministry of Métis Health, Children, and Youth to the 89th Annual General Assembly. I am pleased to announce that over the past year, we have continued to work diligently on matters important to Métis health, wellbeing, children, and youth.

This year, the Ministry of Métis Health, Children, and Youth in collaboration with the Culture, Veterans, and Seniors Ministry, held the Youth and Senior's Symposium: Gathering Across Generations. The day was a phenomenal opportunity for the youth to benefit from the wisdom of our older generations, who in turn, benefited from the energy and vision of our young people.

I would also like to thank our members who consented to participate in our recently

concluded Health Surveillance Program and Social Determinants of Health Survey; the invaluable information gathered will inform us and shape the kinds of services and programs needed to improve Métis health across the province.

Most recently, MNA worked collaboratively with experts from the University of Alberta on three pioneering health reports that highlight how cancer, injuries, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) specifically affect Métis Albertans. These reports mark MNA's continued groundbreaking attempts to gather significant health information specific to our Métis population in the pursuit of improved health outcomes.

In the coming year, I look forward to continuing our innovative health research with a focus on Type II Diabetes and its effects on Métis citizens of Alberta.

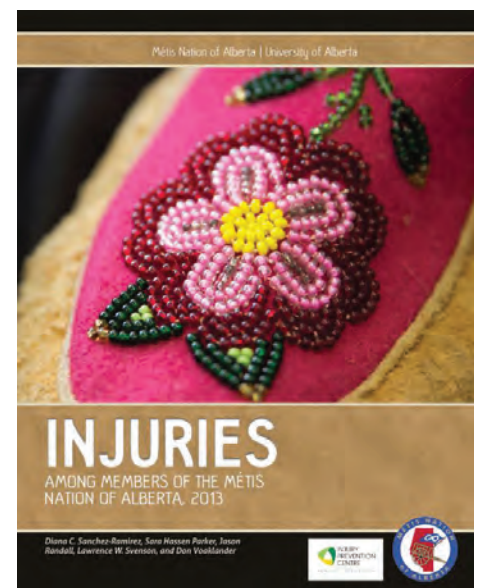
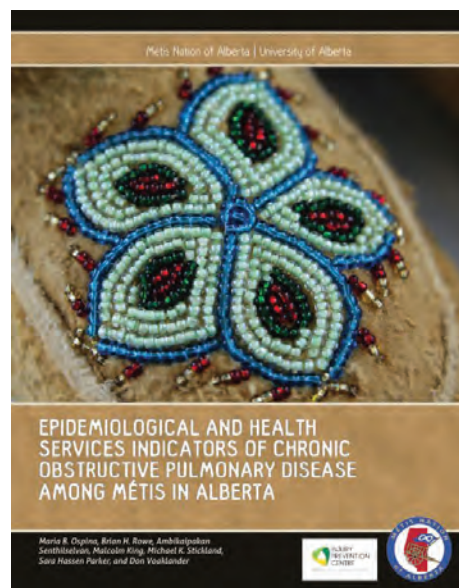
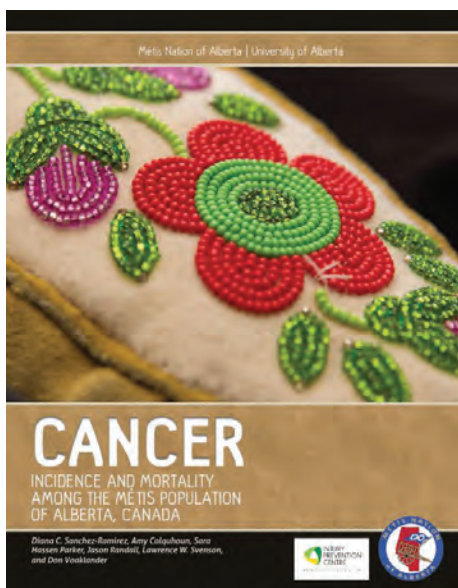
Métis Health Research

The Métis Nation of Alberta has continued to work with Alberta Health using our Information Sharing Agreement (2010) to develop high quality health research on Métis people in Alberta. MNA released three new health reports during this reporting period: Cancer Incidence and Mortality among the Métis Population of Alberta, Epidemiological and Health Services Indicators of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease among Métis in Alberta, and Injuries among Members of the Métis Nation of Alberta. These three health reports contain detailed information about the disproportionate burden of COPD and cancer that Métis people in Alberta experience and the increased prevalence of injuries among our citizens.

Our partners, both Alberta Health and the University of Alberta School of Public Health, continue to support developing health research on Métis people in Alberta and this coming year, we will be embarking on a new study with our partners specific to Type II Diabetes and Métis people. We will be taking a mixed methods approach, where we will be working with Alberta Health to gather and analyze quantitative information as well as utilizing qualitative research methodology to collect data on the lived experiences of Métis people living with Type II Diabetes.

MNA Health, Children, and Youth department also concluded the Social Determinants of Health survey. Halfway through March of 2016 the Health, Children, and Youth department made it a priority to finish the Social Determinants of Health survey project and collected enough surveys for a statistically significant analysis to be conducted. In order to do this, we asked attendees at the Seniors and Youth Symposium to complete the survey with the help of Métis youth, as well as utilizing social media campaigns. This focus made it possible for the MNA to draft an abstract titled, “Métis Nation of Alberta Social Determinants of Health: A community survey method” to submit to the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE), which will be held on July 24-28, 2017, and it was accepted for a full workshop.

MNA hosted a workshop that included topics on Sexually Transmitted Blood Borne Infections (STBBIs). MNA, Shining Mountains Community Services, and Aboriginal Women’s Justice came together to host an event during Aboriginal Aids Awareness Week to begin the discussion about the gaps in research, resources, education, and services for Métis people in Alberta surrounding STBBIs. Information gathered will help identify gaps in services and supports for Métis people in Alberta and verify a need to begin the process of identifying appropriate partners for research and funding opportunities to push this initiative forward.



Cancer, COPD & Injuries Health Reports

MNA also hosted a Cancer Screening Workshop, which was held in November of 2016. MNA partnered with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) to co-facilitate a Métis-specific dialogue session relative to citizens' experience with cancer screening access and potential follow-up. The workshop was led by CPAC who compiled the information and sent the MNA a report.

The MNA was also successful in a grant application to explore the burden that the Opioid/Fentanyl Crisis has on Métis people in Alberta. The purpose of this work is to gather high quality evidence to inform an MNA Opioid Action Plan, outlining how we will support Métis people in Alberta living with Opioid/Fentanyl and other addictions as well as mental health concerns.

Métis Nation of Alberta Comprehensive Wellness Centre

Over the past four years, the MNA has been working with Alberta Health towards the development of a Métis health clinic. Due to changes in government and fiscal landscape, the original Family Care Clinic business plan must be re-developed to fit this new environment. The Health, Children, and Youth department was successful in a grant application for funding to redevelop the original plan. This funding will be used to conduct a geographical scan to find the optimal location, an environment scan of current services, and regional consultations. Within this new plan, we will be using a 'hub and spoke' model where the hub will be the centralized clinic in Edmonton and the spokes will reach out to the six regions. The plan is to have a Métis Resource Navigator (MRN) in each region that will work to build relationships with Métis people and connect them to local health services. The centralized hub will take a holistic and comprehensive approach to wellness where in addition to physicians, there will also be an interdisciplinary team including but not limited to exercise physiologists, dietitians, and mental health services.

Currently in Alberta, when compared to other populations, there is very little information on the health outcomes and health needs of Métis people

in Alberta. To rectify this gap in information, MNA continues to work with partners to build a health-evidence base to inform future policy, practices, and service delivery.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Program

Within the past year, MNA has made significant strides to foster a holistic approach when supporting families and individuals affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). The Provincial Supports Coordinator is currently involved with the Calgary FASD Collective Impact Initiative, Edmonton Area Parole/Grierson Institution Citizen Advisory Committee, and the planning Committee for the 2017 National FASD Conference.

The Health, Children and Youth department is working towards building strong relationships with the 12 FASD Networks throughout the province. Connections have been made with Lakeland FASD, Central FASD Network, Calgary Fetal Alcohol Network, South East Alberta Fetal Alcohol Network, South Alberta FASD Network, Edmonton Fetal Alcohol Network, and Northwest Central Fetal Alcohol Network. Further efforts will be made to ensure relationships with the remaining FASD networks are established.

As a new initiative, "Community Health Nights" has been developed with the intention of providing an opportunity to learn about related health topics in a comfortable culturally-aware space. These bi-monthly events are meant to engage MNA members, service providers, and the community at large.

The Tools for Communities: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder booklet that was developed in 2013 is currently being updated and the latest edition will be distributed throughout the Métis community and service providers in the 2017 fiscal year.

Métis Resource – FASD

MNA's Métis Resource Worker navigates individuals and families through socio-economic supports and connects individuals to FASD assessment and diagnostic services. This is achieved through collaboration, case planning, advocacy, and referrals. The Métis Resource Worker actively



MÉTIS NATION OF ALBERTA HEALTH AND WELLNESS

COMMUNITY HEALTH NIGHTS

INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH SERIES

Tuesday, May 23, 2017
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Métis Nation of Alberta
Provincial Office
#100-11738 Kingsway Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta, T5G 0X5

JOIN THE DISCUSSION!

ALBERTAMETIS.COM | @ALBERTAMETIS

Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) will be hosting information nights on the fourth Tuesday of every other month. The first presentation in this series is "Métis 101". Topics will include Métis health, MNA governance, Métis culture, and Métis historical events. Please RSVP to Christine by Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at cdyck@metis.org, or 780-455-2200 ext. 249.

Community Health Nights Poster

participates with the Edmonton Fetal Alcohol Network Society (EFAN).

An MNA representative attended the 2016 7th Annual Brain Development Conference and the 2017 7th International Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. The purpose of these conferences is to ensure that the principles and practices used while supporting individuals and families affected by FASD are current/up to date. At present time, the Métis Resource Worker manages 10 FASD related files.

Children and Youth

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the sub agreement between the MNA and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. MNA has worked to support the needs of children and families involved with the child intervention system to ensure families remain together and stay in their communities.

The MNA recognizes the importance of maintaining and enhancing connections with Métis families, communities, and culture for Métis children and youth in care. MNA works towards ensuring the rights and dignity of Métis children and families involved with the child intervention systems are honored.

The Métis Resource Worker remains committed to enhancing and promoting parenting resources, placement resources, and culturally relevant supports. The goal of this is to build upon preventative approaches, keeping families together, addressing conditions that bring children into care, and develop collaborative solutions to support child safety and wellbeing. The Métis Resource Worker provides presentations to community agencies and organizations on MNA Health, Children, and Youth initiatives including Annual Aboriginal Awareness weekend in Sundre, Cold Lake CFS, Lloydminster CFS, Red Deer CFS, Calgary CFS, Hinton CFS, and Edmonton CFS.

The MNA continues to engage with potential partners to strengthen community capacity and increase the quality of support received by Métis individuals and families. Collaboration has begun with Calgary and Area CFS and we are optimistic that within the 2017 fiscal year, a partnership with MNA will be formalized.

Provisional Youth Council

As a result of an ordinary resolution passed at the 88th Annual General Assembly, MNA set out to finalize a youth council framework to be developed by a Provisional Youth Council and will be used to guide the future Youth Council, which will be elected during the 2018 MNA general election. In October 2016, MNA hired a Provincial Youth Coordinator who supported the regions in appointing a youth representative and currently acts as administrative support to the Provisional Youth Council. In February 2016, the Provisional Youth Council was officially established and is comprised of one youth representative from each of the six MNA regions. The Provisional Youth Council is gender balanced and ranges in age

from 18 to 28 years old. The first meeting of the Provisional Youth Council took place on March 26th, 2017; all regional youth representatives were in attendance and work commenced on the Terms of Reference to be used for the future Youth Council. Subsequent meetings of the Provisional Youth Council have been scheduled to take place.

The Provincial Youth Coordinator also assisted in conducting consultations in each of the six MNA regions with an objective to advise the Urban Aboriginal Strategy on how to better meet the needs of Métis youth in Alberta. Following the end of this consultation project, a report was submitted to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada sharing the views of Métis youth regarding the gaps in programs and services, as well as outlining the current needs of Métis youth in Alberta. Recommendations included equitable and consistent funding to develop programs to address the unique needs of Métis youth in Alberta and the freedom to prioritize cultural activities to address the need for cultural connection and belonging. MNA is optimistic that momentum will continue forward in the area of youth initiatives such as these and that future youth programming will begin to address the gaps and needs identified through the consultations.

Métis Seniors and Youth Symposium: Gathering Across Generations

On Friday March 24th and Saturday March 25th, 2017, approximately 200 Métis from across the province gathered for the inaugural Métis Seniors and Youth Symposium: Gathering Across Generations at the Ramada Edmonton Hotel.

The two-day event commenced with a Stew and Bannock kickoff hosted in the Ramada Edmonton Hotel's Locker Room lounge. The opening evening started the event off strong, with the youth attendees serving the seniors stew and bannock, initiating the community intent of the weekend. The following day was emceed by Co-Minister of Seniors, Veterans, and Culture and Region 1 Vice President Dan Cardinal. The day began with an insightful presentation by the Executive Director of Policy and Planning for the Alberta Ministry of Indigenous Relations, Mr. Cameron Henry,

on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Government of Alberta's implementation direction.

Following Mr. Henry's presentation, MNA Senior Executive Officer, Aaron Barner, presented on the past, present, and future of Métis rights. Topics covered included the entrenchment of Métis in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, R.v. Sparrow, R.v. Powley, Manitoba Métis Federation Inc. v. Canada, and Daniels v. Canada, and the six steps for dealing with outstanding claims with the Crown. The morning session was accompanied by a youth breakout session where the Provisional Youth Council and 30 other Métis youth gathered to take part in games, discussion on the regional youth consultations, and some fun jigging lessons.

Following the youth breakout session and the Métis Rights presentation, the youth re-entered the main room jigging, and then led the tables in a discussion on Elders, where the youth asked and collected attendees' thoughts on the roles and characteristics of Métis knowledge holders. The afternoon session presented an opportunity for attendees to:

- Visit each of the informational booths;
- Attend a presentation on the Registry Department;
- Attend a presentation on Métis Veterans and the heroism of Métis soldiers with brief presentations from each of the eight Métis Veterans in attendance; and
- Watch a video on Cree Code Talkers. The event concluded with an evening dinner and an open mic jam.

The inaugural event was well attended and well received by the community. We are hoping the MNA community can build from the momentum of this event and continue the work needed to bridge the gap between Métis generations.



First Community Health Night at the MNA

As the Minister of Métis Health, Children, and Youth, I would like to thank the hard working team under the direction and guidance of Dr. Jill Sporidis for putting our agenda forward and ensuring that the needs of the Métis members of Alberta are looked after and that we are front and foremost when it comes to initiatives and programs that benefit us all. I urge you to read our reports on COPD, Cancer, and Injuries and to participate in our surveys and Health Nights, as well as watching for our upcoming report on Diabetes. I would like to thank Dr. Sporidis for insisting to Alberta Health Services that it is crucial to our women to bring a Mobile Unit to Peace River for our Assembly. The initiative to have a Health Night at the MNA office is also a step to reach out to our people and show them that YES we care about their health and are doing everything we can to assist their families to be healthy and happy. Together, we will raise healthy happy children.

Our youth group has been more active this year than it has been in a long time. Youth, such as Dusty Gauthier are taking the initiative to have the voice of the youth heard. They are now present at our meetings, speaking out and bringing forth issues for all youth. The Youth Conference agenda

was set by our youth and you will see them at the Assembly participating and making their voice heard. The staff member leading the youth is Tania Kruk a youth herself that has taken on a big task of working with youth. This year, she has visited the communities and engaged with youth from the regions.

Region 6 Métis Nation has donated two laptops as prizes to this Assembly. One to the youth and one to the women who visit the Mobile Health Unit. Good luck to everyone and we wish you all the best of health and happiness.

Personally, I wish to thank you for allowing me to represent you as the Minister of Métis Health, children, and youth for the Métis Nation of Alberta. I have enjoyed this portfolio, locally, provincially, and federally. It is a very exciting time to be involved in health as there are new initiatives, programs, and funding.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Johnson
Minister of Métis Health, Children, and Youth



Wedding Party of John Rowland Jr. and Margaret Harriot Travelling from Fort Edmonton to Fort Pitt – January 6, 1848

Ministry of Culture, Veterans, and Seniors



Dan Cardinal
Co-Minister of Culture,
Veterans, and Seniors



Duane Zaraska
Co-Minister of Culture,
Veterans, and Seniors

Cultural Committee Report

In 2015, the City of Edmonton set up a committee, including several First Nations and a member from the Métis Nation. The intent was to develop an Indigenous art park at Queen Elizabeth Park and give it a new name. Many Cree names were brought to the table, the Métis Nation representative felt overwhelmed and excluded in the proposed naming of the park.

A quick research of the park resulted in the fact that originally Queen Elizabeth Park was owned by Métis Joseph McDonald, who lived there for forty-six years and also gave a part of his land to the railroad company.

Beatrice Demetrius was invited as a guest to sit at the planning table throughout the next several months, where finally an agreement was reached. The park would have two names: First Nations name

INIW, meaning the land, for their side of the park and River Lot 11, with the infinity sign, the name of the river lot that Joseph McDonald owned on the other side.

The names were officially accepted by the City of Edmonton and there will be a celebration in October 2017.

In July of 2016, the Culture Team researched and produced the 100th anniversary of “The battle of Seven Oaks” on six large framed boards mounted on easels, as well as scrolls with the battle song by Pierre Falcon, which they presented at Batoche 2016.

President Chartier liked the work and invited the Métis Nation to present at Lewistown, Montana for the Métis / Powwow celebration in September.

President Poitras, with her Executive Assistant, two Culture Team members, and a Métis youth fiddler

travelled to Montana where the Métis community welcomed them and gave a large area to set up the display. They also gave their members the Métis Fact Sheet booklets. They were very happy that we came and invited us back.

Our research department has been researching WWI Métis soldiers since 2005 and has information on approximately 1200, although that number is still growing. Each soldier's genealogy is done to prove his/her Métis ancestry; it is a huge undertaking. Fort Edmonton is asking for some names, which the research department will put together for them.

One of our genealogists is helping to identify Métis soldiers involved with WWII and Korea, which is more difficult to access unless family members send us the names of their soldier.

The Cultural Committee is responsible for ensuring that our rich and vibrant Métis culture is evident in everything we do here at the Métis Nation of Alberta. We ensure that correct information is being put out about our history, of yesterday and today. We participate in all events the Métis Nation of Alberta has been asked to attend.

The Métis Nation of Alberta signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Edmonton and Fort Edmonton Park. Our Cultural Team and our Cultural Ministers are the lead experts on the creation of a Métis interpretive site, the park is doing a \$168 Million expansion which includes the Indigenous Peoples' Experience.

Members of the Culture Team also sit on the committee for the National Gathering of Elders' conference that will be happening in Edmonton, September 11th–14th, 2017. This historic event will see the coming together for the first time of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Elders from across Canada. For more information on the conference, please visit their website at www.ngekanata.com.

GRC Library

Set up began for the new GRC Library in November of 2016. All 500+ books were added to a computer database, alphabetically labelled, and moved into our new research room upstairs.

Also placed in this room were hundreds of other research and reference materials such as historical diaries, Hudson's Bay Company records, and a variety of cultural documents. We look forward to continue building upon the work we have done to develop the library even further.

Métis Week

Métis week got off to a lively start with the 6th Annual Louis Riel Commemorative Walk on Sunday, November 13, 2016. It continued the very next morning with the Proclamation and Flag Raising Ceremony, held at Edmonton City Hall. The following day was an afternoon for seniors and veterans at Come and Go Tea. Here members had the chance to view our beautiful museum in the head office and take a look through our genealogical research centre to view our veterans' displays and the Battle of Seven Oaks story boards.



Louis Riel Commemorative Walk During Métis Week



Métis Flag Raising at Edmonton City Hall During Métis Week

Métis Week continued at the Alberta Legislature, where they welcomed Métis people to gather to remember Louis Riel and his brave sacrifice in the fight for Métis rights. President Audrey Poitras gave an address in which she reminded all in attendance to always remember the importance of celebrating our vibrant culture and our ancestors who fought for our rights. Additionally, the Minister of Indigenous Relations, Richard Feehan also spoke; he encouraged all Albertans to take time to explore Métis culture and how it has shaped and strengthened the province of Alberta.

Métis week concluded with a festive Jamboree at Londonderry Hall. There were many fun filled, cultural activities that took place throughout the day.



Métis Youth Lapel Pin Contest

Additionally throughout the week, MNA members had the opportunity to view and vote on a number of Métis art submissions from our youth. The winners of each age group were awarded with their submission being transformed into a lapel pin for all to wear.

Métis Seniors and Youth Symposium: Gathering Across Generations

Thank you to our community and organization partners for making our Seniors and Youth Symposium a great success. The event came at a time of great importance for the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA). With the recent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing with the

Government of Canada and the strengthened Framework Agreement with the Government of Alberta, MNA is in a strong position to promote key priorities in government-to-government, nation-to-nation negotiations. A few of our top priorities include promoting Métis rights, addressing Métis-specific health concerns, and supporting our youth build brighter futures.

With help from expert speakers, knowledgeable representatives from the health-care industry, and key organization partners, our symposium provided excellent opportunities for community members to engage with, and advance these priorities.

More importantly, the day allowed for the coming together of generations; it was an opportunity for the youth to benefit from the wisdom of our older generations, who in turn, benefited from the energy and vision of our youth. The two day event included a bannock night, jigging lessons, veterans' presentation, photo booth, and invaluable opportunities to bond across generations!

Veterans Monument Summary

At the 88th Métis Nation of Alberta Annual General Assembly, the membership unanimously passed Ordinary Resolution #10 moving that the MNA create a monument dedicated to Métis Veterans located at Métis Crossing. In response to this resolution, Co-Ministers of Culture, Veterans, and Seniors Duane Zaraska and Dan Cardinal, along with the MNA Cultural Team, have been working towards this goal.

The team has developed relations with three design companies, Edmonton Granite, Remco Memorials, and Hub Designs to discuss the project. During each meeting the respective companies have explained their capacity in regards to the scale of projects they have completed in the past, the materials they can work with, the possibilities in regards to design etc.

The MNA Culture Team has explored many different funding options that are available specifically for the construction of commemorative memorials, historical facilities, community enhancements etc, and continue to search other

potential funding streams. The current goal is to apply for as many funding streams as possible to ensure the monetary needs to construct the monument at Métis Crossing are met and the team is actively working towards this goal.

This project comes with a great deal of research into identifying Métis who fought in the Battle of Seven Oaks, Battle of Batoche, Korean War, Boer War, WWI, WWII, Afghanistan, and Peacetime Service Men. This research has been championed by MNA Senior Genealogist Beatrice Demetrius, and due to the scope of this research, the task is ongoing. In addition, the Communications Team is currently campaigning for members to identify themselves or family members as Métis veterans. So if you, or a member of your family, is a Métis Veteran, we want to hear your story and acknowledge you or a family member's sacrifice and accomplishments. Please contact us at veterans@metis.org.

Aboriginal Days

Aboriginal Days is a free annual community event and the town of Stony Plain provides opportunity for everyone to participate in the festivities. This day is to express identity and encourage cultural connections between diverse community groups of all ages, ability, and ethnicity. A number of learning stations and activities are set up around the grounds as well as inside the pavilion; fire trucks, bouncy maze, bannock on a stick, rock painting, tipis, Métis tents and Red River Wagons, First Nations, and Inuit. Approximately 3500 parents and children attend this celebration. Cultural expression and creativity are powerful ways we develop our identities. People come to share rituals and express themselves; this day helps to strengthen and build relationships/connections in the community and to create better understanding about Indigenous People, culture, and communities.

The Métis Nation of Alberta's Cultural Team also participated in APTN Aboriginal Day Live! on June 21st, 2017. A Métis Village was erected including a Métis market place with crafters, beading, history,

genealogy, and membership. The event was well attended and we got some great exposure not only to Edmontonians, but the country as well.

Batoche

The annual Back to Batoche celebration is one of great historical significance. The annual four day celebration of Métis Culture takes place at the festival site one kilometer north of the Batoche National Historical Site. Over the years, Back to Batoche has evolved into one of Canada's largest Métis culture events. People come from all over North America to celebrate our traditions, our dance, our music, as well as our language. In 2016, the Métis Nation of Alberta celebrated the 200th anniversary of The Battle of Seven Oaks 1816-2016.



Red River Cart – Calgary, AB

Ministry of Education, Training, and Research



Audrey Poitras
Co-Minister of Education,
Training, and Research

Greetings from Lawrence Gervais

Hello Again!

As most of you know, the Rupertsland Institute (RI) is an education, training, and research institution that is owned 100% by the Métis Nation of Alberta.

This year, I want to focus my comments on the Education division of RI, which is responsible for the design and implementation of education initiatives to enhance the education outcomes of Métis children and students who are in the public school systems or higher levels of learning. RI also opens doors to create engaging opportunities to participate in Alberta Education policies that matter to Métis people.



Lawrence Gervais
Co-Minister of Education,
Training, and Research

Alberta Métis Education Council

To create engaging opportunities, the RLI Board of Governors, where I sit as an ex-Officio board member, created a standing committee to assist RLI on its K-12 mandate. We established a Terms of Reference and recruited Métis professionals to serve as a volunteer advisory body to RLI under the auspices of the Alberta Métis Education Council.

The Alberta Métis Education Council's mandate is to focus on key strategies, policies, and actions that will enhance the education outcomes of Métis students in the K-12 system while promoting the knowledge of Métis culture, language, and history. The collective expertise of RLI board, staff, and the Alberta Métis Education Council members comprise a rich resource for establishing foundational

knowledge of Métis content and perspectives in the development of curricular resources for students and educators.

The membership of the Alberta Métis Education Council is as follows:

Preston Huppie (MEd)

Alberta Métis Education Council– Chair

- Education Director/Principal Kehewin School and RLI Board member

Yvonne Poitras Pratt (PhD)

Alberta Métis Education Council Member

- Professor, Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary

Cindy Swanson (PhD candidate)

Alberta Métis Education Council Member

- University of Alberta (completing PhD requirements)

Delores Cox (BEd)

Alberta Métis Education Council Member

- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Coordinator, High Prairie School Division

Kimberley Brown (MEd)

Alberta Métis Education Council Member

- Teacher, North Star Academy

Aubrey Hansen (PhD)

Alberta Métis Education Council Member

- Professor, Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary

Lorne Gladu (CEO)

Rupertsland Institute - Métis Centre of Excellence

These individuals volunteer their time from busy work schedules to form the Education Council and work closely with our Associate Director of Métis Education, Solange Lalonde (BEd; MEd candidate).

Strategic Objectives

The mission of the Alberta Métis Education Council is to implement transformational education through Métis research, collaboration, and expertise by accomplishing the following four strategic objectives.

1. Métis Research Informed Practice

To design educational initiatives, which reflect the collective Métis voice and perspectives through research-informed practice.

2. Building Capacity

To build capacity to preserve, protect, and promote the interests of Métis people to achieve a quality education, which reflects community values.

3. Curriculum Development

To create educational resources and supports to evaluate and change educational program delivery and services.

4. Collaboration

To develop strategic partnerships leading to collaborative educational initiatives where the Métis community is actively engaged in educational programming.

Current Projects and Initiatives

Métis Research Informed Practice

- UBC Press Publication on self-determination and the Alberta Métis Education Council
- IDEAS 2017: Leading Education Change: Conference presentation and publication
- University of Calgary: Creating a Learning Culture, Conversations that Matter: Conference presentation



Alberta Métis Educational Council Logo

- College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS): First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Gathering: Half-day preconference session, 2 presentations, 1 panel presentation
- World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education: A Celebration of Resilience: Conference presentation

Building Capacity

The Brain Architecture Game Facilitator Training– Calgary and Edmonton

- Builds educator capacity in learning about intergenerational trauma and the Métis experience in residential school and how early life experiences impact brain development.

The Community Action Poverty Simulation – Edmonton, CASS ½ day preconference session, ARPDC 3-day educator camp May 2017

- Builds educator capacity in learning about issues related to poverty and how engaging regional supports can impact educational programming.

Alberta Métis Education Council Jasper Retreat – Strategic planning

- Retreat funded in part through a grant opportunity with Parks Canada.
- Building RLI/AMEC capacity in designing and developing short term and long term plans.
- Establishing content related to foundational knowledge in six themes: Languages; Governance and Recognition; Cultures and Traditions; Homeland History, Pre and Post Confederation; Métis in the Province of Alberta; and Métis Today.

Curriculum Development

K-12 Curriculum Development

- Stage 2 Curriculum Development Presentation to Expert Working Groups: presented how foundational knowledge of Métis content and perspectives can be integral to curriculum development in Social, Science, English, Arts, and Wellness subject areas.

- Stage 3 Curriculum Development participation May 8-9: participate in focus and validation groups to provide input and insights on draft curriculum, starting with draft subject introductions, scope, and sequences, (including essential understandings, guiding questions, and concepts and procedures).
- Establishing how content related to foundational knowledge in six themes relates to K-12 subject areas.

Professional Learning Curriculum

- The Brain Architecture Game Facilitator Training and The Community Action Poverty Simulation: developing facilitator guides and curricular resources for educators to use in their professional learning.
- Developing a professional learning resource which takes a research-informed approach to the six themes for foundational knowledge to use with educators in support of the draft professional quality standards.

Collaboration

Alberta Education

- Stage 2 Curriculum Development, Presentation to Expert Working Groups.
- Stage 3 Curriculum Development, Participation in Focus and Validation Groups.
- Curriculum for Reconciliation Working Group (Alberta Education - First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Division, Curriculum Branch).
- Teaching Quality Standards Working Group (Alberta Education - System Excellence Division).
- School Leadership Standards Working Group (Alberta Education - System Excellence Division).
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Advisory Committee (Alberta Education – First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Division).
- Building an Inclusive Education System – Advisory Committee (Alberta Education – First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Division)



Website Logo Depicting the Mandates of the Alberta Métis Education Council

College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS)

- Affiliate Membership.
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Action Committee.
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Gathering Planning Committee.

Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA)

- Respectful Schools Project Advisory Group (Alberta Teachers' Association).
- Collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Council, Walking Together Consultants.

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)

- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Task Force.
- Indigenous Shining Student Award Jury Member.

Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC)

- Collaboration on 3-day educator camp; working with the ARPDC Learning Network, the MNA Culture Team, and Métis Crossing.

University of Calgary, Werklund School of Education Memorandum of Understanding

- Rupertsland Institute desires to establish The Rupertsland Institute for Teaching and Learning (RLITL) through collaboration with the Werklund School of Education at the University of Calgary on mutually agreed upon research projects.

I wish everyone a successful Assembly,
Lawrence Gervais



Teaching and Learning Initiative Logo



Upper Fort Gary

Ministry of Forestry and Sports



Elmer Gullion
Co-Minister of Forestry and Sports

Over the past year, focus within Forestry has been on creating avenues for regions and members to capitalize on initiatives and economic opportunities within the province. In Sports, we have continued to explore sports and fitness opportunities for regions and members. With this in mind, we are pleased to report on the strides we have made this year.

Forestry

On November 4th, 2016, we attended the annual general meeting of the Association of Alberta Forest Management Professionals (AAFMP). We have met with AAFMP on a number of occasions in the past year to work towards establishing a relationship with the members of the organization. AAFMP is the professional body for forestry management professionals in Alberta and influences regulations, and designs forest use plans. We

hope to strengthen our relationship so that we may work together to foster a greater understanding of the economic, environmental, and social values of Alberta's forests for both the industry and the Métis. We also hope to provide a greater understanding of the Métis in Alberta and the ways in which we can work together to manage the forests in the Province. We hope that this relationship will lead to MNA involvement in forest planning activities on a more meaningful level.

Last year was the first year the MNA offered Wildland Firetack Training, providing training to 32 recruits. Currently, we are working towards re-certifying 16 members in 2017. By continuing training and now re-certification, the MNA is working towards the goal of obtaining a long term wildfire crew contract with the Government of Alberta. We are beginning to explore and



James Atkinson
Co-Minister of Forestry and Sports

consider negotiating wildfire dispatch contracts for the regions, similar to what Region 4 has in place. In doing so, we will provide more stability to the crews we train, and be prepared to capitalize on opportunities as they arise.

Thinking forward, we are positioning ourselves to respond to Government of Alberta Requests for Proposals (RFP) in FireSmart planning and implementation. FireSmart uses preventative measures to reduce wildfire threat to Albertans and their communities while balancing the benefits of wildfire on the landscape. There were 30 RFP's accepted between July and December of 2016. These FireSmart planning projects are currently underway, with completion dates ranging from March – December 2017.



City of Edmonton Valley Line LRT Monitoring Project



Wildland Firetack Training at Métis Crossing



Tom Ghostkeeper



Wildland Firetack Training at Métis Crossing

There are ongoing Requests for Proposals for FireSmart projects that have potential to create further stability for our regional crews in the area of wildfire prevention.

The MNA is in talks with the Government of Alberta regarding the harvesting policy currently in place. We have been very clear that we do not support the policy as it is today. We are pleased to report that the discussions with the Government of Alberta with respect to harvesting have been extremely positive. When we use the term "harvesting" we do include trapping. Within these talks are considerations to Métis trapping, including allowing for Métis trap-lines to be passed down to family members, and eliminating the need for Métis trappers to fulfill fur quotas as a condition for keeping their trap lines.

There is much yet to consider and discuss within the larger context of harvesting, as seen in the Ministry Report offered by Co-Ministers of Rights and Accommodation.

The Ministry of Forestry and Sport has also taken on the responsibility for developing an MNA Emergency Preparedness Plan. This is in response to the 2015 ordinary resolution # 9 which directed the MNA to work to ensure that all MNA Regions are ready to help with disaster relief. We have been engaging with emergency response companies and the Government of Alberta to learn best practices in emergency response and to establish policies and procedures for MNA emergency response. We hope to have a plan in place by next year.

In conclusion, we will continue to work to establish meaningful and fruitful relationships with industry and professionals that may allow us to have more input into the ways in which our forests are utilized, and to protect the rights and interests that Métis people have to forests. We have also taken on the task of developing the mechanisms by which the MNA Regions can be better prepared to respond to any emergency that may occur, so that when there is another “Monster” the Métis can step up and take the lead in providing aid and support to those most affected.

Sports

For another year, Métis Nation of Alberta entered our Junior Novice Hockey Team, The MNA Voyageurs, in the Alberta Native Hockey Provincials tournament. Donning red and blue jerseys, emblazoned with a bold infinity symbol, the pint-sized Métis team delivered an amazing performance last year as they skated to victory at each and every game.

This year, the Voyageurs, made up of Métis youth aged 5 to 7, defended their title from last year by outlasting each opponent with youthful enthusiasm. The young athletes and coaches had a blast on and off the ice, playing in front of a supportive home crowd and participating in various team building activities throughout the week. The Alberta Native Hockey Provincials is a hockey

tournament hosted each spring for Aboriginal youth, celebrating its 24th year this season. The hockey tournament provides an opportunity for young Métis athletes to develop and put their skills to the test. The MNA expects to continue its involvement in the tournament in the future. Inquire next January for your chance to get involved.

This past fall and winter, Region 4 hosted an adult volleyball night together with the MNA Health and Wellness department. We did this to get our people active, due to high incidence of diabetes. There were 218 participants total; the participation and spirit of sport was overwhelming.

We hope to continue to find opportunities and foster funds development among regions to enable sport, and healthy active initiatives going forward. Physical activity is an important factor to overall health, and we know that it is important for regions to look at opportunities for members.

In closing, we have our future sights set on the development of a sports and recreation department housed at the MNA. We are also looking at development of sports scholarships for our members. We know that each small accomplishment along the way gets us closer to these goals, and are looking forward to the next year and all it brings.



Prairie Nomands Volleyball Team



*Métis Nation of Alberta 2017
Junior Novice Hockey Team
The MNA Voyageurs*



Vintage Map of Canada

Ministry of Registry, Governance, and Justice



Marlene Lanz
Co-Minister of Registry,
Governance, and Justice



Carol Ridsdale
Co-Minister of Registry,
Governance, and Justice

Registry

2016-2017 was a significant year for the Métis Nation of Alberta's Identification and Registry Department. The historic Daniels Vs. Canada decision resulted in great interest in registering for Métis membership. Our department saw a notable increase in membership applications, telephone, and email inquiries, along with a rise of in-person visits to our Genealogy Resource Center. Our genealogy department staff also capably assisted many new and potential applicants with completion of their family trees, helping to reconnect these individuals with their Métis roots.

Within the past year, the Registry Department had a visible presence within our communities as we actively promoted application for MNA membership. Five Community Registry events and nine Post-Secondary Registry events were

held. These events allowed our membership staff to identify and eventually register individuals throughout the regions of the Métis Nation of Alberta. Our department also assisted with registration for several regional AGMs, the Daniels Case Celebration, and the Senior-Youth Symposium. Active involvement with the Native Provincial Hockey Council was a highlight this year, as we were able to identify and successfully register 114 individuals/children for MNA membership, allowing them to participate in the tournament. Another highlight was the Registry Department's involvement in supporting our Métis citizens who were evacuated due to the wildfire in Fort McMurray. We gladly assisted with the Métis Nation of Alberta's temporary wildfire response, reaching out to displaced members through our communication lines to ensure

their safety, making them aware of support services and replacing membership cards as needed.



Beatrice Demetrius and Carol Ridsdale

In closing, with the help of our Co-Ministers, the Métis Nation of Alberta Registry continues to promote, identify, and register our Métis citizens. We welcome the increase in applications from 2016-2017 and in the coming year. MNA Registry will continue to meet the needs and aspirations of our applicants and members, whether they may have an educational, housing, business or sporting event opportunity.



Fort Vermilion Membership

Métis Judiciary Council

The Métis Judiciary Council (MJC) was established in 1996 and represents an alternative dispute resolution mechanism for the Members of Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA). At the 87th MNA Annual General Assembly in August 2015, MNA members voted by way of resolution that a comprehensive review be conducted to inform a redesign of the

Métis judicial process. Following the resolution passed to review the MJC, the Provincial Council decided on September 14th, 2015 to suspend the MJC until a review was conducted. In January 2016, The MNA engaged third party consultants, Deloitte LLP, to conduct an independent review of the Métis Judiciary Council (MJC). The review concluded with a report that was presented at the 88th AGA in August of 2016. There were 19 recommendations outlined in the report, which included recommendations on amendments to the bylaws and the MJC policies and procedures manual. Included in the recommendations was the proposal that the MNA create a committee who could review the report and submit the needed changes to the by-laws by way of special resolution at the 89th Annual General Assembly in August 2017.

During the interviews and consultations of the third party review, it was articulated that there is a need to reform the MJC to more closely align with the values of the Métis Nation today. The MJC was originally established in 1996, and the by-laws and policies that were created upon its establishment have not been amended or reviewed since their inception. It is important that the MNA maintain an alternative dispute resolution internal to the MNA, and the committee's mandate is to review the current by-laws and policies and make amendments to better align with the results of the community and member engagement.

The MNA posted a call for committee members in December of 2016 and following a selection process, three MNA members were selected to participate on the 'Committee for Métis Judiciary Council Recommendations'. The committee, along with technical staff assigned to the project, was tasked to complete an environmental scan on the other MNC governing members' dispute resolution and appeal processes, review the Deloitte Report and respond to each of the recommendations, develop by-law changes to be presented and voted on as special resolutions at the 89th AGA, and establish reformed policies and procedures for the MJC to align with community input and need.



Métis Leaving on Buffalo Fall Hunt – Wm Armstrong

Ministry of Housing and Homelessness



Audrey Poitras

Co-Minister of Housing and Homelessness

Métis Urban Housing Corporation

Métis Urban Housing Corporation (MUHC) was created on November 26, 1982 to provide affordable, adequate, and suitable housing to low and moderate income Aboriginal families. MUHC currently has 507 units in 14 urban centers, under the Urban Native Housing Program funded through the Alberta Seniors and Housing Ministry of the Government of Alberta (GOA).

The 507 housing units under MUHC are subsidized through financial transfers from the Federal Government that are now managed by the GOA. These financial transfers allow for low to moderate income Indigenous families to have subsidized rental rates based on their gross household income.

The Bulk of the MUHC houses are in Edmonton and Calgary. The 2016-2017 occupancy rates have

improved to 75% of all units due to many units needing renovations to be rentable. In 2016, over 90 units were renovated using outside contractors and our in-house maintenance team.

Renovations and Repair Plans, 2017-2018

2017

- 44 units across the province approved in the current budget
- Additional funding approved from Alberta Government for new siding, insulation, doors, and windows for 29 units (2017-18)

2017 - 2018

- Requesting additional funding to renovate units that have become vacant since August 2016
- 43 units across the province requiring repairs and renovations to be rent ready



Cecil Bellrose

Co-Minister of Housing and Homelessness

- 7 units that need to be replaced due to foundation and mold issues
- 5 units that were destroyed in Fort McMurray fire to be replaced in 2018

A key focus of the Board and the Executive Director has been ensuring a positive working relationship between MUHC and its funders, Alberta Seniors & Housing. The Board has also established a replacement reserve fund. The intent of the Replacement Reserve is to ensure an adequate funding reserve to properly maintain the homes in a rent ready condition. The waiting list for MUHC continues to grow and currently sits at around 1350, representing a total of almost 6,000 individuals in need of affordable housing. The MNA and MUHC have been actively involved with the Federal and Provincial governments in the development of a National and provincial Housing Strategy. It is our hope that this new strategic approach will bring stability to the social and affordable housing sector.

The Board has also developed and approved a long range seven-year Strategic Plan to guide MUHC into the future to assure it is sustainable in providing affordable housing.

Métis Capital Housing Corporation

Métis Capital Housing Corporation (MCHC) was established in 2007 and is owned by the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA). MCHC was created to take ownership of houses upon the expiration of funding subsidies under MUHC. Although MCHC owns these properties outright, it is unable to base rent on family income due to the cost of administering and maintaining these homes. MCHC rent is based on 80% of the market rental rate.

To date, MCHC has 354 units in five urban centers in the province. Not only does MCHC operate a residential housing program, it also operates the Family Reunification Program (FRP), Boyle Renaissance Apartments, and a Seniors Lodge in Edmonton.

The FRP is dedicated to reuniting Aboriginal mothers, fathers, and their children by providing housing placements for up to three years in a safe and secure environment.

MCHC is providing this program in cooperation and agreement with the Government of Alberta Ministry of Human Services. The program participates in the Crime Free Multi Housing Program partnership, run by the Edmonton Police Service.

The FRP provides families with a wide range of support services including:

- 24-hour support to families as required;
- Parenting skills development;
- Employment and educational planning; and
- A mentorship program to build self-esteem, confidence, and role models for children and youth.

The Nighi Seniors Lodge is a 40-unit fully-serviced, assisted living facility in north-central Edmonton. Meals, laundry and cleaning are provided to its residents. The suites are rented out at the following monthly rates:

- \$1240.00 private bathroom
- \$1190.00 shared bathroom
- \$1140.00 smaller suite with a shared bathroom

The Boyle Renaissance Tower is a 90 unit residential building that offers affordable housing to individuals who are 50 plus on fixed to moderate incomes including individuals with disabilities. Last year we were successful in working with the City of Edmonton to obtain a property tax exemption. This exemption has resulted in annual savings of just over \$150,000. The main floor of the Boyle Renaissance has 10,000 sq. feet of commercial space and we are proud to report that we have now leased out some of this space for a Doctor Office and a Pharmacy. There was a delay in our ability to rent this space out as the City of Edmonton had a caveat on the title that once MCHC leased this space there would have to be a \$500,000 payment to the City of Edmonton. This condition was agreed to by previous Board

Members and senior staff; however, we are proud to report that MCHC was able to persuade the City of Edmonton to remove this caveat.

As mentioned above, both MCHC and MUHC are wholly owned by the MNA. Its current Board of Directors is:

Region One Representative
Brenda Bourque-Stratichuk

Region Two Representative
Isabel Myshaniuk

Region Three Representative
Jeannette Hansen

Region Four Representative
Doreen Poitras-Hays

Region Five Representative
Geraldine Decoine

Region Six Representative
Benita Galandy

MNA Co-Minister of Housing and Homelessness
Cecil Bellrose

Interim Chairperson
Audrey Poitras

A key focus for the Board of Directors as it pertains to the operations of MCHC is the development of a long-term plan for the corporation. This plan is being developed by a committee of experts who have experience in the areas of law, finance, construction, business planning, land development, and real estate development. The Board expects to have the plan developed by the end fall 2017.

Another focus of the board will be working with both the Provincial and Federal governments on their commitments to increase affordable housing for Indigenous people. Provincially the government of Alberta has announced \$1.2 Billion dollars over 5 years to implement its Affordable Housing Strategy. In addition to this Alberta has committed \$120 million over 5 years specifically for off-reserve Indigenous specific housing. Federally, Canada has committed to \$11.2 Billion over the next 11 years

to support affordable housing. In addition, Canada has committed \$225 million over the next five years specifically for urban Indigenous affordable housing.

The Board of Directors is excited for the opportunities before the corporation and look forward to being able to provide more affordable housing to our people in the future.



Louis Riel Statue – Winnipeg, MB

Ministry of Métis Rights and Accommodation



Karen Collins

Co-Minister of Métis Rights and Accommodation



Bev New

Co-Minister of Métis Rights and Accommodation

Métis Rights and Accommodation Portfolio

The Ministry of Métis Rights and Accommodation portfolio is supported by the Department of Sustainable Development and Industry Relations. There are four business divisions within the department:

1. Policy and Engagement;
2. Sustainable Development and Regulatory;
3. Industry Relations and Business Development; and
4. Climate Change.

This report contains the combined works of the Portfolio for the fiscal 2016-2017 year, which includes the federal exploratory discussions on Métis Rights, Métis consultation, Métis harvesting, economic development, energy and the environment as well as government and industry relations.

Exploratory Discussions

These are exciting times for the Métis Nation. After decades of lobbying and litigation, the federal government has begun discussions with the MNA aimed at determining, recognizing, and respecting Métis rights in the province. Since the mid-1970s, Canada has implemented two policies to address outstanding Aboriginal claims. The specific claims policy deals with Canada's failures to discharge specific legal obligations owed to First Nations, such as broken treaty promises or breaches of obligations under the Indian Act. The comprehensive claims policy deals with First Nations' claims to Aboriginal rights and title and sets out the process for negotiating modern-day treaties. The federal government, however, has long refused to negotiate claims with Métis living south of the 60th parallel. This year that changed.

On January 30, 2017, Canada and the MNA signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Advancing Reconciliation “MOU”. The MOU consolidated the Métis Nation’s recent legal and political victories. In April 2016, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed in the Daniels Decision that the federal government has jurisdiction over and is responsible for Métis issues. In July 2016, Tom Isaac, Canada’s Ministerial Special Representative on Métis s. 35 Rights, recommended that Canada adopt a policy that expressly addresses Métis s. 35 rights claims and related issues based on the legal principles of reconciliation and the honour of the Crown. The MOU represents a promising first step in Canada’s response to these developments.

On April 13, 2017, Canada and the Métis Nation as represented by the Métis National Council and its Governing Members, including the MNA, concluded the Canada-Métis Nation Accord “Accord.” The Accord confirms that it is the Governing Members, including the MNA, that are authorized to represent the citizens of the Métis Nation in dealing with collectively-held Métis rights, interests, and outstanding claims against the Crown. This is a significant responsibility, and the MNA takes it very seriously. The MOU was an important milestone for the MNA in its efforts to advance Métis rights, interests, and claims in the province of Alberta.

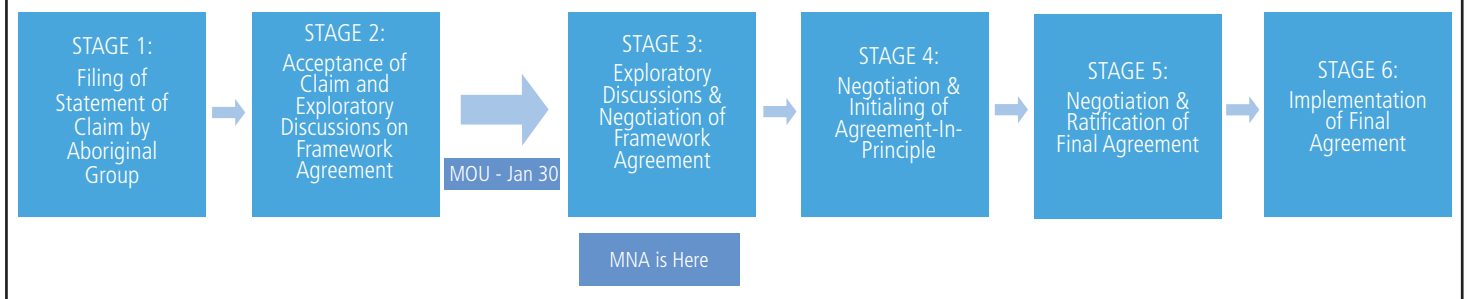
The MOU establishes bi-lateral exploratory discussions between Canada and the MNA with the objective of developing a mutually-acceptable

Framework Agreement to serve as the basis for negotiations to advance reconciliation with Métis in Alberta. This officially puts the MNA on the path towards negotiating a constitutionally protected agreement or agreements to determine and recognize Métis rights in Alberta. Typically, Canada negotiates Aboriginal claims following a six-step process. The conclusion of the MOU put the MNA at the third step—negotiation of a framework agreement.

Exploratory discussions have progressed well, and the MNA is optimistic that a framework agreement will be concluded soon. Based on the framework agreement, Canada and the MNA will undertake rights-based negotiations on Métis self-government, Métis rights-recognition and consultation, access to federal lands, and outstanding Métis claims, including those related to the failings of the federal Métis scrip system. Negotiations will also address the inequities Métis children, families, and communities face because of discriminatory and colonial federal policies.

As negotiations get underway, we will be undertaking province-wide consultations with the MNA’s membership. We want to hear from all our members on key issues so that the views and concerns of our membership will guide the negotiations. Rather than being stuck with a top-down national agenda, these negotiations will allow us to craft a made-in-Alberta approach that reflects the Métis Nation of Alberta’s vision of self-determination.

Negotiating a Modern-Day Treaty: The Federal Government’s 6-Stage Process





Signing of Memorandum of Understanding on Advancing Reconciliation – January 30, 2017

Policy and Engagement – Associate Director Tyler Fetch

Federal Consultation

The Policy and Engagement team has been hard at work over the last year at the Métis Nation of Alberta. At the federal level, the team began the process to set up an MNA Centre of Consultation Excellence. The Centre will support MNA consultation activities throughout the province where requested as well as begin the process of generating a province-wide Métis land use database. The database work is ongoing but we hope that we will be able to develop a comprehensive map of the traditional and contemporary Métis land use areas in the province. This work will in turn support Métis engagement with industry and government in a more efficient way. To begin this process, a Consultation Resource Liaison has been hired and has begun the work of creating this database. We look forward to seeing the center grow and thrive in the next year.

The database being collected by the Consultation Resource Liaison is being aided through the

acquisition of consultation support software known as Indigenous Resource Management (IRM). IRM is a consultation management software program designed for use with the Provincial Aboriginal Consultation process. As there is no current consultation policy for the MNA, we have been working to adapt and update the software to suit our current needs. As such, the software is already being used to manage unit projects and track consultation or engagement activities timeline. In the next year, we plan to have major updates completed and to be fully utilizing the program. We also hope to expand its use as the Regional Consultation protocols are operationalized.

The team will also continue to engage with the Regions and Locals to provide support where required, including the sharing of information with Federal officials. This year, we presented to a table of federal officials on the Métis Rights assertions in Alberta and the MNA consultation processes. The meeting provided clarity on the processes for consultation with Alberta Métis, as well as an overview of the way in which we are moving forward in consultation.

The presentation also provided us an opportunity to clarify to the Federal Government on the expectations of the MNA to ensure that the representative voices of 35,000 individuals are heard.



ML 2017 Members on the Land (TLU Study)

Provincial Consultation- Regional Consultation Protocols

All of the work being done in assembling software and resource centre development is to be prepared when we begin implementing the Regional Consultation Protocols. These protocols are mentioned in both the MNA 2009 *Policy Guidelines Regarding The Duty to Consult and Accommodate Métis Aboriginal Rights and Interests in Alberta* and the 2016 Statement of Principles on Crown Consultation and Accommodation as steps to be taken in establishing consensus for the duty to consult process internally. Internally we are in the process of engaging with our Regions and Locals as we look to signing off the Regional Protocols and envision having them completed during this fiscal year.

Externally, SDIR will continue to support the MNA Métis Consultation Negotiation Team in its negotiations with Alberta on Métis consultation policy.

Harvesting

As many know, the current Government of Alberta Harvesting Policy was adopted unilaterally without the consultation of Métis community members by the Government of Alberta in 2007. This policy superseded the Interim Métis Harvesting

Agreement that the MNA mutually negotiated with the Provincial Government. As it stands today, the MNA does not support the existing policy.

In January 2017, the MNA and the Government of Alberta began discussions to revisit the current Alberta Métis Harvesting Policy. Work has been ongoing and we will continue to address the needs and concerns of our community members, with hopes to see an edited and acceptable policy by the spring of 2018.

In order to ensure the success of this engagement, the department hired a Métis Harvesting Liaison this past April to support the growing volume of harvester inquiries. The newly acquired Harvesting Liaison will also ensure that the MNA is prepared for the anticipated implementation and operationalizing of the new revised policy.

Since the 2016 AGA, there have been 215 individual harvester inquiries with nearly 40% of those inquiries coming within the last few months since the beginning of spring. Most of our inquiries are regarding the outcome of Daniels Decision in the Supreme Court. The media coverage has been fairly misleading or incomplete, so our people have been left with the understanding that we have the same exact harvesting rights as First Nations. This is not the case, unfortunately, but we are in discussions to address this gap via the harvesting discussions with Alberta.

With all this coming down the pipeline in 2017, it is without a doubt that the Policy and Engagement team will continue to be active in harvesting engagements. We will continue negotiations and discussions with the Provincial Government, and ensure that a fair and mutual agreement will be adopted. The next step for the Harvesting Team will be to identify historic and contemporary harvesting areas as well as historic Alberta Métis communities.

Furthermore, in order to collect opinions, feedback, and suggestions from MNA members, we will be looking to host a series of Métis Harvesting Forums across the province to ensure we are well-equipped in discussions with the Government of Alberta.

Our goal is to fully identify the needs and priorities of Alberta's Métis harvesters so that we are able to safeguard Métis traditions and needs within the revised policy.



Harvesting Prairie Chickens

Sustainable Development and Regulatory Unit – Associate Director Jocelyn Gosselin

The environment and industry development are important issues faced by the MNA. The Sustainable Development and Regulatory (SD&R) Unit focuses on:

- Technical reviews on consultation opportunities throughout the province of Alberta;
- Impact reviews on projects for Métis rights and environmental concerns;
- Providing technical support to Métis leadership to assist in informing their engagement activities;
- Assisting in operationalizing action items from engagement processes; and
- Capacity for Métis participation in industry regulatory processes during proponent permitting throughout Alberta.

Project-Specific Technical Reviews

Since SD&R's inception in March 2017, it has conducted a total of 46 proposed development reviews. These reviews included meetings with eight different proponents to further discuss the impacts and opportunities on several projects.

In addition, it enabled us to gain the capacity funding required to facilitate traditional knowledge and future land use opportunities from three industry advocates.

Moreover, the SD&R team negotiated field visits for eight projects in order to provide feedback and concerns on behalf of the Métis community. From these visits, two Traditional Land Use (TLU) reports were completed, and SD&R is currently in the process of drafting two more. In addition, 18 geo-positional data files have been obtained for project paths and footprints to be utilized in SDIR's iRM software.

Policy Technical Reviews

Policy technical reviews are the analysis of high-level political strategies, and the MNA has utilized our relationships with respective level of governments to ensure that our needs are met.

This year, a letter of intent to participate was submitted for the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) power generation distribution review. Upon our analysis, it was determined that the application was very industry-dominated, which led to a decision to withdraw our participation. It was concluded that we would re-enter the review once recommendations occurred to ensure that Métis considerations are met.

In addition, SD&R has initiated an MNA review of the Government of Alberta's Land-use Framework and Caribou Range Plans with the intention of determining whether Métis were adequately engaged, if cultural gaps exist, and to provide recommendations to be utilized in planning the next steps for Métis engagement. These policies consisting of seven Land Use Frameworks and 15 Caribou Range Plans, are a high priority for the SD&R Unit because the areas in reference overlap amongst one another and we are determining ways to exploit them as management tools moving forward.

Having evaluated and assessed the policies, our initial impression was that significant Métis gaps do exist. It was determined that more engagement, both pre and post development, should take place

to ensure that Métis needs and concerns are heard. SD&R will continue to provide support to regional offices in order to facilitate participation in caribou policy drafting with Alberta Environment and Parks in hopes of coming to a mutual agreement to support the recovery of caribou through the development of community-based monitoring.

In addition to this, SD&R will provide any necessary technical support and voice for participants in multi-lateral discussions for policy development with different orders of government. Some of these existing engagements include oil sands monitoring leadership meetings with the Federal Government, Provincial Government, and other indigenous groups; as well as liability management review with the Government of Alberta and the Alberta Energy Regulator panel.

SD&R is also currently reviewing the Alberta Watershed Planning & Advisory Council's framework to determine current levels of Métis participation through ongoing discussion with leaders to determine the direction of MNA participation regarding water management.

Our goal to conclude the year is to submit positional reports and other deliverables to the Government of Alberta in order to provide feedback on behalf of our members. We hope to lay the foundation towards community-based monitoring to ensure Métis economic development and other grassroots initiatives. In order to achieve this, SD&R will continue to review development applications ensuring that Métis culture and rights are preserved and protected, and to leverage prosperous equity deals down the road. Ultimately, we will form a baseline of evidence or reference material that respective levels of government may tap into for Métis consideration.

Industry Relations & Business Development – Associate Director Candice Sawchuk

4th Annual Provincial Business Mixer

Each year, the Métis Nation of Alberta hosts the Annual Provincial Business Mixer as an opportunity for Métis community members across the province to network and engage together.

This year's 4th Annual Provincial Business Mixer was held on March 23rd, 2017 with tremendous success. Our Industry Relations (IR) unit was able to double the tradeshow in size this year, with over 40 businesses set up to share information on their services. The event saw hundreds of people come through the Ramada Hotel & Conference Centre in Edmonton looking to learn more about Métis businesses and entrepreneurship, as well as opportunities to meet with industry and government to learn more about their upcoming projects.

New to this year's event, the SDIR team expanded the program for the Mixer to include a morning business seminar related to Climate Change & Economic Development. The seminar was well received by our members, with information being shared on the value of energy efficiency assessments for businesses and ways to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources in today's new economy and environment.

The day concluded with the annual Dinner & Awards Banquet, where the MNA was honored to present six business-people from across the province with awards to acknowledge their business achievements. Some notable categories included Eco-preneur of the Year, Métis Woman Leader of the Year, and Métis Business of the Year. In addition, the MNA was also pleased to recognize the service of Bob Phillips, Community & Industry Liaison, who will be retiring from the MNA this summer. Thank you again for your service, Bob!



Dinner Banquet

Métis Contractor Database

The contractor database is being developed in partnership with TransCanada. This database will:

- Work as a tool to connect Métis businesses with industry procurement opportunities and allow Métis Entrepreneurs to build business relationships within their communities and across the province;
- Ensure industry has access to qualified Métis businesses and/or the ability to contract Métis companies for project work on a basis that reflects the Métis population in communities where the economic project activity takes place; and
- Provide industry with a comprehensive database of Métis businesses that are currently in operation throughout the Province of Alberta. The list provides businesses that are verified to be majority owned by Métis peoples / who are members of the MNA.

The database was initially announced at the 2017 MNA Provincial Business Mixer through a presentation that demonstrated to businesses how the app will function and what kinds of information will be required to register for the service.

The second half of 2017 will keep the Industry Relations team busy as they gear up to roll the database out to Métis membership for registrations in Q3 of 2017, before rolling it out to a wider audience of industry subscribers in Q4 of 2017.

SDIR Website

The SDIR Department understands the need to improve communication with the MNA Regions and Locals, as well as the importance of stronger communication with our membership in their respective communities. Therefore, the team is developing additions to our existing webpage to include more comprehensive information in regards to the following:

- SDIR Department Information & Staff Contacts
- SDIR Initiatives
- Link to the Métis Contractor Database, for registration abilities

- Resource Page
- SDIR Calendar of Events – which will include information on upcoming workshops, focus groups, and events available throughout the Province
- Links to SDIR online focus groups and workshop surveys
- Regularly updated information on the development of Métis Crossing

Métis Nation of Alberta Equity Partnerships

The MNA was successful in obtaining Métis Economic Development Strategy (MEDS) funding in 2016/17. The MNA and Apeetogosan will split a total of \$4.7-million over the next five years. The MNA will use their allocation to invest in major projects leading to future operating cash flows. Additionally, Apeetogosan will be using their allocation to support and fund Métis entrepreneurs and businesses.

The MNA's major projects research is underway, and further updates to this potential partnership will be available on the SDIR webpage as they become available.

Métis Crossing

The MNA successfully received Federal funding to proceed with the planning and execution of Phase two of the Métis Crossing Development Project. To ensure the success of the project, the IR team will assist in implementation of the new phase.

Phase two of the project will include:

- Conference/Assembly Hall
- Site Management Offices & Storage
- Upgraded Restroom Facilities
- Eco-Cabins/Camping Facilities
- Picnic Shelters
- Permanent Dock & Observation Platforms
- Band Shell/Performance Stage
- Playground
- Cultural & Medicine Gardens
- Additional Parking

- Additional Trail Development
- Bison Paddock
- Demonstration Farming

Work is underway on the preliminary concept design and an engineering firm will soon be selected. Construction for Phase two of the project is anticipated to begin in 2018 and will be fully executed in 2019.

Further to this project, IR continues work on conducting research on potential programming opportunities for the site, including tourism packages and educational programs directed at teachers and school districts as the Métis Crossing site will be a unique and memorable gathering place not only for the Métis but for anyone who seeks to gain knowledge about the Métis and our culture.



Métis Crossing

Strategic Planning

As part of their long term planning, the SDIR Team embarked upon a strategic planning session with representative elected officials.

The objective of the meetings included:

- Create collective awareness and understanding of the function of the SDIR Unit;
- Identify priorities for each of the service areas and ensure that the priorities align with MNA's Mission and Vision;
- Establish a process for communicating the progress of the work of the Unit with internal staff, elected officials and the community at large; and
- Use the input to develop a comprehensive strategy plan for the SDIR unit.

The SDIR team continues work on operationalizing the strategic plan, which will focus the direction of the department for the next three years.

Five and 10 Year MNA Economic Development Plans

Industry Relations continues work on the development of five and 10-year plans for long term economic development strategies for the Métis Nation of Alberta. These plans will identify and outline sustainable economic development strategies for the MNA, which will ultimately allow the MNA to be financially independent as an Indigenous government.

Métis 101 for Industry

The Industry Relations Team has begun work on developing a “Métis 101” style orientation, with a focus on delivering this presentation to industry and government partners.

MNA Emergency Response Planning

The Industry Relations Team has begun work on an emergency response policy for the Métis Nation of Alberta, following a resolution passed at the 2016 Métis Nation of Alberta Annual General Assembly. Research is currently underway to determine best practices and identify current regulatory mechanisms that exist for Métis inclusion into government emergency planning. We can then begin to design an emergency response mechanism that provides for how emergencies will be addressed throughout the province, including procedures for specific subject matters like tornados and floods.

SDIR Electronic Filing

The Industry Relations team completed an operational efficiency review of the SDIR electronic filing system, as well as the related hard copy filing

system. Following this review, it was determined that there were gaps in regards to consistent practices on how documentation was being named, filed and archived. The Industry Relations Team put forward a recommendation for a full overhaul of the SDIR filing system, both electronic and hard, which was completed in April 2017. Additionally, procedures were put in place in regards to file naming, filing and archiving practices for the department, which have addressed all operational gaps.

Climate Change Report – Leader Andres Filella

Climate Change – What is it?

What exactly is climate change and why should we care? Over the course of earth's history, variations in weather conditions have existed due to natural causes; however, scientists are beginning to see an abrupt and significant overall long-term shift in weather conditions identified through changes in temperature, precipitation, winds, and other indicators. Examples of these ramifications include the frequent floods and fires that our province has recently experienced.

The main driver of climate change today is due to human activity, and is primarily a result of the burning of fossil fuels, leading to increased generation of carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide, and other greenhouse gas emissions, lead to a phenomenon known as the Greenhouse Effect in which the heat from the sun's radiation is trapped by these gases in the atmosphere, ultimately impacting the earth.

So why should we care? Unfortunately, climate change impacts all living beings on earth in numerous ways – including the Métis and our way of life. Our traditional Métis way of life will inevitably be impacted. Thus, we must take action and support climate change initiatives in this cause.

Government of Canada Plan: Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change

Canada is facing a new reality a reality consisting of wildfires, droughts, floods, and rising temperatures as a result of climate change. In order to combat this, the Federal Government of Canada adopted the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change in December of 2016, one



Climate Change

year after it signed the Paris Agreement. The goals of this plan are clear it aims to grow the Canadian economy while reducing emissions and adapting to a changing climate. The plan consists of four main pillars in order to succeed: pricing carbon pollution, providing complimentary climate actions, building resilience by adapting to climate change, and taking actions to accelerate energy innovation. Pricing carbon pollution is the central component



First Ministers' Meeting

to this Framework because it drives the reduction of emissions and encourages innovation towards a low-carbon future. The Federal Government has announced a national benchmark price on carbon pollution; however, each jurisdiction has sovereignty in implementing their own carbon pricing system.

The Government of Canada will further reduce emissions through complimentary climate actions such as developing energy efficient building codes, tightening requirements on vehicle emissions standards, and investing in clean electricity powered by the sun, wind, and rivers.

Canada will also develop infrastructure in order to adapt and build resilience against the impacts of climate change. The Government of Canada will work with provinces and territories to strengthen their communities, ensuring that they are adequately prepared for any natural disasters, so that they may thrive in changing climates.

Lastly, the framework ensures that Canada will support research and development in innovative technologies that will lead to cleaner sources of energy, creating more jobs, and ensuring Canada positions itself as a global leader in this initiative.

It is important to note that the Federal Government will continue to recognize, respect, and protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples when taking actions under these pillars.

Government of Alberta Plan: Alberta Climate Leadership Plan

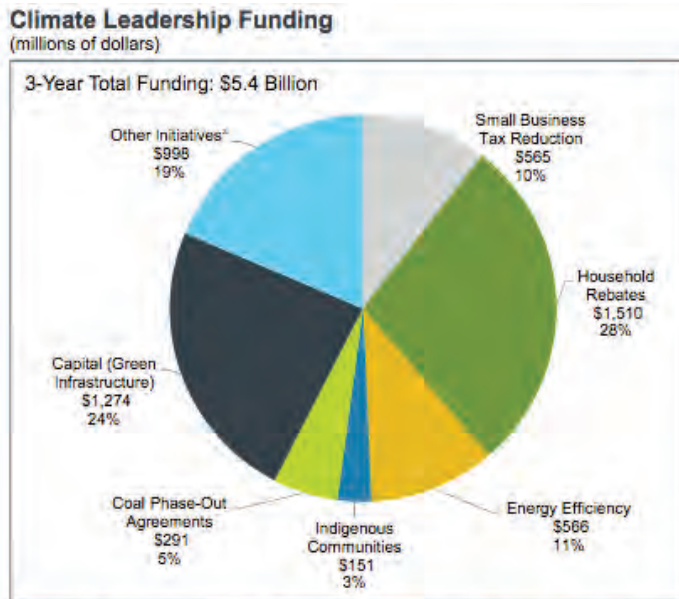
On November 22, 2015, Alberta Premier Rachel Notley, announced the *Alberta Climate Leadership Plan* leading up to the Climate Change Summit COP 21 in Paris. The plan outlines Alberta's commitment to take action on climate change while protecting the environment and promoting economic growth, utilizing an Alberta-first strategy designed for our own unique economy. In doing so, Alberta will be able to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, establish Alberta as a leader of the environment, support the wellbeing of all Albertans, and provide adaptation support to assist Alberta's communities transition to a healthier, greener lifestyle.

The plan consists of five key aspects:

1. A province-wide price on carbon and carbon rebates
2. Phasing out coal-generated electricity by 2030
3. Developing renewable energy
4. Reducing methane emissions 45% by 2025
5. Capping oil sands emissions at 100 megatons per year

Over the next three years, revenue from the Climate Leadership Plan is expected to raise \$5.4-billion. All of this revenue will be reinvested into Alberta's economy in order to help Albertans save energy, adjust to the carbon levy, and to transition Alberta into a more diversified economy.

A breakdown of the Climate Leadership funding over the next three years, as outlined in Alberta's 2017-2010 Fiscal Plan, is as follows:



* Revenue recycling into bioenergy, renewable energy, innovation and technology, coal community transition and other Climate Leadership Plan implementation initiatives.

Source: 2017-2020 Fiscal Plan –
Alberta Treasury Board and Finance

Indigenous Climate Leadership Initiative

Indigenous engagement and participation has been recognized as a cornerstone and objective of the Alberta Climate Leadership Plan. As part of the 2017 Alberta Budget, \$151-million has been budgeted to assist indigenous communities in Alberta. The MNA, as well as other indigenous organizations, are actively engaged with the Government of Alberta to ensure that Métis interest and concerns regarding climate change are heard and addressed. In addition, the MNA, the representative voice of over 35,000 Métis members in Alberta, communicates to the Government of Alberta, at a technical level, what programs and initiatives would increase Métis involvement and awareness of climate change and related initiatives, building capacity and economic opportunities for Métis citizens. These discussions take place with representatives from the Government of Alberta, Indigenous Relations through monthly CEO/ADM Table meetings, as well as four separate Technical Working Groups (TWGs):

- Governance
- Community Investment
- Economic Development
- Capacity Building, Education, and Planning

These engagements have already highlighted to the Government of Alberta both positive and negative feedback, as well as opportunities and barriers our community members are facing when trying to participate in and benefit from climate change actions and initiatives. In addition, technical advice is provided on solutions to increase participation, including supplemental programs and initiatives to ensure existing ones are more effective, as well as new initiatives and programs.



Indigenous Climate Leadership Initiative

Métis Nation of Alberta Climate Change Action Plan

The Métis Nation of Alberta has taken action on climate change through the MNA Climate Change Action Plan (MNA CCAP).

We have heard interest from our members that they would like to learn more about climate change, renewable energies, and become more informed about provincial and federal initiatives related to climate change. As a result, the MNA sought to engage with members through MNA Climate Change Community Engagement Workshops throughout Alberta to educate our members and help them access benefits through climate change related programs and initiatives.

*Focus Groups*

In preparation for the workshops, five regional focus groups were conducted throughout the province in February 2017, with the purpose of collecting opinions, feedback, and suggestions from MNA members on what information they thought would be valuable and/or interesting to be presented during the workshops. A total of 34 MNA members participated in these focus groups, and determined the following main areas of interest:

1. Need for ongoing discussions with community members;
2. Jobs, training, and business opportunities, including renewables;
3. Energy literacy and energy efficiency opportunities, and
4. The science and data behind climate change, the Alberta Climate Leadership Plan, and available programs.

These four subject areas helped the MNA shape the foundation of the workshop content, structure, and programming.

Having gathered feedback from our members during the focus groups, we worked diligently to shape a Climate Change Workshop program that would provide the greatest benefit and opportunities for our members. Thus, beginning April 2017, we completed a series of 18 Climate Change Workshops throughout each of the six regions.

Our workshops had three objectives:

1. To educate Métis community members on climate change and mitigation efforts globally, federally, and provincially;
2. To inform Métis community members on how climate change may affect their lives, including how to participate in government-sponsored initiatives (i.e. how to obtain carbon rebates, and/or how to benefit from energy efficiency programs); and
3. To gather input from Métis community members to inform government policy and program development and to ensure that Métis interests and concerns are heard.

The table below outlines the location and dates of the workshops:

Location	Date
Edmonton	April 19
Stony Plain	April 20
Edson	May 27
Calgary	May 02
Lethbridge	May 03
Medicine Hat	May 04
Lloydminster	May 16
Cold Lake	May 17
St. Paul	May 18
Wabasca-Demarais	June 06
Slave Lake	June 07
High Prairie	June 08
Athabasca	June 27
Fort McMurray	June 28
Lac La Biche	June 29
Valleyview	May 30
Peace River	May 31
Grand Prairie	June 01

*Workshops**Table Discussions*

Our program had been arranged into four distinct presentations, based upon the topics of interest that we heard from our members:

Climate Change – Challenges and Opportunities

- This presentation covered the basic concepts of climate change, the global and local impacts, and responses from different jurisdictions around the world. This included the actions currently being taken by the MNA

The Alberta Climate Leadership Plan and Available Programs

- This presentation provided a brief overview of the Alberta Climate Leadership Plan and available programs that households, businesses, and/or organizations may benefit from

Renewable Energy, Solar Energy 101, and Jobs and Training

- This presentation provided a brief overview of the pros and cons of renewable energy sources, including the detailed exploration of solar energy. Jobs and training resources were also highlighted

Energy Efficiency and Self-Sufficiency in the House

- This presentation provided examples of what individuals are able to do to reduce their energy use, and detailed what cost savings to expect from them

Finally, to conclude our program, we engaged in facilitated table discussions in order to listen to, and take note of, the interests, concerns, and feedback from our members on a broad number of topics related to the program content including climate change as it relates to Métis life and culture; initiatives and programs related to climate change; jobs and economic opportunities; and, finally, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

These table discussions allowed us to gather a wealth of valuable and useful ideas, observations, and concerns from our Métis communities.

We Have Been Listening – So, What Have we Heard?

“We need our youth to be educated.”

One day, the unpredictable impacts of climate change will be left upon the shoulders our youth and future generations. Our members have expressed a strong need for more youth education and awareness on climate change, energy efficiency, and renewable energy in schools and in their communities, in order to ensure that our youth are knowledgeable and aware in regards to climate change and energy efficiency initiatives. Our members would also like to see more elder engagement with our youth to further teach them about traditional Métis practices and to ensure the preservation of Métis culture for generations to come.

“I want to see more support for Métis businesses.”

Our members have expressed the desire to see more support for Métis business and entrepreneurship in Alberta to enable them to be more competitive, and provide them with a head start, in the up and coming renewable energy industry.

“I am interested in renewable energy, but the capital costs of investment are too high for my family.”

Energy efficient products and renewable energy systems can provide considerable benefits for our members and their communities; however, they often require large capital investments that are burdensome for many of our members. Therefore, our members have expressed the desire to see financing programs, and large-scale renewable energy community projects that would provide communal benefits without breaking the bank.

“We need more training and job opportunities for the Métis”

The growing demand for renewable energy is opening up the doors for more job and training opportunities in Alberta and throughout Canada.

Our members have voiced the need for more funding, training opportunities, and job placements for our youth and Métis communities. They have expressed interest in transitional programs to help individuals utilize their existing skillsets for a career in the renewables industry, as well as additional funding support for studying opportunities in renewable technologies – such as through Rupertsland Institute. Finally, they would like to see Métis individuals play a leading role in the development, installation, and maintenance of renewable energy projects throughout Alberta’s Métis communities in the future.

“I am not aware of government programs and initiatives related to climate change as they become available or what benefits they offer.”

Our members have identified that one of the largest barriers preventing them from accessing the benefits in the climate change programs and initiatives has been a general lack of awareness and understanding of the benefits they offer. They would like to see more outreach and more engagement in their communities.

“There is a difference between the needs of urban Métis and rural Métis.”

The direct and indirect impacts of climate change and the ability for individuals to access the tools and resources that can allow them to benefit from climate change related programs and initiatives could be significantly affected by geography. Our members have expressed a need for existing and future programs and initiatives to take into account the different needs, interests, and challenges faced by both urban and rural Métis communities in allowing them to fully participate and benefit.

“We need more support for our seniors. I want to see senior-specific programs to assist them in leading more energy efficient lifestyles.”

Our senior population faces unique challenges in transitioning to greener lifestyles. Making our households energy efficient is cost intensive, and the paybacks from renewable energies – namely solar – often take extensive time periods. Without

consistent and regular income, many seniors do not have the ability to make large capital investments in their homes and have expressed concern that the costs far outweigh the ability to reap the full benefits. Our members want to see senior-specific programs that can provide them financial support.

Final Report

A final report on workshop engagements, collected feedback and findings, will be completed and delivered to the Government of Alberta by September 30, 2017, as a required outcome deliverable. The report will identify the needs and priorities for Alberta's Métis communities, and Métis program recommendations to fulfill these needs.



*Region 6 Climate Change Workshop
Peace River, AB*

Assessment: Building Energy Efficiency Initiative

The MNA recognizes the need to take action on climate change at an institutional level. The MNA is currently working on conducting energy efficiency assessments of all office buildings it and its affiliates own and operate (twelve buildings around the province of Alberta) through its proposed MNA Building Energy Efficiency Initiative. Energy efficiency is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Through more efficient electricity and heating, the MNA will reduce the amount of coal and natural gas being burned to meet its energy demands.

Energy efficiency in buildings can be achieved with a variety of energy conservation measures (ECMs). For example, energy-efficient LED lights, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems may be installed; in addition to the smart-programming of lights and temperature controls; upgrading building insulation; and improving building operating procedures. Studies have shown that, on average, it costs up to three times less to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency than through renewable energy. This initiative will allow the MNA to tackle climate change contributions through its institutional operations in a smart, cost-effective way, while creating significant cost savings.

The MNA Energy Efficiency Initiative aims to:

- Quantify the energy use at all MNA, and MNA affiliate, owned and operated office buildings
- Identify energy conservation measures (ECMs) in its buildings by conducting industry standard ASHRAE Level 2 Energy Efficiency Audits on its buildings
- Develop a plan to implement the ECMs, and reduce energy use and related greenhouse gas emissions
- Provide an energy baseline to use for becoming energy carbon-neutral in the future

The MNA strives to become an energy self-sufficient organization in the future. Identifying how much energy the MNA uses is the first step towards setting energy conservation and renewable energy production goals in the months and years to come. By being aware of the energy we use, conserving this valuable resource, and producing energy from renewable resources the MNA seeks to lead by example as a sustainable organization combating climate change.

Métis Crossing

The Métis Nation has a rich history that is integral to the full understanding of the history of Alberta, the settlement of the West, and indeed to the growth of Canada as a whole. The Métis Crossing site aims to preserve and recognize the culture, history and contributions of the Métis people of

Canada. Its mission is to be the premiere center for Métis cultural interpretation, education, gatherings, and business development. Métis Crossing is a river lot (512-acre) property designed to engage and excite visitors and comprises of river lot titles from the original Métis settlers to this region.

The Métis Crossing Development Project will share the story of our evolving culture in a facility relevant to all Canadians. Regalia-clad interpreters will tell the story of life in this community during the latter part of the 19th century. Contemporary full service conference and meeting facilities will provide much needed amenities for a variety of organizations and groups, including future Annual General Assemblies. Eco-cabins and traditional medicine

gardens will speak to the sustainable lifestyles of yesterday and today. Sustainable demonstration projects will provide training opportunities alongside cultural learning components in order to build indigenous communities capacity, while ensuring a broad range of visitors and tourism potential. The Métis Crossing site will be a unique and memorable gathering place – not only for the Métis – but for anyone who seeks to gain knowledge about the Métis and our culture.



Métis Crossing

When completed, Métis Crossing will also offer:

- Métis Museum and Historic Village
- Restored homesteads with farm machinery display and garden
- Main meeting complex with a commercial kitchen to support rental functions
- Campgrounds, rental cabins, and a playground for campers
- Boat launch with dock on the North Saskatchewan River
- Amphitheater with tiered ground seating
- Central fire pit for ceremonies and gatherings
- Conference center equipped to host 700+ people
- Sustainable energy training and capacity building facilities

Themes within the experience will include:

- Arrival and life at the Victoria Settlement
- River lot settlement
- Fur trade activities
- Métis agricultural practices
- Victoria Trail
- Ferry crossing

Core to the development and operation of this facility, will be the values of the Métis community: respect of Elders, participation of youth, and pride in our culture. Also, as the Métis move forward to take action on climate change, Métis Crossing will be an example of our leadership in the environment and climate change. Métis Crossing may incorporate solar power in the form of a solar panel farm, making it energy self-sufficient. Other core values that the Métis Nation stands for are care for the environment, protecting the land, and self-sufficiency. Recognizing that renewable energy projects – such as solar power – strongly align with these core values, the Métis Nation of Alberta is excited to move forward with this clean energy project with the vision of a greener, more sustainable future.

Métis Nation of Alberta Provincial Office – Delia Gray Building

The MNA is exploring the feasibility of replacing its Delia Gray Building Provincial Office in Edmonton. Core to the development of this ambitious project will be the incorporation of smart energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy measures, which will ensure that MNA operations are as green as they can be. With smart engineering and architectural design, the MNA strives to lead by example in a future where energy must be viewed as a valuable and precious resource to ensure a sustainable future for our Mother Earth.

Old Metis Keep Alive Custom of 200 Years

1940

As 2017 marks Canada's 150th anniversary, the Métis Nation celebrates 150+ years by looking back over its rich history of traditions. The article below, published January 3rd, 1940, in *Lebret, Saskatchewan*, speaks of how the Métis of Qu'Appelle Valley honoured the celebration of Le Jour de l'an (New Year's Day).

The writer recounts the festivities, distinguished guests in attendance, and the struggles of the time, providing a glimpse of a historical Métis tradition that remained a custom for over 200 years.

We continue to respect our community's history by sharing this story with you.

Lebret, Saskatchewan.

January 3rd, 1940

Old Métis buffalo hunters and their friends, gathered for the annual celebration of le jour de l'an, New Years day, and keep alive a custom among their ancestors of more than 200 years. The time honored menu of pemmican, la potine, les bollets and les bugnes croches, was featured, by the remnant of these fast disappearing pioneers, who roamed the prairies during the days when countless buffalo made it their habitat.

Grew First Wheat

The grand old lady, Mrs. Thomas Kavanaugh, 95 years old, who helped her husband grow the first wheat in the Qu'Appelle valley in 1875, took the place of honor at the head of the table. Next to her was Johnny Blondeau, 92, who in a vivid manner told of passing the winter at Wood Mountain in 1879 and seeing there, Sitting Bull. He also remembers seeing the Marquis of Lorne passing through Lebret 58 years ago.

Another guest was Mrs. Felcite Sansregret whose late husband, Mathias Sansregret, kept a stopping place in the early seventies halfway between Fort Qu'Appelle and the Touchwood Hills on the Qu'Appelle-Fort Carlton Trail. Many a traveler or freighter took refuge from the storms under the thatched roof of the Sansregrets. All were welcomed, from the lonely tramp to the aristocrats of the trading companies and high dignitaries of the Christian churches. Mr. Sansregret's services were also much in demand in those days as a horse doctor. Professional vets were practically unknown. Other guests were Mrs. Clem Peltier, 82, a granddaughter of Cuthbert Grant, governor of the

“The time honored menu of pemmican, la potine, les bollets and les bugnes croches, was featured, by the remnant of these fast disappearing pioneers, who roamed the prairies during the days when countless buffalo made it their habitat.”

Since the demise of Cuthbert St. Denis, 96; Zacharie Blondeau, 81, and Mrs. Joseph Racette, 103, the grim reaper has not visited the old valley colony.

North West Fur Company, who out-generalled the Hudson's Bay Company's army in the battle of Seven Oaks in 1816. Stanislaus Desjarlais, 74, whose brother, Michael Desjarlais, fought under Gabriel Dumont and was killed at the battle of Fish Creek in 1885. Others who attended were: Mrs. Joseph Delorme, 89; Pierre Pelletier, 86; Joseph Oulette, 88, son of Moise Oulette, councilor to Louis Riel in 1885; Mrs. J. B. Parisien, 86; Nelson Henry, 87; Mrs. Chrysostome Robillard, 87; Pierre Desjarlais, 82, Pierre Blondeau, 74, and Francis Demarais, 76.

Tanned Hides

Mrs. Kavanaugh recounted in detail how she tanned buffalo hides and provided her Irish better half with a pair of buffalo robes which was necessary in those days for a complete winter driving turnout. She also told how 60 years ago the buffalo inhabited the western plains of Canada and the United States in countless thousands, and how the

advance of civilization and the 'improvidence of white American hunters brought about one of the greatest slaughters in wild life history. She made the remark that owing to hard times, she was not able to buy the buffalo meat now for sale in the butcher shops.

“She also told how 60 years ago the buffalo inhabited the western plains of Canada and the United States in countless thousands, and how the advance of civilization and the 'improvidence of white American hunters brought about one of the greatest slaughters in wild life history.”

The old folks had an oldtime fiddler playing the “Red River Jig,” after which the eight hand reel was danced. The function officially began with a period of silence for the departed of the Métis and a prayer for the repose of their souls.



In a similar article published in The Lethbridge Herald around the same time, the writer notes

“There is perhaps, nowhere in Canada, any social function with a more genuine respect to the memory of forefathers, who have left a wonderful heritage to their children.”



Regional Reports



Region 1 – Lac La Biche

Tansi to all Members!

On behalf of the Region, I would like to send my condolences to all the families of the Elders who have passed on this past year, including Métis leader Gerald Thom, who served as President of the MNA between 1993-1996 and served two terms as Vice President of MNA Region 1. Once a year we have the opportunity to report on the Region's activities.

MNA Region 1 (MNA R1) encompasses the North East part of the Province, which includes Ft Chipewyan, Ft McKay, Ft McMurray, Conklin, Lac La Biche, Boyle, Athabasca, and the two Métis Settlements Buffalo Lake and Kikino.

Region Council Board of Directors

Athabasca Local 2010 - Ron Donald

Lac La Biche Local 2097 - Brenda Bourque Straticchuk

Ft McKay Local 63 - Ron Quintal

Ft McMurray Local 1935 - Gail Gallupe

Buffalo Lake Local 2002 - Joe Blyan

Lake Land Local 1909- Melina Scoville

Ft Chipewyan Local 125 - Fred Fraser

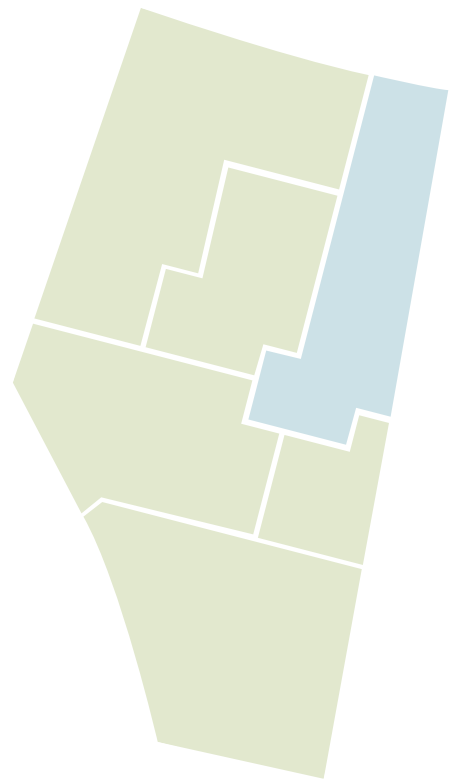
Owl River Local 1949 - Jack Quintal

Willow Lake Anzac Local 780 - Stella Lavallee (the new kid on our Council)

Regional Representation

- Northern Gateway – Community Advisory Board
- ALPAC
- Alberta Water Smart
- Community Futures
- Portage College- Business Administration Advisory Committee
- PAL Adult Learning
- FCSS to Seniors
- MUHC
- Métis Youth Council
- Health and Wellness

This year has been a busy one at the Regional level.



Diane Scoville
President, Region 1



Dan Cardinal
Vice President, Region 1

Regional Retreat and Workshops

Angelo Murphy from Alberta Government Culture and Tourism facilitated a two day workshop designed in the creation of a Policy and Procedures Manual for our Regional Board of Directors and staff. We have also updated our Regional Strategic Plan.

We have also been busy with workshops in regards to the Métis Consultation Policy process and working on a Regional protocol which will help build relationships with government and industry.

Building Industry Relations

We have been negotiating with Teck Resources on their Frontier Project, which is a proposed truck-and-shovel oil sands mine, located about 110 kilometers north of Fort McMurray, in the Athabasca oil sands region of northeastern Alberta.

The Frontier Project application was submitted to regulators in November 2011 and is moving through a joint provincial-federal regulatory review, which is expected to continue through 2017.

This project has been designed with a total capacity of approximately 260,000 barrels per day of bitumen. The first production phase is planned to have a production capacity of 170,000 barrels per day.

The Frontier Project will make use of best practices for sustainable and responsible development, including the latest technology for tailings treatment, seepage control, off-stream water storage capacity allowing water withdrawal from the Athabasca River to be stopped during low-flow periods, and a plan for progressive and full reclamation of the project site.

If approved, it is estimated that the Frontier Project will directly employ up to 7,000 workers during construction and up to 2,500 workers during operation.

Fort McKay Métis and Teck have signed a participation agreement for Teck's proposed Frontier oil sands project, located in the traditional territory of the Fort McKay Métis.

Fort Chipewyan Métis Local 125 and Teck have signed a participation agreement for our proposed Frontier oil sands project, located in the traditional territory of the Fort Chipewyan Métis.

The Region has also been filing other Statements of Concern with the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) on specific projects within the Region that impact our Traditional Rights as one of Canada's Aboriginal peoples.

Canada is also starting the process of meeting with Indigenous leaders and Métis communities in the Oil Sands regions and the oil sands monitoring on Climate Change.

Culture and Community Events

Every year, we are invited to community events. Vice President Daniel Cardinal and I have attended Fort McMurray Local 1935 celebration. Well this year they have out done themselves. We commend the organizers of the Local on making this event so memorable for all who have attended. The fish fry and fried LeBays were awesome. The band "Nicely Put Together" was great and had many performers and jiggers to help entertain the crowd of 1500 youth, elders and guests. This Métis Local has literally raised from the ashes of the Fort McMurray fires; they are a resilient strong Alberta community.





The Region participates in helping organize Lac La Biche's Annual Cultural Days. We hosted a talent show which was a huge success and invited the Métis Child and Family Dancers from St Albert to entertain. It is always our pleasure to promote such a talented young group who have a passion for our Métis Culture.



Métis Local 1949 Owl River Labour Union Program

MNA R1 sponsored 15 members of Métis Local 1949, from the ages ranging between 18 to 50 years, with the majority of 18 and 30 years old. This course ran for 4 weeks in total. The regional funding covered costs from accommodations, meals, travel, and baby-sitting expenses. All members were successful and each received 18 tickets in total from safety, WHMIS, Bear Aware,

H2s, and First Aid, just to name of few. The majority of them found work by becoming a union member and belonging to the Local 92 Labour Board Union

Métis Local 2010 Cultural Program

MNA R1 sponsored the teachings of traditional fiddling and jigging lessons to the youth and elders at the Multi-Plex in Athabasca. It was an introduction to the fiddle and what it means to the Métis people, including how to respect and take care of a fiddle, how to tune a fiddle, how to string a fiddle, and most of all, how to have fun. Basic fiddle lessons were taught to 12 members for 12 weeks.



Jigging lessons were taught by Bev Lambert, 26 members participated in this seven day event, and 23 were youth. Bev brought her many talents to the group with her positive, energetic, and humorous attitude. She was excellent and worked with every child on their own level that they understood.



Métis Nation Region 1 Trap Line Field Trip and Green House Project

MNA R1 sponsored Grade 7 students of Aurora School in Lac La Biche, on a field trip to Elder Walter Quinn’s trap line. The students learned how to set snares for small animals, and how to track animals and their behaviors. Walter talked about respecting the animals in their habitat. They also skinned and cooked rabbit over an open pit fire that Walter taught them to make. Later on that day Walter talked about the Métis culture and how to be proud of “WHO YOU ARE.”

I would like to thank Dianne Ludwig, the Kohkom at the Aurora Middle School in Lac La Biche, and Rob Wicker, who is the President. MNA R1 also participated in and donated funding for the school’s Green House Project, which will be highly appreciated by the community and students. This project will teach the students on how to grow and attend to the many chores of gardening. I look forward to working together in the future and helping the students enjoy their success at Aurora Middle School. I am grateful for the relationships that we have created at Aurora.



Métis Nation Region 1 Cree Language

MNA R1 has been offering Cree classes every Monday and Wednesday evening. This program started in February of 2016 and has been a huge success. The region has provided their board room as space for 20 plus students coming in to participate in the art of learning the Cree language. Vice President Daniel Cardinal teaches this class; he brings his many years of experience of speaking and writing the language. He also tells the stories “long ago- Kayas” and brings in many different Elders and their teachings of the language.



Scholarships and Graduations

Every year, the Region provides scholarships with the support from Deven Canada and Clean Harbors. This past year, we have awarded 13 Métis members with these scholarships to advance their education in a study of their choice. These scholarships are based on involvement, leadership, community service, or areas of interest. A scholarship provides students with means to continue their education and provides them motivation to succeed. One student explains what

the scholarship meant to them: “This scholarship means the hard work has really paid off, especially for my family who has supported me from the beginning. The scholarship, for me, is not the end but just the beginning.” We are very blessed to have such devoted sponsorship from our industry players that have contributed each year in the success of our members.

Graduation is a special time of year when students trade in their books for fancy dresses or suits and ties and prepare to start their careers. As one door closes, another one opens. Every year MNA R1 participates in grad ceremonies from Head Start to grade 12. Graduation is a tough road for parents; after many years of waking up their child, dressing them, tying their shoes, making their lunches, driving them to school, helping with the many hours of homework, and then it’s OVER, they are jobless. Congrats to all our Graduates of 2017. One quote to all the Grads “Now that you’ve graduated, just remember: Bosses don’t usually accept notes from your mother.” – Melanie White

MNA R1 is in the process of applying to the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission for possible gaming opportunities that will help with the many programs and services the Region provides to the members like the Seniors luncheons, Youth Cultural Camps, fiddling and jigging lessons just to name a few.

To conclude, this has been a very busy and exciting year with many meetings- regionally, provincially and nationally, and many celebrations.

I look forward to continuing to collaborate as we make Louis Riel’s vision a reality and continue accomplishing goals on behalf of the Region and our people.

Louis Riel – “You got to be brave and have courage, believe in yourself, because that is the first thing to success is believe in yourself.”

Merci, Ay-Ay, Thank you!

Diane Scoville
President, MNA Region 1

Daniel Cardinal
Vice President, MNA Region 1



Region 2 – Bonnyville

Greetings all!

It feels like a short time since we all met at Métis Crossing for our last AGM when Métis Nation of Alberta citizens gathered to receive information on the growth and progress of their government. Old friends hug, new friends meet, Nation business is discussed, talent is exhibited, jigging steps shared with pride, and youth participate in cultural activities while being exposed to the protocols of AGA business. This annual gathering of Métis since 1928 has anchored our government and provided direction to leadership for 89 years! We can all be thankful for our past leaders' contributions, the current direction the Métis Nation is moving, and the path being set for future leaders to take the Métis on.

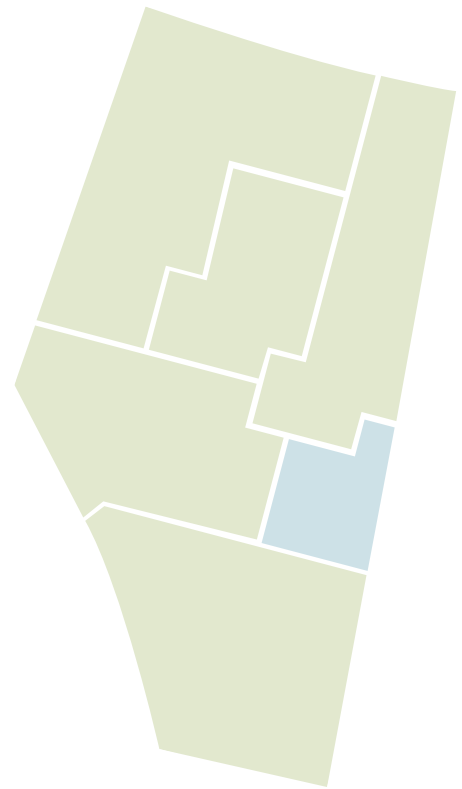
The work continues, however, and the government of the Métis Nation of Alberta continues to strengthen and find our place in Alberta and Canada! Many exciting directions have resulted in agreements and plans set forth by collaboration, cooperation, and common vision.

Within our Métis government structure, the roles of Regional Council's operations and Local Council activities are crucial for ensuring governance is collective, inclusive, and always ensure the rights and interests of Métis today and tomorrow.

Region 2 Regional Council, like our colleagues, have been busy with moving the Nation forward with cultural activities, business workshops and gatherings, representing Métis at various initiatives, and ongoing operations of the office duty.

Registry

The Registration and Identification of Métis citizens is always a steady flow. Family clusters, youth, and updates are a few to mention, as well as, assistance in genealogy research or tracking birth certificates, we try to help. There are three Commissioners for Oaths in our office and all are able to assist with filing the application. Linda Boudreau-Semaganis is our expert for downloading and ensuring head office Registrar receives the correct photographs! Thank you Linda!



Karen Collins
President, Region 2



Duane Zaraska
Vice President, Region 2



For years Region 2 Regional Council has had only the Local #100 (Bonnyville) whose members were very helpful in volunteering and assisting with regional activities. We are very happy to announce that the community of Cold Lake has gathered members and are in the process of getting their Local registered with both the Alberta government and the Métis Nation government. Welcome aboard and we look forward to working with the Métis citizens of the Cold Lake area.

Region 2 is once again hosting a post-secondary summer student through the Rupertsland Institute program. Thank you to Megan Claude who worked with us in 2016 and has since moved on to another job this summer. We welcome Kaya Soloway who is with us this summer and, as always, their assistance and smiling face is a welcome addition to the hectic summer month's activities and events.

Events and Community Recognition

We want to thank the many volunteers who gave their time to run the bingos, all to raise funds for the benefit of others. The funds raised are available for bereavement needs, medical-travel assistance, and cultural activities. The help running the bingos is very much appreciated, to lessen the financial burden of others.

For those who haven't heard...the Hole-in-One prize of \$25,000.00 was won last August 2016 in the Andy Collins Golf Tournament! Congratulations to Jordan Atkinson! The Métis Crossing team of Leon Hunter, Brandon Atkinson, Owen Collins and Jordan Atkinson were ecstatic! The cheering could be heard back at the clubhouse! The news travelled fast on the course and quickly made it onto social media! This was our 13th annual tournament and the first time we had a winner for the largest hole-in-one prize offered! A big thank you to Perry Collins who has sponsored the prize money for many years! The 2017 Andy Collins Golf Tournament will be hosted on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at the Grand Centre Golf and Country Club with shotgun at 10:00 am. Hope to see you there!



The tournament funds raised are disbursed as bursaries and in December 2016, three students received their bursary in time for their Christmas shopping to ease the financial stress of purchases and expenditures. Over the years, bursaries have been granted to Métis individuals who are now: registered nurses, a dentist, a lawyer, teachers, a red seal cabinet maker in carpentry, and someone in veterinarian studies!

The federal program, Seniors Horizon, provided funding, which allowed for a number of elder/senior gatherings, including workshops, dinners and events. Partnerships with various community agencies brought information and education pertinent to elders/seniors needs and focused for them. The Christmas celebration dinner was spent story-telling and getting portraits done for the Wall of Honor. The August Collins Building boardroom will dedicate a wall for portraits of our elders/seniors, thus, a Wall of Honor. It is near completion and will be a beautiful sight once it is completed.

We extend our gratitude to all of the citizens who have given their time and have respectfully represented Region 2 when requested for meetings, workshops, focus groups, mixers, and any other gathering we are invited to. The elders, youth, business/contractors and citizens are more than eager to participate and contribute their expertise when asked. There are many other



members who often drop by the office to get updates, check out the posters, or just come for coffee. We encourage members to forward their email and phone contact information so they too can receive all of the announcements, posters and notices that are distributed from the office.

Contributions were made toward the National Aboriginal Day celebration at Métis Crossing for the bouncy house for kids; elders travel to Lac Ste Anne; Métis businesses to the provincial Mixer; youth for the Youth and Seniors gathering and other community events requiring attendance.

Congratulations again to Paulette Dahlseide of Providence Dental Hygienist of Cold Lake for their recognition as Métis Women's Business of the Year for Region 2. Their mobile hygienist services are unique in our area to provide teeth cleaning for Aboriginal community schools and senior lodges and homes. Great job Paulette!

The Annual Boxing Day Family Talent Show was a success. Surrounding communities come out and support this 30+ year annual event by showcasing their talent, cheering for their family contestants, and enjoying a meal. Our thanks and gratitude go out to all of our proponent partners who generously contribute, and to community businesses and individuals who donated toward the many door prizes drawn throughout the day's event. OSUM graciously provided the donation that





paid for the meal for all in attendance. The house band “Rockin’ Fiddle Band” kept toes tapping, shy singers humming, and children hopping! Many folks won a 50/50 draw or took home a door prize! Thank you to Local #100 (Bonnyville) for providing the concession booth for munchies and sandwiches that held people over until the food was served. This could not have been a success without the time and energy of the volunteers, the judges, and all contestants...Thank you so much for help.

There are always interesting events that Métis are invited to participate in. A farmer near Viking found human bones in his field. Pertinent experts were called and discovered that the bones were of a young Aboriginal woman from the 1400s. As there is no way to ascertain which Aboriginal Nation the woman was from, representatives of Treaties 6 & 7 and Métis Region 2 were invited for a reburial ceremony followed by a feast. The appropriate Alberta government department,

the MLA and municipal leadership, along with neighboring farmers, were all part of the ceremony and feast. It was a great opportunity for the mixed crowd to collectively and respectfully acknowledge the customs and ceremony for a reburial.

Culture

A number of schools within the region invited Region 2 staff and leadership to do historic and cultural presentations for different grades. These invitations include schools in Cold Lake, Lloydminster, St. Paul, and Bonnyville. Then at school year end there are invitations to speak at graduation ceremonies, and congratulate students on their milestone accomplishments made as they find their way to the next steps of furthering their academic path, entering trades, or starting a new job! We extend “Congratulations” to all who have reached their goal of graduating in 2017! The Métis Nation continues to grow rich with educated, intelligent, and prosperous individuals...we are all proud of you!

We also attend many fun cultural events throughout the region. At times we attend as presenters, speakers, monetary contributors, visitors or sash wearing Métis! These include: National Aboriginal Day celebrations, Bonnyville Hospital Teepee raising ceremony, youth and elder gatherings, Métis Crossing events, Fort McMurray Métis Festival, Cold Lake Treaty Days, flag raising ceremony, student acknowledgment events, elders gatherings, Buffalo Release Program at Elk Island Park, Red River Cart ceremony at Victoria Settlement, Remembrance Day at Fishing Lake Métis Settlement, and, of course, attending golf tournaments!

Housing

In July 2016, Métis Urban Housing Corporation moved their Bonnyville office into the August Collins Building. It is now a one-stop service and program stop for citizens wanting information regarding the MNA affiliates Rupertsland Institute and MUHC. Welcome home MUHC!

Rights

The Region continues to be represented on the LICA (Lakeland Industry and Community Association) Board and subcommittees. Duane Zaraska was our representative until he stepped down and now our current representative is Randy Parenteau. Randy's background of environmental monitoring has allowed for him to participate and provide input in various meetings, whereas Region 2 must contribute to regulatory, environment, and project development initiatives.

Region 2 leadership and citizens have participated and contributed at numerous tables on a variety of issues. Just to name a few: National Energy Board Review, Canadian Environment Assessment Agency Review, Navigational Water Regulation, Caribou Study, Green Ribbon Project, Oil Sands Environmental Monitoring, Orphan wells discussion on Monitoring, Community Climate Change workshops, Indigenous Climate Change Leadership Initiative, Alberta Energy Regulatory survey, and local community agency meetings on various issues that affect members' lives, rights and interests.

MPG, the Region 2 Regional Council of the Métis Nation of Alberta-Major Projects Group Joint Venture (thus branded MPG) continues to grow with partnerships with companies, contractors, and Aboriginal communities that complement the necessary requirements for meeting were very busy meeting the deadlines of bids for various development projects including the Line 3 Replacement Project for Enbridge. We anxiously await the process prior to shovel in the ground. Our Exxon Mobile labor brokering contract is in year two and is moving along smoothly. There continues to be interest from companies to join the consortium and opportunities that arise in a wide range of economic and commercial areas. Thank you, Sean Mooney, for all of your energy, time and expertise that you extend toward our common vision in Nation building.

As with all Regions in the Métis Nation of Alberta government, there are serious responsibilities assigned to leadership for the portfolios and Ministries. To ensure Métis are heard, we must

remain vigilant of these important areas that affect the lives, rights, interests, and environment of the Métis peoples. We acknowledge and thank the leadership from sister Regions for representing the citizens in Region 2 in all aspects of their work at these tables. There are many instances that we are called away to meetings out of the regional offices and may not be immediately available for individual Métis who drop by. Your understanding and patience is appreciated.

In Conclusion

The Ministry reports within the Métis Nation of Alberta Annual Report will reflect the work performed throughout the year on behalf of all Métis citizens. Ministerial reports, therefore, will not be covered in this report. Duane Zaraska is Co-Minister of Seniors, Veterans and Culture, and Karen Collins is Co-Minister of Métis Rights and Accommodation. Enjoy the reports of all the Ministries and Affiliates to see what your Métis government is embarking on.

This concludes the brief overview of our activities. Enjoy the balance of your summer. Safe travels until next time. God Bless.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen (KC) Collins, President
Duane Zaraska, Vice President



Region 3 – Calgary

Developing Partnerships and Economic Growth

17th Annual Entrepreneurial Leadership Award

Entrepreneurial Leadership Award

Randy LaRocque – Alliance Daylighters, Strathmore, AB

Entrepreneurial Leadership Award

Melodie Creegan – Mosaic Communications, Calgary, AB

Youth Achievement Award

Holliston Logan

In Recognition of your success in the Corporate World

Ward Sutherland – Counsellor, Calgary, AB

In Recognition of your success and contribution to the Métis Business Community

Jason Sansregret – Watson Coulee Industries Ltd – Consort, AB

Kevin & Shawn Lilley – Elevation Safety Ltd. Airdrie, AB

Recognition of your Support and Service to the Métis Community

MCFS – Medicine Wheel Early Learning Centre

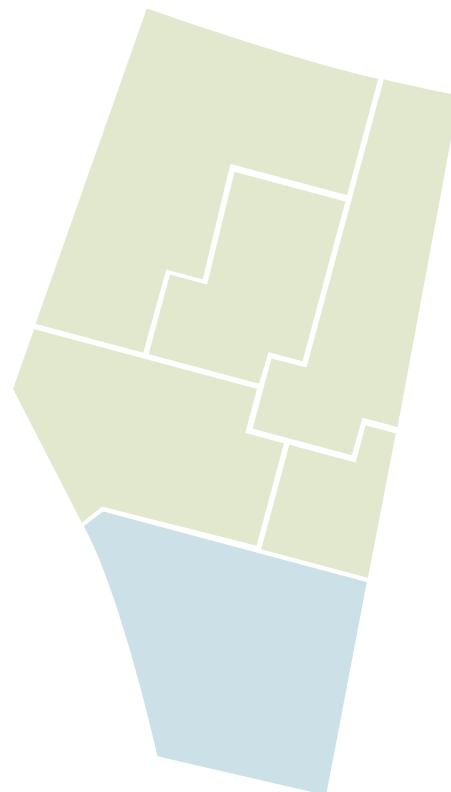
In recognition of your contribution and support to the Métis Community

Rupertland Institute

Community Partnership Award

Suzanne de Courville Nicol – Beau d’viliblité de Calgary (BVC)

The Awards were well attended with Minister Richard Feehan Keynote Address.



Marlene Lanz
President, Region 3



Lawrence Gervais
Vice President, Region 3

Mixers

The monthly Business and Professional Mixers are going well, with 30 - 60 people regularly in attendance. They are also helpful to our starting entrepreneurs as the events allow great opportunity to network with more experienced business people.

Youth

Empowering our Youth through Mentoring and Culture.

The Program changed this year we now just have the mentoring portion, as the program funding has been handed over to the Friendship Centre.

- The youth group have anywhere from 8 to 15 youth who attend mentoring meetings once a week. Thanks to the meetings, the youth have role models and resource people to speak with about career choices, what it takes to get into certain careers, and life skill workshops.
- The youth made their own Beaded Moccasins.
- We had some of our seniors and entrepreneurs come to the youth group to discuss culture and share their knowledge.
- With a strong emphasis on culture, many field trips were taken in the summer months, such as the zoo and Heritage Park. The youth also volunteered at many events.
- We held a very successful fiddle camp that helped 16 youngster aged 5 to 15 learn to fiddle.

Dancers

Region 3 supported the Calgary Métis Cultural Dancers, who performed at many functions throughout the region, including open houses, Métis week flag raising, social functions, Big Valley, Lethbridge, Rocky Mountain House, the Stampede, and other parades. The talented dance group also perform at school graduations and many grand opening sessions.

Stampede Breakfast



Métis Week

During Métis Week, we had various cities in the Region celebrate the beginning with flag raisings; Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Red Deer, and Pincher Creek. Marlene and Lawrence alternated locations to attend.

There were open houses in locations such as Miywasin Center, Red Deer Local 492, Lethbridge Local 2003, Aboriginal Friendship Centre in Calgary, and Métis Calgary Family Services.

Two major Seniors Dinners in Calgary and Medicine Hat took place, the Calgary event was at maximum capacity and Medicine Hat was also well received.

There was a Family Fun Day in Calgary with contests and prizes at the Crossroads Community Center, followed by a Traditional Métis Supper and Dance that was filled to capacity.



To Market Métis Region 3 People, Business, and Culture to the General Public

Region 3 continues to send out our 'Who Are The Métis' brochures to all municipalities, town and city offices, friendship centres, career centers, agencies, and public businesses.

In partnership with the Miywasin Society, The Métis Local 8 put on the Hills Are Alive Culture Celebration # 8. The production is a teaching celebration, where attendees can learn to play fiddle, guitar, bagpipes, banjo, keyboard, beading and moccasin making, hand weaving, and drum making. They offer youth programs, jigging, senior's events, and activities. Strong advocacy for Métis cultural retention continue to be offered in Medicine Hat. The celebration in June 2016 was a great success.



Hivernant Rendezvous in Big Valley Continues to be a Big Success

We also assisted with the Hivernant Cultural Society's Métis Celebration in Big Valley during August long weekend.

The Society is in negotiations with the Village of Big Valley to develop a permanent Métis Village. The land they acquired from the Village was worked on but not ready. The society however, continues to receive an increase in community support.

Lethbridge Local 2003 monthly Potlucks are going well and remain in partnership with Family Ties.



Tourism Development

Region 3 now has a five year contract for the Buffalo Lake Recreation Area. We hired an excellent manager who continues to exceed all expectations. We have had many meetings with government and others for improving this recreation area.

We continue to operate for the Métis Nation of Alberta the campground at Tail Creek Campground near Stettler, and many tourists and visitors continue to return for their annual vacations. We were fortunate to receive a grant to prepare a business plan for Tail Creek.

The first round of the IBIFF Proposal was not approved but received further funding to redo the Plan which is due August 2017.

The Métis Interpretive Program, started in 2004 at the National Historical Site in Rocky Mountain House, was handed over from the Region to Local 845 in 2008. Included in the offer was TP camping at the Riverside campground, as well as traditional

Métis tents for groups and families. Proceeds from the campground benefit the Locals. Contact Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site for more information. They also hosted a Métis Celebration "Bastion & Bones", which Region 3 assisted with and participated in.

The Métis Home Coming was held during the long weekend in February and was a smashing success.



Veterans and Seniors

We have bi-weekly seniors lunches where we have 30 - 60 seniors come out to the Regional office to enjoy a home cooked meal, friendship, and fellowship.

Métis Veteran Bob Gray is a dedicated and strong advocate for the Métis Veterans, and can be seen delivering food and other essentials to the veterans in our community.

Bi-weekly seniors cribbage tournament in partnership with MCFS are held at Native Network (Ephram Bouvier) building.

To Transfer and Preserve Métis Elder Knowledge and Wisdom to Current and Future Generations

The Youth Mentoring Program utilizes elders and other people of knowledge

We had the elders come to our youth group to share their knowledge and cultural teaching. We refer elders to speak at schools and presentations continue to be done by Marlene Lanz, Lawrence Gervais, elders Faye Beazley and Doreen Bergum, and Local representatives at colleges and local events throughout the Region. We have recently utilized the expertise of Darcy McRea from Métis History Presentations.

- We have taped some elders stories, which are now available in our office for sale.
- We have Michif language tapes and materials for all to use in our library.
- We have sashes and other Métis resources for sale in our office.
- We hand out sashes to the Métis Grads at the high schools and Universities.

Yearly Activities

- We have many volunteers including elders, seniors, and business people who support our events and activities and we appreciate everyone's dedication within Region 3.
- We receive and respond to numerous phone calls throughout the day, especially on harvesting rights and membership issues.

- We attend functions to promote the Métis at the Calgary Stampede, such as cooking bannock and handing out samples at the coop kitchen.
- Make referrals to other agencies and provide advice on programs within MNA as well as within Region 3.

Region 3 Participated in Alberta Cultural Days at the VIVO Centre

Family Picnic MCFS



Lawrence Participated with Four Directions in the Cochrane Parade. They took 1st place.



Share the Spirit Christmas Dinner

We fed the whole community not just the homeless.



We have conducted a land use study on the Grassy Mountain Project.

We have found funding for our seniors luncheons.

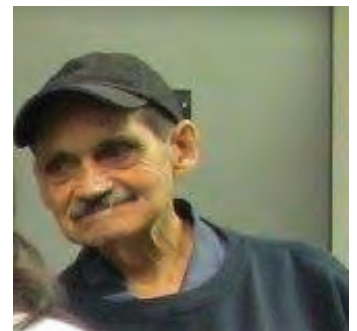
Members & Non Members We Have Lost

They were dear to us and will be missed by all.



AGM

We held the AGM and we had a good turnout.



Other

We have a free legal clinic at our office once a month, and if the lawyers have to go to litigation the most it will cost is \$50.00

We continue to meet with industry and the municipalities negotiating on Species at Risk, Banff Park Buffalo Treaty. As well, we have been successful in getting money to hire an Industry Relations person.



Region 4 – Edmonton

President's Message

Thank you to Region 6 and the Métis Nation of Alberta Association staff for hosting this year's Annual General Assembly in Peace River. It is an honor to be able to continue to represent the Métis people within Region 4. I would like to take a moment to thank the locals and members within our Region that contributed to building our Nation.

This year at Region 4, we have been busy working towards achieving the objectives set within our business plan. With limited resources, our locals have worked tirelessly to help us achieve our goals. We continue to work with government, industry, and Métis individuals to build relationships, partnerships, and ventures that will be long term and beneficial to everyone. We are working as a nation to address the issues that we face and move towards goals that benefit future generations. It is important we work as a community to establish concerns and try to work together to achieve goals that will continue to move us forward.

If any individuals live in our Region and have an interest in any of the issues or activities that we are involved with, we welcome them to bring forward their names. We are often looking for volunteers who can help guide the direction in many of the portfolios that are being worked on in our province.

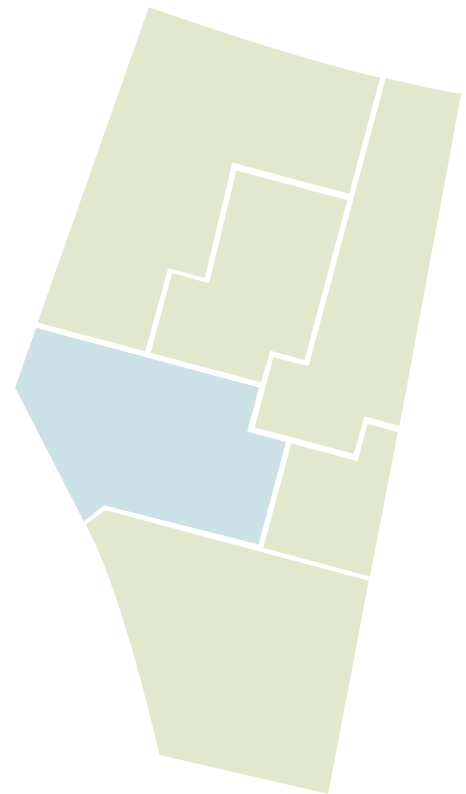
I look forward to seeing you all at this year's events.

Respectfully,

Cecil Bellrose,
President, Region 4

Vice President's Message

I would like to welcome members from Region 4 who were able to attend this 89th Annual Assembly of the Métis Nation of Alberta, hosted by Region 6. This past year has been very busy for all provincial council members; that being said, the direction and strides we are making today will have an ever lasting impact going forward for our citizens.



Cecil Bellrose
President, Region 4



James Atkinson
Vice President, Region 4

In Region 4 this past year we've been working on consultation projects with the City of Edmonton; Edmonton's Green Network Strategy, Millcreek Daylight Project, River Crossing Heritage Interpretive Plan and River Valley Road/Groat Road Interchange. The City of Edmonton and Region 4 has created a truly great working relationship and will continue to assist each other on many more projects in the future.

Another project we continue to work on in Region 4 is to find a space to house a Métis cultural centre. Métis Nation Holdings has been assisting in finding buildings that would have good space for a stage, dance floor, kitchen, ample washrooms, classrooms for cultural classes, and plenty of parking. We have viewed one property in June that may be a prime spot for such a centre and we are now negotiating a reasonable lease with option to purchase.

Working everyday with different Métis people and other organizations that work with Métis People the biggest question we hear is "What's happening in the community? What's new at the MNA?". Well the Provincial Council members have all heard these same concerns and I'm glad to say that we are taking a step forward to address it! Stay "TUNED" for the announcement of this project.

Thank you and I wish everyone a great time at this assembly and a safe drive home!

Respectfully,

James Atkinson,
President, Region 4

Region 4 Vision (Our Inspiration)

"Together we will continue to build a strong Métis Nation."

Region 4 Mission

"On behalf of all Métis people within Region 4, Region 4 is responsible for the advancement of the rich Métis culture and ensures the social, economic and political well-being of all Métis people."

Jurisdiction

Region 4 Regional Council is the representative body for all Métis residents within the geographical territory of west-central Alberta including and west of Edmonton, north of Rocky Mountain House, south of Valleyview and east of the Alberta-British Columbia border.

Métis Regional Council Region 4 Board of Directon

President Cecil Bellrose	Vice President James Atkinson
Executive Secretary Shirley Armstrong, A / President Edmonton Local #2085	Executive Treasurer Melanie Omeniho, President Edmonton Local #1886
Region 4 Elder Gloria Laird	President Alice Berger Drayton Valley Local #888
President Mary Ann Stepien Parkland Local #1116	President Tom Ghostkeeper St. Albert / Sturgeon County
President Al Findlay Grande Cache Local #1994	President Murleen Crossen Gunn Métis Local

Overview of Region 4 Association

Métis Regional Council – Region 4 includes Local Presidents that sit on the Regional board along with an elected President and Vice President. The President and Vice President of Region 4 sit on the Provincial Council of the Métis Nation of Alberta along with the Presidents and Vice Presidents of Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6, and the President and Vice President of the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA)

Actions in Relation to our Governance Role

Continued involvement in Métis Nation of Alberta and its governing structures:

The elected President and Vice President of Region 4 participated in all Provincial Council meetings and were involved in their provincial portfolios.

Métis Community

Métis Regional Council works with several industrial developments to represent the interests of the Métis community throughout our Region.

We hosted Métis activities throughout Métis Week in November that highlighted a flag raising ceremony and proclamation at City Hall to start the week with a beautiful performance by Miss Sarah Wolfe who sang the National and Métis Anthems.

We continue to participate with the Lac St. Anne Pilgrimage each year in hosting a Métis Mass. The pilgrimage committee is looking for individuals interested in coordinating the Métis Mass each year.

There is now a new Métis Local that was established. Métis Nation of Alberta Association Local Council St. Albert/Sturgeon County. They will be focusing on Métis Culture.



Industrial Engagement

We continue to work closely with Sustainable Development and Industrial Relations (SDIR). Through activities with Industry we have been involved or engaged in several meetings or

discussions in an attempt to ensure Métis interests are addressed and that opportunities will be available in the future for our communities.

We continue to receive numerous email and mailings from companies in relation to pipelines, gas lines, etc.

The following are a list of projects that we have been involved with or have worked with in an attempt to build relationships.

NGTL System Expansion Project McLeod River Section

This project is to assist the Métis Regional Council – Region 4 to establish the necessary capacity to work on the 2017 NGTL McLeod River Pipeline Section Work Plan with TransCanada in attempting to address the issues around Métis consultation and building the necessary infrastructure to assist the Métis people living in our region to understand the issues related to the proposed project focusing on the work plan, employment and contracting opportunities, community investment and capacity development.

ATCO Electric Interconnector Link (“Project”)

Consultation and Findings Report.

*Traditional Land Use Study & Impact Study
Region 4*

In August 2016, ATCO agreed to provide funding to the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) to assist in the collection of baseline information on Traditional Métis Land Use, Occupancy and Knowledge of the area where ATCO plans to construct this powerline. The funding was used to perform one day of field research with MNA Region 4 Members, a short desktop study, and this time to produce this report.

The Métis Nation of Alberta, its Regions, and its Locals have an interest in the lands to be utilized by the transmission line routes. As identified through this field visit and other traditional and contemporary land use collection activities, the Métis of Region 4 access the areas to be utilized by the transmission line routes in order to conduct various sustenance and cultural activities.



Summary

The consultation was organized to provide members an opportunity to elaborate on their regional and local concerns regarding the proposed project in addition to physically viewing, walking and driving the portion of the proposed line in Jasper National Park. Ideally a community consultation workshop would have been held prior to the field visit, but timing precluded us from being able to schedule the consultations in a timely manner. As part of the field visit, on September 13th, 2016, MNA Staff and consultants conducted interviews with identified Region 4 community members with knowledge of Métis land use in the project area. Individuals were part of the consultation and interview process. This included a review to inform participants on the purpose of the site visit prior to the one-on-one interviews and field visit. Interviews were then conducted by a MNA consultant and MNA staff to collect general information about TLU, TEK, and Project impacts. Each participant was invited to share stories, knowledge and information that were utilized to create a map indicating TLU's appropriately. Electronic versions of in-person consultations and maps are available.

It quickly became apparent that historically Métis individuals and groups practiced and demonstrated traditional trapping, hunting, fishing, berry picking, and plant harvesting activities in the Project area. Sites of historical, cultural, and spiritual importance to the Métis were identified as well.

Other Project Involvement Included

- ATCO Electric
- Alta Link
- Enbridge Pipeline
- TransCanada
- Kindermorgan (Transmountain)
- And other corporations from time to time

With some of these corporations we have been able to engage in a variety of tasks such as:

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Traditional Land Use Study
- Community Engagement Activities
- Future Potential Engagement in the areas of Education, Environment, Regulatory Activities and Economic Development

Communication

Communication seems to be one of the greatest challenges that we face in keeping members informed and current with information. We strive to keep members informed via email, and refer them to the always updated Métis Nation of Alberta website at AlbertaMetis.com. We would encourage ideas and recommendations on new communication strategies.



Region 5 – Slave Lake

Here in Region 5, we continue to be very busy. As we all know, this is the time for the Métis Nation to move our agenda forward. Our membership department continues to assist members with applying and/or updating files. The staff here help daily with different matters such as housing applications, senior applications, government forms, job search, resume workshops, cover letter development and interview skills or other faxing or on-line services as needed. We update the Information Library and Job Boards regularly and always have coffee on. Please feel free to stop in at the office to visit for an update on the Métis Nation.

We are always in need of volunteers to assist with different events that Region 5 does such as: National Aboriginal Day, Métis Week celebrations, elders and youth luncheons, youth and children activities, assist to coordinate MNA consultations or workshops collaboratively, and plan on more cultural and fundraising events at our Métis Faust Centre. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the office at (780) 849-4654.

Frost Hills

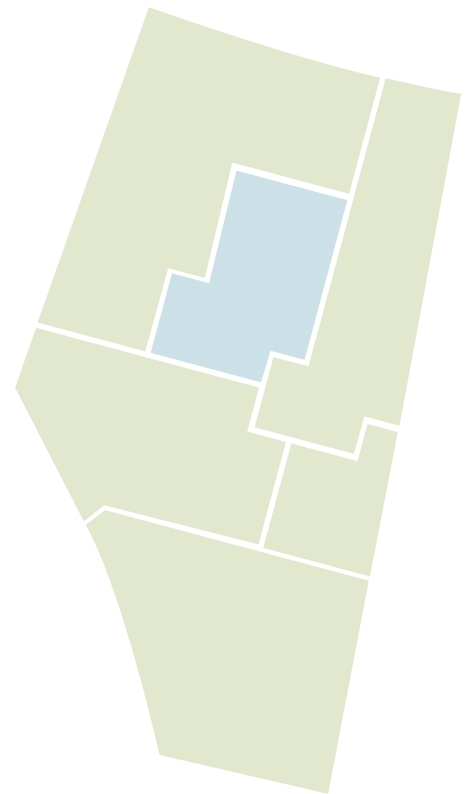
We continue to work on the Frost Hills integrated plan. Throughout the years, the need is still there for farmland, residential, wildlife reserve, cultural, and more. We continue to utilize the Provincial Office to support this initiative and we will continue to pursue this until we implement the integrated plan.

Housing

Housing has been an on-going issue that is still apparent in our communities. Families continue to live together because of the shortage of affordable housing and/or cannot afford market value rent in communities where there are no jobs. We will continue to work on this and, hopefully soon we will see more affordable housing.

Youth

Luncheons with elders every second week at the Region 5 office until the summer months. This will start again by September 2017. We partnered with FCSS to have one staff open the gym three days per week at the Faust Métis Centre for children and teens.



Bev New
President, Region 5



Elmer Gullion
Vice President, Region 5

Region 5 participated in a youth workshop located in Edmonton. Our youth representative for Region 5 is Hunter Lacombe, and he is pleased to be actively involved with both Region 5 and Rupertsland Institute programming. We had fiddle lessons for the children and youth at our Region 5 office. Some youth continued on to keep learning and some lost interest; however, we were excited to share our culture with our children and youth.

Culture

For Métis Week in November, we hosted a Luncheon and Crib Tournament for the elders as part of Region 5, RLI Open House at the Slave Lake office. For the evening, we have had our first Métis celebration providing music and door prizes at the Faust Métis Centre where approximately 75 people attended. It gave us great joy to host these wonderful events.



National Aboriginal Day

We hosted a Métis Celebration at the Métis Centre this June and there were more than 100 people there to enter tournaments and competitions: play horse shoes, arm wrestling, nail pounding, crib, and games for the children. It was a full day of fun and we are looking forward to next year. We are inviting all Region 5 members to our celebrations. Please put the dates on your calendar. If you would like to help, please call our office.

Back to Batoche Days

Last year, we participated in Alberta Day. Region 5 had Nathan Cunningham and Cindy Boucher attend as well as Region 5 Leadership. We look forward to this Annual Métis event, located in Batoche, Saskatchewan.

S-11 Logging

We continue to partner with Bigstone Band and Peerless, Trout Lake. The logging continues and all the debt has been paid to government and past debts. There are opportunities for our members if they are interested in logging. West Fraser continues to work with us and this has been a successful business practice for the past few years.

Elders

Region 5 elders attended the Seniors and Youth Symposium in Edmonton.



Faust Métis Centre

We have been operating the centre for over a year. In this time, we have had cultural celebrations, youth gym nights, wakes, funerals, church services, and more. We will look at a community board that can manage and oversee the building and operations. We have been approved for solar panel power at our building, which will help with the cost of utilities. With a board, they will be able to access funds to keep the building open to the communities.



MNA Business Mixer

This year's recipient is the Ferguson Brothers who own five restaurants. We were honored to have them accept our Entrepreneur Award for recognition of a Métis Business in Region 5. Each year, we host an annual business mixer and this past year it was held at the Slave Lake Inn & Conference Centre in April 2016.



RLI

Rupertsland Institute is owned by the Métis Nation and in Region 5, the staff here are as follows:

- Hilda Lambert - Client Resource Assistant located in Slave Lake at the Region 5 office
- Nancy Sloat - Career Counselor Located in High Prairie and travels to Slave Lake on Monday and Fridays by appointment only.
- Aiyanna Mitchell - Client Resource Assistant located in High Prairie.

These positions are to assist our members access career, training, and employment related information. Our in-house staff has set up a client workspace complete with Job Boards, Career & Training Information Library, and other tools and general information for members to review. Hilda Lambert, Client Resource Assistance provides one-on-one job search assistance to clients based on their job preparation needs, and completes an intake and referral process for the Employment Counselor. The staff have attended interagency meetings, career fairs, school presentations and special events to promote RLI Services. Projects are designed to meet the needs of the Region 5 members, such as the ACE Academy - Summer Job Shadow Program. We had seven youth who successfully completed this program and one youth who attended the Exploring Future Careers Camp. Region 5 has 33 employed and 15 returning to school outcomes.

The mobile services (RV) ensure Métis people across Alberta receive standardized employment assistance in their communities. The working relationship is good with Region 5 and RLI, and this ensures a positive relationship that benefits our Métis people.

Métis Rights and Accommodation President Bev New, is Co-minister and there is a full report on our ministries. Please See Report*

Forestry and Sports Vice President, Elmer Gullion is Co-minister. Please See Report*



Region 6 – Peace River

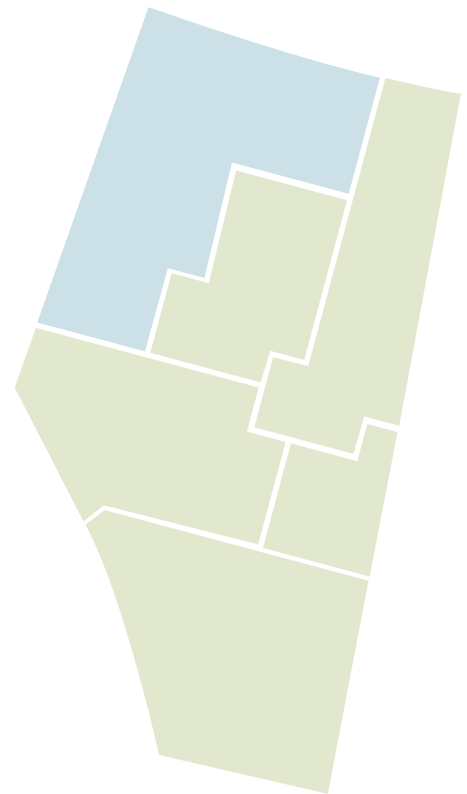
Region 6 is honored to provide the assembly with the 2016-2017 Annual Report. We are dedicated to our Members in Region 6. We do our best to ensure that they have the necessary housing, health, education, training and skills to gain employment and careers here, at home in the Northwest Region. Region 6 focuses on creating opportunities for our children and youth, as well as the advancement of all our members. Region 6 is the largest geographical territory of the MNA and is also one of the most active. We pride ourselves on writing successful proposals that benefit our elders, youth and all our members. Strong partnerships have been formed both with community organizations, government, and industry, ensuring successful programming.

Community

With the successful approval of our Urban Partnership Project – True North Youth Environmental Opportunity, Region 6 has been extremely busy this past year. Many Métis and First Nation youth participated in this project from July 2016 – March 31st, 2017. We are proud to say this has been our sixth successful youth funding project with CCAY and Urban Partnership Program.



Our partnership with TransCanada and their community support to our Region and Locals has definitely enhanced our youth program and given us the opportunity to take the youth with us as we went monitoring on the Boundary Lake, Bear Canyon rite of ways near Dawson Creek. Our environment program for youth in the bush with elders and those who work on pipelines was a great experience. The chance to ride in side by side, track and look for



Sylvia Johnson
President, Region 6



Carol Ridsdale
Vice President, Region 6

signs of animals, chart the terrain and trails, creek crossings, identify plants, herbs and medicine were phenomenal opportunities. Boating on the Peace River and Bush Survival in the winter were two other great opportunities for the youth as well as job opportunities that five youth applied for, interviewed and placed.



For the last eighteen years, Region 6 has proudly supported the Marina Brothers' Excellence in Education Bursary Awards. The bursary started out with \$1,000 awarded and has gone up over the years to as much as \$18,000. This last year, we gave out \$10,000. The award goes to first and second year post-secondary students who have not received funding elsewhere.



At the 4th annual MNA Business Mixer, we honored one of our Métis Youth Members, Tutchone Dunfield, who has gone above and beyond in her achievements. To name just a few of her achievements, Tutchone sits on the Grande Prairie Local Board and encourages and supports

other youth to do their best and participate in Métis activities. Tutchone, a young Métis woman role model who has achieved honors in Grade 12 and sportsmanship, is moving on to post-secondary studies in environment studies. This summer, she is touring China and participating in the National Aboriginal Games in Toronto.



Another Region 6 youth we have to mention with great pride is Jordan Hitz. Jordan has completed five years of university, graduating from Lethbridge University with honors and distinction with her Masters in Science and Education. Congratulations to this young beautiful woman and good luck with your teaching career. The best is yet to come!

Registering new Métis members was conducted; we have new members from all parts of the region. Region 6 takes a very active role in recruiting new members by travelling to communities, as well as accepting walk-ins at the office. We also had many new applicants apply that are students and younger youth, mainly to be able to play hockey in the Native Provincials. Grande Prairie Local, Fort Vermilion, and High Level had membership workshops. We also have walk-ins to our Regional Office every day wanting memberships and application assistance is provided. Thank you to our Minister of Registry/ Vice President Carol Ridsdale and Office Administrator Louise Cardinal who both commission and assist all walk-ins.

MNA Region 6 Métis Nation would like to acknowledge our Local Presidents and their board members for the work they do in their communities. Grande Prairie Local 1990, President Angie Crerar, our beloved elder who is an advocate for our Métis Homeland, National, Provincial, Regional and Local.

Peace River Local #78 President/elder Ruth Kidder has been a pillar of the north for many years, guiding and encouraging Aboriginal women in education and employment; Fairview Métis Local President Barry Dibb is very committed to the people in his community, making sure Métis are included in industry and jobs. He is also Regional Council treasurer and Bison Board of Directors; Valleyview Métis Local President Tracy Brown is a new President and we would like to acknowledge and welcome her to the council; Dusty Gauthier is our youth Board Director and we appreciate his youthful opinions, jigging and volunteering, always speaking out for the youth.

This year, we had professional photographer take formal pictures of the Board of Directors and we had them framed in beautiful old barn board and hung in our board room. It is a great way to acknowledge our board.

Activities Held by Region 6 MNA

- Region 6 Annual General Meeting
- Provincial Council Meetings and Annual Assembly
- Regional Council Meetings
- Marina Brothers' Excellence in Education Awards
- Monitoring: TLU in Dawson Creek, Boundary Lake
- OJ Pipelines: Bid Packages
- Surette Security: Security Guards
- Bison Contracting/ClearStream 40 Maintenance and Janitorial positions at Shell and DMI. 184 employees at DMI Shutdown.
- Trans Canada Community Investments, Cadotte Lake, Fairview, Grande Prairie, Peace River, Valleyview

- Northern Cross Oilfield Services: Support and jobs to our youth
- Northern Crane: Peace River Operations, Birchcliff partnership
- Aboriginal Pow Wow: Host Métis Jigging and Fiddling
- Youth on the Peace in Jet Boats
- 10 Tickets 10 Days: Partnership with Rupertsland
- Life Skill Courses and mentoring program. "Take the Future in Your Own Hands", confidence and ability to move forward.
- Food Safe tickets to youth
- Remembrance Day Celebrations, Remembering our Métis Veterans through bracelets purchased "Lest We Forget"
- Bear Awareness, Construction, and Pipeline Safety Tickets
- Aboriginal Youth Career Fair
- Orange Shirt Day with Phil Fontaine
- Métis Week Open House
- Muchikan Fun Night
- Métis Flag Raising at Town of Peace River Circle
- Grande Prairie Métis Week Celebration





- Grande Prairie Local Métis Week Flag Raising
- Elders Caring Shelter Activities and Picnic
- Métis Week Open House
- Ground Level Youth Centre Partnerships: Jigging, Indian Tacos Night
- Métis Cross Cultural Awareness with schools in the Region
- Daniels Case Celebration in the Park
- Dreamcatcher craft honoring missing and murdered women

- Sisters Spirit Walk
- Spirit Seekers in Grande Prairie
- Donating to Soup Kitchen
- Faceless Dolls: partnership with museum
- Christmas Party
- Christmas Winter Warmth project
- Christmas Donations to enhance Christmas for families
- Christmas Bonuses to Staff
- Christmas Gathering: Sagitawa Friendship Centre



- Fleece pillow making with youth
- Walk-in assistance, resume writing, photocopying
- Computer lab assistance with online courses
- Jigging with Métis Bev in Manning
- Fire Arm Safety
- Class 7 Driving Course
- National Women's Conference, Vancouver
- Youth and Elder Symposium
- Business Mixer and Awards
- MNC Health Meeting
- Rock and Bowl Youth Party

- Support to Manning Learning Centre ten tickets ten days
- Bereavement support to communities
- Caribou Recovery Program
- Climate Change Workshops
- Elder & Youth Symposium
- Pancake Breakfast Provincial Office
- Aboriginal Day at Métis Crossing
- Métis Nation of Alberta Youth Consultation Meeting
- Crown Consultation and Accommodations Meetings
- Daniels Case Conference
- Back to Batoche Days: Travel to eight entertainers and members
- Youth Conference & Children's Gathering
- Community Registry Events: Membership Drives
- Métis Week Art Contest: 10 year old Berg Felsing President Johnson's grandson won with his picture of Riel. Congrats Berg!
- Winter Warmth Packages
- Edmonton Football Training Camps
- Sister in Spirit Bench
- Christmas Donations: members, hampers, parties
- Canadian Foundation Fallen Heroes
- Native Hockey Provincials: Fairview & Peace River Aboriginal Hockey
- Marina Brothers Excellence in Education Bursary Awards
- Youth Recognition Gifts: Money and Proud to Be Hoodies
- Rotary House 2 bricks purchased:
Region 6 Métis Nation
In Loving Memory of Métis Veterans
- Valleyview Local Building Repair \$20,000.00
- MS Trail Ride
- Blankets to Elders in hospital
- Daniels Case t-shirts
- National Aboriginal Day- Grande Prairie
- Grande Prairie Braves- North American Indigenous Games
- Global Indigenous Management Runway Project Leader Program
- Pow Wow fundraiser calendars
- Jigging & Fiddling Contest: Aboriginal Gathering & Pow Wow
- Bereavement fund
- Donations to Soup Kitchen and Winter Warmth Program
- Batoche travel and rooms

Donations are provided by Region 6 Regional Council at request of organizations and groups; especially youth and members. We are very generous in supporting events, sports, and our Métis local initiatives. This year Region 6 has funded over \$75,000.00 in donations. Thank you to our industry partners, companies, and proposal funders.

- Royal Canadian Legion- Remembrance Day
- Fort McMurray fire support
- HIV North Scotia Bank Aid Walk
- Fiddling Contest & Métis Dancers: Grande Prairie Local
- Medical Support
- Bereavements/ funeral support/ wreathes/ flowers
- Awareness on Missing and Murdered: Orange Shirt Day
- Sports Donations: jackets, travel, rooms and registration fees
- Curtis Marshall Memorial Brick & purchased fundraiser Guitar

Region 6 Participation in Meetings to Help Organize Events & Gatherings

- Aboriginal Interagency Meetings
- Peace River Museum Meetings
- Northern Lakes College Committee Meetings
- Peace River School Division Meetings
- Métis Local AGM's
- Sagitawa Friendship Center Meetings
- Town of Peace River Meetings

- Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance Meetings
- Aboriginal Gathering- Pow Wow Meetings
- Sisters in Spirit Meetings

Region 6 Leadership Sits on Many Boards and Committees and are Representatives at a Local, Provincial, & National Level:

Sylvia Johnson

Might Peace Watershed Alliance, Bison Contracting, Community Advisory Board Enbridge Pipeline, Minister of Children, Youth, and Health, Provincial Council Métis Nation of Alberta, Métis National Council Representative

Carol Ridsdale

Sagitawa Friendship Center Board Member, Northern Lakes College Committee, Aboriginal Interagency, Peace River Museum, Minister of Registry, Provincial Council Métis Nation of Alberta, Métis National Council Representative

Ruth Kidder

Peace River Métis Local #78, Alberta Aboriginal Women's Society

Angie Crerar

Grande Prairie Métis Local 1990, National Métis Elder

Barry Dibb

Fairview Local, Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance, Bison Contracting, Community Advisory Board Enbridge Pipeline, TransCanada, AMISK Hydro Dam

Tracy Brown

Valleyview Métis Local 1929

Walter Andreeff, Ken Browning
Métis Nation Technical Committee

Dusty Gauchier

Region 6 Provincial Youth Rep

Marilynn Lizee

President of New Dawn Society
Métis Women's Group

Benita Galandy

Region 6 Rep on Métis Urban /CapitalHousing

Noella Richarde

Region 6 Rep on Provincial Health

Angie Crerar, Ruth Kidder,

Clara Boman, Kathy Cunningham

Region 6 Elder Representatives

Region 6 Attendance as our Role with Métis Nation of Alberta, Region VI Locals, Métis National Council:

- Provincial Council Board Meetings In Edmonton, AB, with President and Vice President
- Regional Council Meetings held at Region 6 office in Peace River, AB with Regional Council Board
- Annual General Meetings: Grande Prairie Métis Local 1990, Peace River Local 78, Fairview Local 207, Region 6 AGM, MNA Assembly
- Rupertsland Shareholders Meetings in Edmonton, AB
- Apeetogosan Shareholders Meetings in Edmonton, AB
- MUHC Shareholders Meetings in Edmonton, AB
- Ministers Meetings attended by Sylvia Johnson Children and Youth, & Health
- Annual General Assembly Métis Nation of Alberta, Métis Crossing, Smokey Lake, AB we had thirty people attend.
- Métis National Council Special Assembly in Vancouver, B.C.
- Métis National Council – Assembly in Winnipeg, MN

Exciting and Significant Milestones for Métis Rights in Alberta

For the first time in history, Métis Nation of Alberta negotiated and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to advance reconciliation with the Government of Canada. The MOU establishes a time limited exploratory discussion table between the MNA and Canada. The goal is to arrive at a mutually agreed upon framework agreement by September 2017. The negotiations process is based on Métis self- government, lands, and outstanding claims against the Crown.

April 13, 2017 was another historic day for Métis rights in Canada. President Johnson was in attendance with President Poitras, and other members of the Métis National Council were joined by Prime Minister Trudeau in Ottawa for the inaugural meeting of the Crown Métis Nation Summit, where both parties signed the ground breaking Canada- Métis Nation Accord. It establishes important mandates to foster Nation to Nation, Government to Government relationship between Canada and Métis Nation. The Métis Nation of Alberta, and Region 6 is very pleased to start a new relationship with the government based on respect and recognition.



Our Métis Nation is moving forward in a very positive way. We need to work together in unity, transparency, accountability, and clear vision.

We are working collectively on many important issues: Climate Change, Protocol Agreement, Framework Agreement, Harvesting and Governance. We work with Métis members by hosting community meetings and workshops to fully engage our people in the process. It is in unity that we move forward together as a Métis Nation that has the continued commitment of putting our Métis people first!

Region 6 wishes you, the Members, a wonderful 89th Annual Assembly. We are pleased to host this year's Assembly here in Northern Alberta in beautiful Peace River. Thanks to President Poitras and the MNA head office staff for all their hard work and Sylvia, Carol and Region 6 office staff for all their work to host this big event. We would also like to thank the Town of Peace River, the Municipalities and industry for being here. We would also like to extend warm gratitude to those partners that have donated to Youth Assembly and Elders events. We are very grateful for all those who have participated to make this a huge success. Thank you very much!

We want to thank our long time Office Manager/ Bookkeeper and wish her a fond farewell as she is embarking on a new journey to be a mom again. Congratulations to the whole family, Louise, Clayton, Maximus and baby.

President, Métis Nation Region 6
Minister of Métis Health, Children, and Youth
Sylvia Johnson

Vice President, Métis Nation Region 6
Co-Minister of Registry and Governance
Carol Ridsdale

Regional Council Métis Nation Region 6

Region 6 Office Manager
Louise Cardinal

Summer Student Region 6 Office
Shelly Mercredi





Region 6 Regional Council



Sylvia Johnson
Region 6 Métis Nation President



Carol Ridsdale
Region 6 Métis Nation Vice President



Tracy Brown
Valleyview Local #1929 President



Ruth Kidder
Peace River Local #78 President



Barry Dibb
Fairview Local President



Angie Crerar
Grande Prairie Local #1990 President



Louise Cardinal
Region 6 Bookkeeper-Administrator



MNA Head Office





Communications

MNA Communications Overview

The past year has been an incredibly busy and exciting time for MNA Communications. Since April 2016, MNA Communications has taken/processed/posted over ten thousand photos, designed hundreds of graphic material, doubled our social media following, increased our membership email list tenfold from 1,200 to 10,128, resurrected our full length Otipemisiwak magazine by publishing it online, and created a new monthly "Otipemisiwak Express," all while helping ensure the success of dozens of high profile events.

MNA Communications also took on the task of designing four reports, the MNA Annual Report and three health reports. A recent Communications Audit completed by a third party, *Castlemain*, agrees that MNA has experienced "vast improvement in communications during the past two years." Below are just a few of the highlights from the past year, as well as some of the future plans for MNA Communications.

Social Media

Since February 2015, MNA communications has embraced online communications through the use of social media, email marketing, and a revamped website. A recent communications audit by the third party *Castlemain* has found these measures have greatly increased our capability in terms of getting in touch with members. This year, we have more than doubled our Facebook followers from 2,000 to over 4,000.

MNA Communications has found Facebook to be an invaluable platform to get in touch with our members and raise awareness about campaigns, events, and opportunities. In December, MNA Communications used Facebook to launch our campaign to solicit stories about Métis Veterans and raise awareness about the Veteran Monument MNA is building at Métis Crossing.



Call for all Veterans



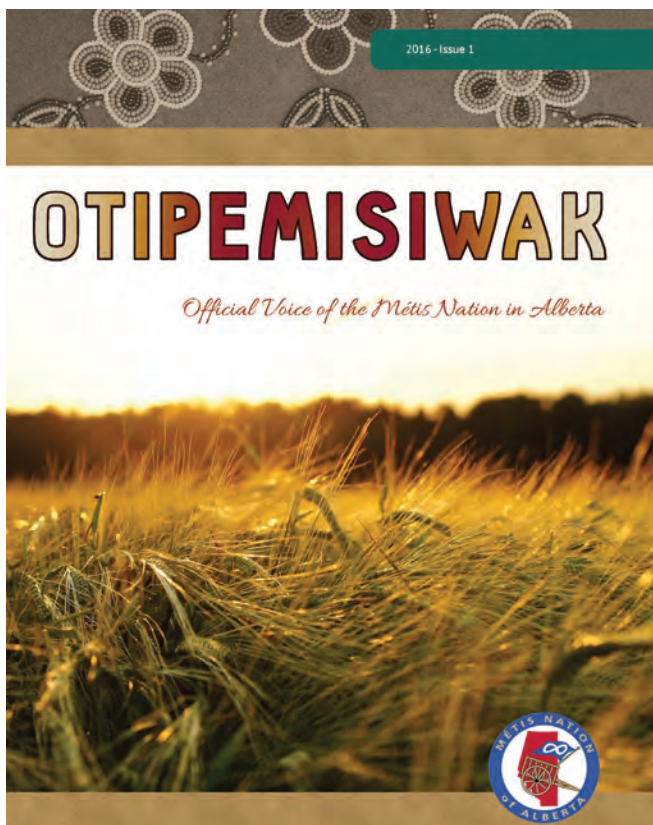
New Dawn Facebook Campaign

In honour of International Women's Day, during the week of March 8, Communications profiled prominent women in the Métis community. The series saw features of presidents, poets, artists, authors, and a young fiddler. The success of the campaign has encouraged us to expand the campaign for Women's History Month in October. Communications is currently soliciting suggestions from our community of more bold Métis women to profile.

In November, MNA adopted Twitter and have found it to be another useful tool to connect with membership, external stakeholders, and partners in industry, government, and affiliates. Currently, MNA has 1,362 followers on twitter.

Otipemisiwak Magazine

Over the past two years, MNA has worked to re-establish the presence of the Otipemisiwak quarterly magazine, published on the MNA website. In addition, as of December 2016, MNA communications has begun publishing a monthly "Otipemisiwak Express," a one-page version of the magazine that highlights news and upcoming events.



When cards are mailed out to our new members, we send a copy of the current Oti-Express along with the card. The vision behind the Oti-Express is to ensure new members are aware of current MNA events and feel encouraged to join their community. Copies of our magazine from the past two years can be found on our website

Website

MNA launched a new website in January 2016. The website has a few new special features to help visitors determine recent and upcoming events. Some of these features include rotating images on the website homepage that link to press releases such as the MOU signing with the Federal Government. Scrolling down slightly on the MNA homepage reveals a "News Archive" section with stories posted in chronological order with the most recent stories appearing at the top of the list. Visitors have the option to access the full news archives by clicking "for more news, click here" at the bottom of the homepage.

Email Marketing

MNA membership email list is constantly

Head Office

expanding! In the past year, our list has grown from under 1,200 to 10,128 (and that number continues to grow daily). In addition, communications manages lists such as MNA Regions/Affiliates, Alberta School Boards, Alberta Native Friendship Centres, Community Based Organizations, Edmonton's Seniors Organizations, Alberta Media List, and many more. In the past months, Mailchimp has been instrumental in promoting various campaigns, the Social Determinants of Health Survey, changes in registry policy, our Climate Change Workshops, Otipemisiwak, and various events.

Events

MNA Communications had the opportunity to be a part of many exciting events in the past year. For events, MNA Communications is responsible for graphic design, promotion, photography, and writing stories. From the Pancake Breakfast in May, the 19th Annual Audrey Poitras Golf Tournament in June, Batoche in July, AGA in August, to a week packed with events for Métis Week in November, province-wide Youth Consultations in December, the Business Mixer and Senior's and Youth Symposium in March, Communications has been kept busy.



All of these events were great successes and help bring our community together. MNA Communications has also begun to more closely cover political activities; for example, in January, communications accompanied President Audrey Poitras and Provincial Council to Parliament to

document the signing of MNA's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the federal government. A representative from MNA Communications was also present at the signing of MNA's groundbreaking ten year Framework Agreement with the provincial government.

Graphic Design

All graphic design for the MNA is done in house by the Communications team. In the past year, MNA Communications has had the opportunity to design the following:

- AGA Report
- Various Handbills
- PowerPoints
- Three Health Reports
- Calendar
- Countless Posters
- Dozens of Banners
- Programs
- Web Graphics
- Otipemisiwak Magazine
- Department Logos
- Revamped Registry Certificates

Moving Forward

MNA Communications is always striving to improve processes and event coverage. With an expanding team, MNA Communications is hoping to improve coverage beyond the capital region in Alberta. We are investigating creation of an Instagram account while improving our presence on current social media platforms. Otipemisiwak continues to be a priority for MNA Communications as one method of ensuring our members are up to date on important MNA activities.

Metis Week
&
2016

Sunday November 13, 2016 -
Saturday November 19, 2016

All are invited to partake in the joy of Métis culture during the 2016 Métis Week. From November 13th until November 19th, Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) welcomes the public to celebrate the rich culture and contributions of Métis people. The week is structured around the Louis Riel Commemorative Ceremony at the Alberta Legislature on November 16. Additional activities planned for this year include the Louis Riel Commemorative Walk, Flag Raising Ceremony at City Hall, MNA Open House and much more!

Visit www.albertametis.com for details.

Métis Nation of Alberta
#100-11738 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, T5G 0X5
Phone: 780-455-2200

88TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS
THE BATTLE OF SEVEN OAKS 1816-2016

**AUGUST 4TH - AUGUST 7TH, MÉTIS CROSSING HERITAGE SITE
17339 VICTORIA TRAIL, SMOKY LAKE, AB, T0A 3C0**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4 th		SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 th	
7 PM - 10 PM	Meet & Greet Location: AGA Main Tent	7:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Breakfast Location: AGA Main Tent
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5 th		7:30 AM - 4 PM	Elders Lounge Location: Elders Tent
7:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Breakfast Location: AGA Main Tent	7:30 AM - 12 PM	Voluntary Delegate Registration Location: AGA Main Tent
7:30 AM - 4 PM	Elders Lounge Location: Elders Tent	8:00 AM - 12 PM	Region Registration Location: AGA Main Tent
8 AM - 12 PM	Region Registration Location: AGA Main Tent	9:00 AM Opening Ceremony Location: AGA Main Tent	
9 AM - 4 PM	Historical Presentations Location: AGA Main Tent	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Business Meeting Location: AGA Main Tent
9 AM - 4 PM	Cosmology Exhibit Location: Historic Kiosk (Basement)	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch Location: AGA Main Tent
9 AM - 4 PM	MNA Youth Workshop Location: TBD	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Business Meeting (Continued) Location: AGA Main Tent
9 AM - 4 PM	MNA Children's Gathering Location: TBD	8:00 PM - 12:00 AM	Barbecue and Fireworks Reception hosted by MNA, Region 8 with Entertainment by Pam Pridler Location: AGA Main Tent
12 PM - 1 PM	Lunch Location: AGA Main Tent	SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 th	
4 PM - 6 PM	Health & Wellness Workshop Location: TBD	7:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Breakfast Location: AGA Main Tent
6 PM - 7 PM	Pub Fry Location: AGA Main Tent	7:30 AM - Close	Elders Lounge Location: Elders Tent
7 PM - 11 PM	Open Mic Stage hosted by MNA Region 5 with entertainment by Twin Pridler Location: AGA Main Tent	7:30 AM - 5 AM	Voluntary Delegate Registration Location: AGA Main Tent
		8:00 AM - 12 PM	Region Registration Location: AGA Main Tent
		9:00 AM - Close	Business Meeting Location: AGA Main Tent
		12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch Location: AGA Main Tent

We will be providing updates regarding the 88th Annual Council Assembly in our website and Facebook page. For more information, please call April Hayes at 780-455-2200 or email april@metis.org.

www.albertametis.com

Métis Nation of Alberta
#100-11738 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton, AB, T5G 0X5
Phone: 780-455-2200

Louis Riel Commemorative Ceremony

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH
11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
ALBERTA LEGISLATURE BUILDING
10800 97 AVE NW, EDMONTON, AB

Métis people across Canada pay tribute to the Right Honourable Louis Riel by holding a commemorative ceremony on the date of his execution, November 16th. Go to www.albertametis.com for details.

Art Credit: Berg Fetsing, Métis Youth Artist

1844-1885

Métis Nation of Alberta
#100-11738 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta, T5G 0X5
Phone: 780-455-2200
Fax: 780-782-1185
Toll-Free: 1-800-255-1144



Affiliate Reports



Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc.



History

Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc. (AMDI) was created in 1984 under a Federal Government contribution agreement with Native Economic Development Program, an initiative promoted by Industry, Science and Technology. The total committed funds for the creation of AMDI was \$8.8 million.

In 1988, AMDI commenced operations by providing commercial financial services and business management advisory services to Métis Entrepreneurs throughout Alberta. Under the original Federal Government Contribution Agreement, \$800,000 was expensed on the initial start-up costs while the capital pool of \$8 million was disbursed in stages.

AMDI has lent out over \$60 Million since 1988 and helped in the creation of over 1,000 Métis owned businesses throughout the Province of Alberta, while maintaining our capital base of \$8M. Our success is largely due to our clients who have successfully capitalized on their opportunities. We know we have succeeded when many of our clients transfer their loans to banks or credit unions, only to regret later that they should have remained with us. The purpose of AMDI is to help

Métis Entrepreneurs start or expand their business ideas and it is our hope that our clients, past and present, pass on their experience with us to other Métis entrepreneurs who may be considering first steps to becoming owners of their own business.

Report on Operations

During the period April 2016 to March 2017, AMDI approved \$4.5M in funding assistance to new and existing businesses, constituting a 77% increase year over year. We experienced a very strong recovery and we responded. The economic activity is not focused in any one particular industry, it is from all sectors of the economy. We think this is a reflection of a healthier economy recovering from what was a massive commodity price correction, where the rural communities (Regions 1, 2, 5, & 6) and Calgary (Region 3) were hit the hardest. Notably, Region 3 has seen the most activity and recovery. As usual, most of the new loan applicants this year took advantage of the Métis Entrepreneurs Assistance Program (MEAP). The contribution serves to substantially reduce debt servicing costs associated with acquiring assets required for their business's operations. Loans to businesses included, but were not limited to construction, retail, agriculture, professional and service based businesses, as well as some tourism and transports. Incidentally, none of the loan growth is related to oil and gas, not because we didn't want to do any of these types of projects, rather, we simply didn't receive any requests for such projects.

Still, we think this result is okay as we diversify our lending away from a highly volatile industry. In fact, we welcome the diversity as we are entertaining unique, interesting, and very sophisticated projects. Métis entrepreneurship in Alberta is very much alive and well, so we are excited that we are able

to participate alongside these endeavors. Durable opportunities continue to flow into our office. Our current work-in-progress as of April 1st, 2017 was \$3.5M – up 66% from April 1, 2016 measure of \$2.5M.

Other Investments

Métis Entrepreneurs Assistance Program (MEAP) Renewal

For over 25 years, Apeetogosan has provided external delivery services to Aboriginal Business Canada's business development program. As part of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) new Aboriginal Economic Development Framework, one initiative is to increase the delivery capacity of its external partners. As a consequence of this relationship AMDI continues to serve as Program Delivery Partner to INAC's small business development program. For the 2017-18 fiscal AMDI will be responsible for direct delivery of \$2M in equity, the result of a one year renewal of INAC's equity program. Through MEAP, AMDI provides the single window of access to equity and commercial finance capital to all Alberta Métis entrepreneurs. As you might imagine, this means a lot to AMDI as it ensures better service to our clients and solidifies expectations on timing and capital availability. During the 2016-17, AMDI helped Métis clients access \$1.6M, a record year for grant distributions, assisting well over 30 clients, and forging new relationships. We were short grant capital very early in the year, but we were able to receive additional funds late in the year as other Regions of the country were unable to commit their resources.

This year is no different as the demand for the Program is outstripping available funds. However, we are working diligently to rectify this problem with INAC and National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association (NACCA), calling for a redistribution to reflect more accurately the demand we are experiencing. Accordingly, the door remains open to all Indigenous entrepreneurs in Alberta. We will find the funds.

Pinnacle Business Services Ltd.

Pinnacle staff provide applicants an opportunity to access government programs available through INAC and NACCA as well as loan financing from AMDI by assisting the client in developing their business opportunity into a plan of action. The primary role of the Pinnacle business consultant is to assist clients in assessing their opportunities, including identifying areas of weakness and exposure to risk and what may be required of clients to mitigate such risk. To this end, Pinnacle Business Services assists clients in evaluating whether their business opportunities have a reasonable chance of becoming a successful small business venture, because the last thing we want is to see anybody fail.

The follow-up work to assessing an opportunity is developing a plan of execution that demonstrates the opportunity and its implementation. Pinnacle assists clients in formalizing their opportunity and implementation plans by helping the client develop a well prepared business plan. The business plan becomes the presentation document to financiers that demonstrates the integrity of the client's proposal that includes an assessment on commercial viability, capital cost and financing requirements, and the client's ability to competitively deliver the product or service under consideration.

During the 2016-17 fiscal, Pinnacle Business Services Ltd. assisted in the development of 31 business plans for clients, 25 of which attracted commercial financing from AMDI, while six leveraged commercial financing from another financial institution. The direct involvement of Pinnacle helped support a total of \$4.5 M in new term loans to AMDI for the year.

Aftercare is another component of services that Pinnacle provides, ensuring that clients have the appropriate accounting and bookkeeping systems in place, adequate training, and appropriate internal controls. During the year under review, Pinnacle Business Services Ltd. provided after-care services to 50 clients. It should be noted that our consulting arm's commitment to aftercare in the

projects that we do is integral to the success of both our clients and our own organization.

Alberta Métis Entrepreneurship Workshops & AMDI's Partnership with Rupertsland

Spearheaded by the Rupertsland Institute, and in partnership with Ballard Consulting Group, and Settlement Investment Corporation, we delivered 10, two-day entrepreneurship workshops during 2016-17, and with thanks to Rupertsland we will be providing an additional 10 throughout 2017-18. During the 2016-17 fiscal, Rupertsland experienced a substantive increase in demand for counseling services related to entrepreneurship and self-employment. As a result AMDI received many referrals through the Rupertsland office. Recognizing that entrepreneurship is not their specialty or their focus, Rupertsland had the foresight to approach AMDI to take on a more active role in supporting their initiative to offer counseling and business support services to clients seeking assistance with establishing or expanding their business endeavors.

As it happens, there was no better time for two affiliates of the MNA to coordinate resources that has enhanced both the training and services that each affiliate offers. We have always been passionate about the entrepreneurship course. We designed the workshop around the idea of demystifying entrepreneurship through a highly interactive approach. While focus on basic fundamental attributes of entrepreneurship such as defining what an opportunity constitutes, demonstrating commercial viability through the market's willingness-to-pay, and recognizing that accommodating incentives are key factors to successful entrepreneurs. We also provide attendees with a break-even tool that they can readily use to evaluate any opportunity they might consider – a skill that they can understand, use, and forever have with them – beyond the workshop classroom. As the workshop focuses on education and training, Rupertsland saw this as an excellent opportunity to team up with AMDI, learn a little more about what AMDI does, and we in turn, learnt a little more about Rupertsland. What a great partnership this has turned out to be.

In addition, as AMDI exhausted its MEAP commitments early this year due to the rapid and huge surge in demand, Rupertsland has stepped up to help fill the gap, by augmenting the MEAP program and for that AMDI is incredibly grateful. It has helped maintain client service – almost uninterrupted, while ensuring that the gaining momentum in AMDI's loan growth continues. We have established new reporting measures for Rupertsland that will help their organization in understanding where the needs of Métis entrepreneurs are most prevalent which will help Rupertsland coordinate their resources in an effort to provide better service to what is clearly becoming a dominate force in Métis economic activity. We thank both staff and management for their commitment and enthusiasm to support AMDI as the Métis in Alberta are increasingly looking to self-ownership as an economically viable alternative.



Métis Entrepreneurship Workshop – Edmonton

Like the year previous, participants were put through a rigorous investigation of the potential projects they may be considering – and they loved it. At the same time they learned more about the training and education that is available to them through the Rupertsland Institute as well as the financial services available to them at Apeetogosan and Settlement Investment Corporation. Course reviews and comments



Métis Entrepreneurship Workshop – Calgary

describe the workshop as “engaging,” “useful,” “inspiring,” “unintimidating,” and “really helped to equip me with tools that I could easily use and understand.” We have been conducting these workshops for a few years now and we believe it is the best workshop on entrepreneurship being offered. Three of the clients that came out of the Edmonton workshop have gone on to implement their business ideas, and two of the clients that came out of the Calgary workshop are expanding their existing operations and AMDI is an integral part of that process

Closing Remarks

It was, overall, a great year of recovery for AMDI with loan growth holding our portfolio at \$6.9M. AMDI continues to demonstrate its own durability, bouncing back from a difficult year in the prior fiscal. On a consolidated operating basis, AMDI earned over \$500K during the 2016-17 fiscal year, recovering confidently from a \$250K loss the year prior. We remain 2nd overall in performance across all Aboriginal Financial Institutions across Canada. And most importantly, we continue to remain relevant to the Métis community.

As a result of the 2015-16 recession, our role continues to evolve as our clients make the transition to a new and challenging economic environment, as it is equally challenging to our business model. We have increased flexibility of

financing terms offered to Métis entrepreneurs and we have enhanced repayment options. We have also increasingly been asked for a more active role in providing advice and counseling to both prospective and existing Métis entrepreneurs. It is a demonstration of our commitment to positioning AMDI as the preferred lender of choice among increasingly repeat Métis business. Of course, the economy will be what it will be and we will remain a reliable source of financial and business support to all Métis participating in it.

In the meantime, we continue to take advantage of and contribute to the development of new program initiatives with the National Aboriginal Capital Corporation Association (NACCA) and the Federal government, while fostering new relationships with Aboriginal Financial Institutions (AFIs). These initiatives will serve to enhance and compliment AMDI’s long-term growth initiative, providing further sustainable and durable support to Métis entrepreneurs seeking to capitalize their commercial endeavors in Alberta.

We have also streamlined the application process and have revamped our web page to make it more interactive, user friendly, and hopefully more efficient. It is a work-in-progress as we develop our own in-house on-line solutions and we encourage you to take a moment and have a look and see a more modern and hopefully useful on-line presence.

The staff of AMDI continues to work very well together and have established a very efficient office driven by a commitment to client service. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their hard work this past year, for Mr. Ivy’s leadership and management of the corporation, and the Board of Directors for their commitment and numerous contributions to ensuring AMDI continues to play an integral role in the growth of the Métis Nation of Alberta.

Métis Crossing

Introduction and Overview

The 2016/2017 season at Métis Crossing can be characterized by “continued growth.” Over the past year, Métis Crossing hosted numerous events, from music festivals, family reunions, professional development retreats, to school tours. National Aboriginal Day Celebration at Métis Crossing 2016 saw record attendance. The Métis Nation of Alberta 88th Annual General Assembly, hosted at Métis Crossing was widely considered a success, bringing the assembly “back to its roots.” A self-sufficient heritage site, sharing the Métis story as a destination and hub is the goal Métis Crossing continues to strive towards. Métis Crossing prides itself on its ability to share the Métis story with large numbers of the public through events, whose reach are beyond traditional museums. Below are summaries of the events and initiatives Métis Crossing took over the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

School & Senior’s Programs 2016 Season

On June 10th, 2016, a bus of 50 seniors from Smoky Lake area came to Métis Crossing for a tour of the Cromarty Barn. They sampled bannock and listened to the Red River Jig. The Métis Crossing Discovery Tour is offered to students in the area throughout the year, giving an overview of the Métis story and life on the frontier.

Odyssey Arts & Music Festival – June 3-5, 2016

Odyssey is defined as an intellectual or spiritual wandering or quest, a quest that imparts knowledge and wisdom. With great respect for the land, and to the treaties with which we hold space, Odyssey Gathering represents transformation and creation, driving cutting-edge music and culture at Métis Crossing in Smoky Lake, AB.



National Aboriginal Day Celebration – June 26, 2016

The event was funded through a partnership between the MNA, MNA regions, Métis Crossing, Town of Smoky Lake, County of Smoky Lake, and Celebrate Canada (Canadian Heritage). The event saw over 500 attendees. Entertainment at the event featured the Nicely Put Together Band, Métis Child and Family Dancers, Brianna and Brian Lizotte and friends, and an open jam component. Stew and bannock was prepared by Virginia’s Catering. Family activities happened throughout the day. The event was hosted by MNA Ministers of Culture Dan Cardinal and Duane Zaraska. There was consensus amongst the organizers that the event is growing in a positive direction.

Canada Day – July 1, 2016

Métis Crossing took part in the Town of Smoky Lake’s Canada Day Celebration. A trapper’s tent was set up in the park for kids to play in and bannock was served to attendees throughout the day. Information handouts about Métis Crossing were distributed.

Jamtron 2 – July 9, 2016

Jamtron was an overnight musical gathering held in July at Métis Crossing. Multiple performers from a variety of genres (Jazz, rock, and blues) were showcased throughout the day and night, accumulating to a finale jam that involved many of the performing artists. The family friendly event was organized and presented by The McGowan Family Band, based out of Edmonton, Alberta. The family of musicians is known for their jam/folk/rock sound. For the family, this event was a unique opportunity to join with family, friends, and fellow musicians in their love of live music within a comfortable outdoor environment.

The Reign Bough Fiddle Music & Arts Festival – July 15-17, 2016

The Festival is an inclusive, positive, outdoor gathering that draws its inspiration from an Indigenous story (sometimes called the “Whirling Rainbow”) which speaks of an optimistic vision for humankind. Organized by Métis Nation member, Dustin Laboucan, it is a vision of interpersonal and planetary unity, a concept that says it is our individual differences that make us beautiful, and that the separation we feel between each other and our planet is really just an illusion. A variety of music genres are explored from live performance art, electronic mixing, rap poetry, and live vocals. The audience enjoys a variety of vendors from across Canada as well as adventure games and workshops (e.g. basket weaving).



The Reign Bough Fiddle Music and Arts Festival

Wild Fire Training Camp – July, 2016

In response to the Ft. McMurray wild fires, the MNA and Norquest College collaborated on a Fire Fighting Training Camp held at Métis Crossing. The camp was a one week accredited course, providing trainees the skills necessary to fight wild fires. Two groups of trainees successfully finished the program. The camp was an ideal demonstration of the type of professional development programs that can be hosted at Métis Crossing. There is a will to continue the Fire Fighter Training program in 2017.



Fire Fighter Trainee Camp

MNA AGA – August 4-7, 2016

88th Annual General Assembly: Celebrating 200 Years- The Battle of Seven Oaks 1816-2016. It was an honour for Métis Crossing to host the 88th MNA Assembly. The four day event saw over 800 visitors to the site daily. Great planning and consideration went into assuring the success of the event. A clear span tent was rented to house the assembly, while the children’s programming, genealogical displays and other programs were situated in the historic buildings. Delegates were camped at the Métis Crossing Campground or took up lodging in the nearby communities of Smoky Lake and Lamont. Métis Crossing hopes to be considered as a venue for the assembly in the future.

Livingston-Howse Family Reunion – August 19-21, 2016

This Métis family traces its roots back to an original River lot, not far from Métis Crossing. The family annually holds their reunion here on the third weekend of August. The gift shop carries their self-published family history, which gives insight into the early river lot farm life of the area. This past reunion the Livingston-Howse Family erected a plaque on the Red River Cart, built by Roy Scott in recognition of his craft. The site continues to accommodate and attract family reunions of this type throughout the summer.

Access Pipeline Emergency Response Training – September 14, 2016

Access Pipeline used Métis Crossing dock and landing as a training ground for their Open Water Emergency Response Training. The company was pleased with the venue and expressed interest in continuing to use the site for this yearly training program.

Summer Student Work Program

Métis Crossing Applied for the Canada Summer Works program. This program created employment opportunities for three Métis Youth over the course of the 2016 summer.

Strategic Alliances, 2016/2017

Growing Tourism Workshop in North East Alberta October 18-19, 2016 Lac La Biche

This workshop focused on building partnerships to increase visitation. From this workshop, an alliance formed between Victoria Settlement, Haskin Canoe, and Métis Crossing. The purpose of the alliance was to find ways the three organizations could work together to offer engaging experiences to attract visitors. Through ongoing meetings, a tour concept was developed where visitors would arrive at Métis Crossing, experience the site, displays and interpretive trails, then board a Voyageur Canoe and travel to Victoria Settlement to experience that site. Part of the goal of this tour was to give visitors a sense of what life was like on the frontier and to explore the relationship

between Métis fur traders, Trading Forts, and the transportation routes of the river.

Growing Rural Tourism Conference – February 13-15, 2017 Camrose Alberta

At this conference an opportunity arose to pitch the Voyageur tour concept in the Entrepreneurial Challenge. The Métis Crossing Voyageur Experience won \$6,000.00 to help develop the concept over the upcoming year, including building platforms for more Trapper's Tents.

The Learning Network and Rupertsland Institute – December, 2016

Métis Crossing was approached about being a part of an annual Teacher's Camp, where teachers from across the province come together to learn about different aspects of Aboriginal life. The theme of this year's camp was "Meet the Métis." Together we developed a land-based learning program for the teacher's camp. Some of the themes focused on from "Our Way is a Valid Way" include Languages- Michif & Cree, Governance and Recognition, Métis Ways of Knowing, Homeland History Pre/Post Confederation, Métis in Alberta, Métis Today 1982- 2017. The Land based learning program was composed of a lecture, a hands on weaving demonstration, building a model red river cart, a traditional plant use walk, making bannock over a fire, dancing the Red River jig, a voyageur canoe trip, and a tour of Victoria Settlement. Unfortunately on May 24, 2016, the day we were to deliver the camp, a severe thunder storm swept the province, forcing the camp to be postponed until next year.

Aboriginal Tourism Association of Canada Market Ready Workshop – March 21-22, 2017

ATAC focuses on creating partnerships between associations, organizations, government departments and industry leaders from across Canada, with the aim of supporting the growth of Aboriginal tourism in Canada and addresses the demand for development and marketing of authentic Aboriginal experiences.

Community Engagement

In an effort to build stronger ties to the community around Métis Crossing, members of the management team joined different boards that share a common goal of developing and sharing historic, heritage, and cultural assets. The boards joined are as follows:

Victoria Home Guard Historical Society

Mission Statement: To seek out and to preserve and promote the history of the Victoria District for the benefit of present and future generations. In August of 2016 The Red River Cart Project was completed and was unveiled on the Southwest corner of Lobstick River Lot 1. MNA Vice President of Region 2 (and Co-Minister of Culture) Duane Zaraska was in attendance to help unveil the steel Red River cart statue. This statue is a testament to the importance of the Métis families and community that played a vital role of settlement in the Victoria District National Historic Site. The statue is a short drive from Métis Crossing, approximately 5 miles.

Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board

The purpose and mandate of the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board is to manage aspects of the surveillance, identification, evaluation, designation, preservation, restoration, and development of heritage resources within the Smoky Lake Region. The signature project of this board for 2016 was The House in the Middle of the Road. This unique house was originally built by the Whitford family. Restoration of the house began in 2011 and concluded in 2016. A plaque unveiling ceremony was held on May 28, 2016. MNA Co-Minister of Culture Duane Zaraska was in attendance, representing the Métis Nation at the event. This restored house, originally belonging to a pioneering Métis family, is another historic asset along the Victoria Trail that adds to the Métis legacy of the area.

Kalyna Country Board

Kalyna Country Eco museum is a “heritage” and eco-tourism district that helps preserve the unique historical, cultural, and natural features of the landscape. Kalyna Country is a “living” outdoor museum encompassing 20,000 sq. km in rural East Central Alberta. Instead of going to one building or site to see exhibits and artifacts, visitors are instead encouraged to travel around the area to learn about the past, the living cultures of the communities, the landscape and the natural recreation areas. Create your own adventure and enjoy the Eco museum experience which is meant to be as enjoyable as it is educational!

Conclusion

Looking forward, the intention is for Métis Crossing to continue functioning as a revenue generating venue. The development of successful annual events is key to driving visitation to the site. Working with tourism and educational partners, Métis Crossing aims to create excellent programming that will excite and attract Visitors from Alberta, Canada, and around the world. Métis Crossing continues to accommodate campers throughout the summer months, and draws many returning customers.



Children on a Historical Tour of Métis Crossing



Cree Productions (1992) Ltd.

About

Cree Productions (1992) Ltd. was initiated to acquire, develop, redevelop, and publish learning resources about Métis people intended for all students in Alberta schools. This was made possible through the purchase of the Dr. Anne Anderson Heritage and Cultural Centre and the rights to all the centre's materials.

Cree Productions has been very active and has over 80 copyrighted resources. The most noteworthy publications are the Dr. Anne Anderson Cree/English resources, which include a Cree dictionary.

In 1997, the Métis Nation of Alberta, in partnership with Alberta Learning, redeveloped and published 15 beginner Cree/English books. These beginner Cree/English books are available through the Métis Nation of Alberta. All the learning resources have received authorization from Alberta Learning and may be implemented into curricula as approved basic resources for all schools in the province.

In 2008-09, Cree Productions added a display case at the MNA Head Office to showcase Cree Productions wares. In 2016-17 MNA staff continues to manage the business and attended a number of events to market items. The partnership with Métis Crossing continues to grow and is becoming one of the major marketing initiatives.

Dr. Anne Anderson Titles

- Pet Beaver and Other Storieis
- Cree Symbols
- Understanding Syllabic Symbols
- Beginner's Dictionary
- Let's Learn Cree
- Our Home
- WAPI

- Numbers 1 to 20 in Cree
- Numbers 1 to 1,000 in Cree
- Wild Animals in Cree
- Insects and Spiders in Cree
- Plants in Cree
- Birds in Cree
- Opposites in Cree
- Little Hunter

Additional Titles

- A New Nation (The First Métis)
- Métis Land Rights in Alberta
- Dr. Anne on Patience, Wisdom and Love

Other Products

- Sashes
- MNA Clothing
- MNA Flags
- MNA Pins
- Lapel Sashes

Métis Nation of Alberta - Cree Productions #100,
11738 Kingsway Avenue Edmonton, AB T5G 0X5
Phone: 780-455-2200
Toll Free: 1-800-252-7553
Fax: 780-482-7213

These resources may be accessed by contacting Cree Productions.

Métis Nation Holdings Ltd.

In 1997, the MNA took an inactive but current company, called Métis Nation Productions, and renamed it Métis Nation Holdings Ltd. The MNA holds 100% of the shares. This entity holds title to the MNA Provincial Office property on Kingsway Avenue and 50% of the Inglewood Centre property on 111 Ave in Edmonton. The Inglewood property is held in partnership with Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc. The holding company allows for arms-length lease transactions and limited liability. The Board of Directors for the Métis Nation Holdings is the same as the MNA Executive.

11738 Kingsway Avenue – MNA Provincial Office, Delia Gray Building

In January 1997, the building that the Métis Nation leased on St. Albert Trail was sold. Shortly after taking possession, the new owner proposed doubling the rent, which drew serious concern from the MNA.

In response, the MNA Provincial Council issued direction to explore the purchase of our own building. It was reasoned that purchasing our own building would create program stability and potential for gain, and would meet the office needs of the MNA. The parameters of the purchase were that ownership should cost no more than the proposed lease and no MNA program funds could be used in the purchase.

After several months of research, a deal was concluded on the purchase of the building on Kingsway Avenue, now occupied by the Provincial Office. The MNA acquired the building by assuming the existing mortgage without having to make a down payment. The MNA now holds clear title to the Delia Gray Building after paying off the mortgage in September of 2004. Renovations undertaken in February and March of 2005 have increased the amount of office space usable for

program delivery and created more hospitable and welcoming space for our members and guests. Modest renovations continued during 2006-2007 designed to provide more efficient file storage and additional office space. During 2007-2008 building modifications were begun with a view to energy efficiency. 2008-09 saw the completion of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning repair & replacement as well as the beginning of the final phase of office modifications designed to maximize the available office space within the building. During 2010-2011 renovations were completed. The 2011-2012 fiscal year saw modest upgrades to the building exterior as well as the ongoing operation and maintenance. 2012-2013 continued with the exterior upgrades program, paint and finish within the interior, some modifications to the air conditioning for the Server room as well as ongoing operation and maintenance. Similar to the preceding year, 2015-2016 saw exterior and interior upgrades as well as ongoing operation and maintenance. 2016-17 has seen significant renovations to both floors of the Delia Gray building. An open area concept has been implemented to improve both the aesthetics and functionality of the building space as well as accommodate a significant growth in program staffing.

11922 121 A Street – Larry Desmeules Building

On May 1, 1999, Métis Nation Holdings completed the purchase of the building occupied by Métis Urban Housing Corporation. This purchase was prompted by the proposed sale of the building by the previous owners. Due to the foresight of the MUHC Board, the MNA was provided the right of first refusal. The building was financed through the assumption of a mortgage and a loan to Métis Nation Holdings from the Royal

Bank. Once again, no MNA program funding was used in the purchase. Lease payments cover all costs associated with the building. This was a requirement put down by the MNA Board. The building has a clear title as of May of 2009. Future plans called for additional renovations to help with increased growth of MUHC and MCHC. During 2008-09, conceptual drawings for the addition of an administrative wing were developed and a development permit was obtained. During the fall of 2010-11 zoning issues were negotiated, a building permit was granted and construction began in October of 2010 on a 10,000 sq. ft. addition. The addition was completed in April of 2012. The 2012-2013 year saw the interior of the old warehouse and the majority of the old office space demolished. An upgraded, insulated warehouse with a sprinkler system is now in place. The remainder of the old office space has been converted to file storage. The roofing on the warehouse was also replaced. Landscaping and final building inspections were completed and passed. During 2013 – 2014, the sale of the Larry Desmeules building to Métis Capital Housing Corporation was completed. This action was consistent with the MNA mandate of assisting affiliates wherever possible to achieve stability in program delivery.

12304 111 Avenue – Métis Veterans Building

On November 1, 1999, Métis Nation Holdings completed the purchase of the Inglewood Centre.

Tenants in the building include: Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc., Pinnacle Business Services, Edmonton Métis Employment Services Centre, Alberta Family and Social Services, City Police, Mother Earth Essentials, the Métis Nation of Alberta Judiciary Council, Métis Veterans Society, and Onion Lake Urban Office. The building mortgage was paid out and a clear title obtained in September 2010. Property management of the building, previously contracted out, has now been assumed by Métis Nation Holdings and Apeetogosan (Métis) Development Inc. which holds 50 per cent of the shares in the building. 2011-2012 major repairs included a vinyl roof membrane. In 2012-2013, several leases

were renegotiated at increased rates, a major replacement of the entire heating, cooling and ventilation system was undertaken and several tenant space upgrades were completed.

2014- 2015 saw more lease renewals at favorable rates, tenant improvements completed, and some internal shuffling of office space to see the Métis Judiciary Council moved to a more appropriate location while accommodating the growth of Pinnacle Business Services. With tenant improvements in 2015-16 to Mother Earth and the Onion Lake Urban office, the building is now completely leased at favorable rates. Concentration on preventative maintenance of the parking lot, parkade and landscaping has improved the aesthetics of the building while adding value and building longevity. Security improvements have been the focus of the 2016-17 year. Cameras have been added throughout the building, remote access electronics and monitors have been added to improve the safety of staff working late on after hours training classes. While the building is in good repair, code compliance issues were also a focus as a number of building code changes have been made over the last couple of years. All requirements have been met.

Other Activity

While not owned by the Métis Nation Holdings, the company has invested considerable time and effort assisting in the purchase of the Region 1 building, the purchase and renovation of the Region 2 building, the purchase of a Local building in Region 3, purchase of the Region 4 building, the purchase and complete renovation of the Region 5 building, the purchase and initial development of Métis Crossing as well as involvement with certain MCHC projects and renovations connected with Rupertsland and some of its MES Centres.



Resolutions 2015-2016





SPECIAL RESOLUTION #1

RESOLUTION ON NEGOTIATING A MODERN DAY TREATY WITH THE CROWN

WHEREAS it has been the longstanding goal of the MNA to advance the Métis Nation's inherent right of self-government and self-determination within Alberta through negotiating a modern day treaty relationship with the Crown, which recognizes the MNA's unique self-government, respects Métis rights throughout Alberta and addresses outstanding Métis land claims;

AND WHEREAS through the strong political organization and efforts of the MNA and Métis leaders like Harry Daniels, section 35 of the *Constitution Act 1982* includes the Métis Nation and states,

- (1) The existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed;
- (2) In this Act, "aboriginal peoples of Canada" includes the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada
- (3) For greater certainty, in subsection (1) "treaty rights" includes rights that now exist by way of land claims agreements or may be so acquired.

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada has recently confirmed in the *Daniels* case that the Federal Government has the jurisdiction and responsibility pursuant to section 91(24) of the *Constitution Act, 1867* to establish a meaningful relationship with the Métis Nation that advances reconciliation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following objective of the MNA be added to Article 1 of the MNA Bylaws as Article 1.8:

To negotiate, on behalf of the Métis in Alberta, a modern day treaty relationship with the Crown through a "land claims agreement" or other arrangement as called for and contemplated within the meaning of section 35(3) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

MOVED BY: Bev New **SECONDED BY:** Karen Collins

RESOLUTION PASSED



SPECIAL RESOLUTION #2

Mr. Andreeff read Special Resolution #2 to the assembly and confirmed that the committee deemed it a valid resolution.

RESOLUTION ON OATH OF MEMBERSHIP

WHEREAS Article 1.3 of the MNA Bylaws sets out that it is an objective of MNA “to promote, pursue, and defend the Aboriginal, legal, constitutional, and other rights of Métis in Alberta,” which includes asserting and advancing Métis rights that are protected within section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* including dealing with the Crown’s constitutional duties and obligations owing to Métis in Alberta and addressing outstanding Métis land claims in Alberta;

AND WHEREAS Articles 10.7 and 10.8 state:

10.7 Any Métis who has been accepted as a Member must sign and take an oath of membership to the Métis Nation.

10.8 The oath of membership shall be attached to Schedule “A” to these Bylaws and shall form a part of the Bylaws.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following oath of membership be attached to the MNA Bylaws as Schedule “A”:

I agree to the Métis Nation’s Bylaws and policies, as amended from time to time, and, voluntarily authorize the Métis Nation to assert and advance collectively-held Métis rights, interests and claims on behalf of myself, my community and the Métis in Alberta, including negotiating and arriving at agreements that advance, determine, recognize and respect Métis rights. In signing this oath, I also recognize that I have the right to end this authorization, at any time, by terminating my membership within the Métis Nation.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this oath of membership be a requirement for all future individuals to sign as part of their application for membership in the MNA;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT all existing members be provided notice of this new oath of membership.

MOVED BY: Bev New

SECONDED BY: Karen Collins

RESOLUTION PASSED

Wendy Goulet, President of Cadotte Lake Métis Local requested it be noted in the minutes that she voted against the resolution.



SPECIAL RESOLUTION #3

Mr. Andreeff confirmed that the committee deemed this an invalid resolution.

RESOLUTION ON TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

WHEREAS it is now an objective of the MNA “to negotiate, on behalf of the Métis in Alberta, a modern day treaty relationship with the Crown through a “land claim agreement” or other arrangement as called for and contemplated within the meaning of section 35(3) of the *Constitution Act, 1982.*”

AND WHEREAS other Métis Nation governments, including, the Manitoba Métis Federation, are pursuing their own negotiations with the Crown on behalf of their members, and their bylaws include provisions that state that participation in a land claims agreement under the meaning of the *Constitution Act, 1982* to which that Métis Nation government is not a party to results in automatic termination of membership;

AND WHEREAS Article 8(1) of the MNA Bylaws already recognize that a Lifetime Membership in the MNA shall terminate upon “entry of a member’s name in a Band list or in the Indian Register according to the provisions of the *Indian Act, R.S.C.*”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the following be added as Article 8(1)(d) of the MNA Bylaws as a reason for termination of membership in the MNA:

Participation in a modern day treaty or “land claim agreement” with the Crown under the meaning of the *Constitution Act, 1982* to which the Métis in Alberta are not a party.

MOVED BY: Bev New **SECONDED BY:** Karen Collins

RESOLUTION DEEMED INVALID

Mr. Andreeff confirmed that Resolution #4 has been withdrawn by the members who submitted it.



SPECIAL RESOLUTION #4

Whereas the Provincial bylaws need clarity in the right of recall; and

Whereas there are many inconsistencies in the issue of recalling the Provincial President or Vice President; and

Whereas we need consistency in the process so that people can be advised on how to bring forward issues related to the Provincially elected positions; and

Whereas the current bylaws read as follows:

23.2 A President or Vice-President may be removed from office through the following process:

- a) A minimum of Twenty-One (21) days notice of a Local Community Meeting to approve an ordinary resolution demanding the removal of the President or Vice-President must be given to members of all Local Communities in Alberta; and
- b) A written resolution demanding the removal of the President or Vice-President must be approved by seventy-five (75%) percent of all Local Communities in Alberta who have held meetings and given their members a minimum of twenty-one (21) days notice of the meeting; and
- c) The written resolution approved and signed by seventy-five (75%) percent of the Local Communities in Alberta shall be sent to their Regional Council; and
- d) Upon receipt of the written resolution from the Local Council the Secretary of each Regional Council shall give a minimum of twenty-one (21) days notice of a meeting to the members of the Regional Council to vote on the written resolution; and
- e) A meeting each Regional Council shall be held and if seventy-five (75%) percent of the members of each Regional Council vote to remove the President or Vice-President then each Regional Council shall send a written resolution demanding the removal of the President or Vice-President to the Provincial Council; and
- f) Within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of a written resolution from seventy-five (75%) percent of the Regional Councils signed by seventy-five (75%) percent of the members of each Regional Council the Provincial Council shall remove the President or Vice-President and the position shall be declared vacant.



Therefore be it resolved that the current Article 23.2 be removed in its entirety and replaced with the following article: (highlighted parts indicate recommended changes):

- a) 23.2 A Provincial President or Provincial Vice-President may be removed from office through the following process:
 - a) A minimum of Twenty One (21) days notice of a Local Community Meeting to approve an ordinary resolution demanding the removal of the President or Vice-President must be given to members of all Local Communities in Alberta; and
 - b) A written resolution demanding the removal of the Provincial President or Provincial Vice-President must be approved by seventy-five (75%) percent of the number of Métis individuals that voted in that community during the election; and
 - c) The written resolution approved and signed by seventy-five (75%) percent of the Local Communities in the Region shall be sent to their Regional Council; and Upon receipt of the written resolution from the Local Councils the Secretary of each Regional Council shall give a minimum of twenty-one (21) days notice of a meeting to the members of the Regional Council to vote on the written resolution; and
 - d) A meeting each Regional Council shall be held and if seventy-five (75%) percent of the members of each Regional Council vote to remove the Provincial President or Provincial Vice-President then each Regional Council shall send a written resolution demanding the removal of the President or Vice-President to the Provincial Council; and
 - e) Within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of a written resolution from seventy-five (75%) percent of the Regional Councils signed by seventy-five (75%) percent of the eligible voters who voted in the previous election Regional Council the Provincial Council shall remove the Provincial President or Provincial Vice-President and the position shall be declared vacant.

MOVED BY: Darryl Shott MNA member: 003501 Region 1

SECONDED BY: Wendy Goulet MNA member: 004809 Region 6

RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN



ORDINARY RESOLUTION #1

Ordinary Resolution submitted by: Métis Nation of Alberta Local 2002 Buffalo Lake

WHEREAS: The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) Local 2002 Buffalo Lake is situated on the Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement and comprised of Métis holding membership within the MNA, and

WHEREAS: The MNA has an extensive Genealogy Research Centre (GRC), with staff having over thirty years collective research and genealogy experience, and

WHEREAS: Confirmation of Métis Status requires historical proof of an ancestor who received a land grant or script grant under the Manitoba Act or the Dominion Lands Act which would require proof of Métis ancestry to the 1800s, and

WHEREAS: the Ewing Commission set up on 1938 in Alberta to review the situation of the Métis in Alberta, recommended that land be set aside for the Métis with limited self-governing authority over hunting, fishing and trapping, and

WHEREAS: In the 1960s, a Cabinet Order-in-Council removed the settlements Marlboro, Touchwood, Cold Lake and Wolf Lake from the Métis regime, and

WHEREAS: In 1990, Accord Legislation passed giving the Métis people – all Métis people, not just certain Métis, 1.25 million acres of land on eight settlements remaining after – via the Métis Settlement Act, the Métis Accord Implementation Act, the Métis Land Protection Act and the Constitution of Alberta Amendment Act, and

WHEREAS: Confusion has arisen as to the definition of Métis as a result of litigation, public policy and lack of progression on the Métis Settlements, thus putting at risk assurances that the land set aside for the Métis remains for all Métis and not only certain Métis.

THEREFORE: be it resolved that:

1. The Métis Nation of Alberta make it an official policy that all persons living on Settlements and claiming to be Métis and benefit from the rights of land ownership, voting and holding office on a Settlement must hold membership with the MNA.
2. Moreover that the MNA lobby the Government of Alberta and the Federal Government to affect same as the MNA membership is the only trustworthy method of assuring Métis heritage and bona fides.

MOVED BY: Jack Ladouceur **SECONDED BY:** Joe Blyan

RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



ORDINARY RESOLUTION #2

Métis Provisional Youth Council

Whereas, the Métis Youth gathered Friday August 5, 2016 at the 2016 Métis Youth Conference.

Whereas, we reviewed the 2015 Youth Gathering report, we discussed a provisional framework to move youth issues forward, and we discussed the transition process to finalize a youth council framework for the 2018 MNA general election.

Whereas, to move forward on these priorities, the youth within the Métis Nation of Alberta establish a provisional council, through a regional application process, which is comprised of a member from each region, within 6 months of the 2016 AGA.

Whereas the Métis Nation of Alberta have set a precedent by having a previous youth council.

Therefore, be it resolved that this 88th assembly support the establishment of a provisional youth council, and the MNA find the funds to put that plan into action and provide administrative support, with regional and provincial youth advisory support.

Moved by: Dusty Gauchier **Seconded by:** Audrey Poitras

RESOLUTION PASSED



ORDINARY RESOLUTION #3

Whereas hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering and practising traditional activities on our lands is fundamental to Métis identity and way of life in Alberta and are protected as constitutional rights in Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*

And whereas in 2007 the Government of Alberta unilaterally adopted a Métis Harvesting Policy that largely denies the Section 35 Métis Rights in Alberta and is inconsistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Canada's Constitution;

And whereas the 2007 MNA AGA unanimously adopted an Action Plan on Métis Harvesting that rejects Alberta's Métis Harvesting Policy and commits the MNA to advancing and protecting Métis harvesting rights;

And whereas the MNA President has repeatedly written to the new Alberta Government to re-engage in harvesting rights negotiations to arrive at a mutually agreeable arrangement that recognizes and protects rights for generations to come but has not received a response yet;

Therefore be it resolved that:

1. The MNA AGA fully supports the MNA efforts to negotiate a new arrangement on Métis Harvesting rights and that all MNA citizens be encouraged to call and write to the Premier, Minister of Environment and Parks as well as their member of the Legislative Assembly on the need for renewed negotiations;
2. If the Alberta Government refuses to negotiate on these issues, the MNA be authorized to develop and pursue strategic litigation in order to secure renewed negotiations with the Alberta Government since the status quo is unacceptable to Alberta Métis.

Moved by: Joe Hamelin

Seconded by: Karen Collins

RESOLUTION PASSED



ORDINARY RESOLUTION #4

I, Carmen Wells move that the Métis Nation of Alberta, begin developing a Constitution for the Métis Nation of Alberta.

Moved by: Carmen Wells **Seconded by:** Brian Hamelin

RESOLUTION PASSED

ORDINARY RESOLUTION #5

Whereas, the MNA is in the process of developing Métis Crossing as a world heritage centre in recognition of the Métis Nation; and

Whereas, the Métis Nation has recognized leaders such as Louis Riel where a statue of his likeness stands at the Manitoba Legislature; and

Whereas, a statue of Gabriel Dumont is erected in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; and

Whereas, Harry Daniels is responsible for getting “Métis” into the Constitution of Canada; and

Whereas, Harry Daniels is responsible for the Supreme Court affirming our Indigenous rights; and

Whereas, Harry Daniels was very involved within the Métis Nation of Alberta,

Therefore be it resolved, that the MNA desire to have a statue of Harry Daniels at Métis Crossing as a world class attraction.

And further be it resolved that, the MNA will work with all relevant parties to have a statue of Harry Daniels at Métis Crossing.

Moved by: Aaron Barner **Seconded by:** Joe Blyan

RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



ORDINARY RESOLUTION #6

Harvesting Harassment

Whereas Métis harvesting rights have been established in the Supreme Court; and

Whereas, Provincial Fish and Wildlife continue to charge Métis hunters for hunting; and

Whereas, this action no longer be accepted and tolerated;

Therefore be it resolved that, the MNA be authorized to pursue charges of harassment against all Fish and Game officers, who continue to contravene this court decision.

Moved by: Brian Fayant **Seconded by:** Melanie Omeniho

RESOLUTION PASSED

ORDINARY RESOLUTION #7

Melanie Omeniho moves that the resolution committee be mandated with the responsibility of presenting all resolutions and start by setting up a process for us to submit resolutions for them to be put on a screen before voting. Seconded by Brian Fayant.

Moved by: Melanie Omeniho **Seconded by:** Brian Fayant

RESOLUTION PASSED

ORDINARY RESOLUTION #8

Brian Fayant moves that the MNA continue to host the AGA at Métis Crossing, furthermore that a resolution be tabled at the next AGA that would provide the changes in the bylaws to reflect that.

Therefore be it resolved that Region 6 consider holding the 2017 AGA at Metis Crossing at which time a Special Resolution will be presented to change the bylaws. Seconded by Nora Chapdelaine.

Moved by: Brian Fayant **Seconded by:** Nora Chapdelaine

RESOLUTION PASSED



ORDINARY RESOLUTION #9

RESOLUTION ON STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES ON CROWN CONSULTATION AND ACCOMODATION WITH MÉTIS IN ALBERTA

WHEREAS the Crown has a constitutional obligation to consult with and, where appropriate, accommodate Métis in Alberta when governments contemplate conduct that may adversely affect asserted or established Métis rights, interests, and claims;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Alberta currently has no formal policy requiring consultation with Métis in Alberta not living on the Métis Settlements, and the Government of Alberta's approach to consultation with Métis is *ad hoc* and discretionary;

AND WHEREAS at the provincial, regional, and local levels, the Métis Nation of Alberta has consistently and repeatedly advocated for the collaborative development and implementation of a Government of Alberta policy that would ensure meaningful consultation with Métis in Alberta;

AND WHEREAS the *Statement of Principles on Crown Consultation and Accommodation with Métis in Alberta* ("*Statement of Principles*," attached hereto as Appendix A) was developed and agreed to by a Technical Working Group made up of representatives of every Region of the Métis Nation of Alberta in order to serve as a statement of the principles to which Crown consultation and accommodation with Métis in Alberta must adhere;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Annual General Assembly of the Métis Nation of Alberta endorses the *Statement of Principles* and mandates the Métis Nation of Alberta to undertake the following:

- 1) Negotiations with the Government of Alberta to develop a provincial government policy consistent with the *Statement of Principles* requiring Crown consultation with Métis in Alberta;
- 2) Negotiations between the Provincial, Regional, and Local Councils to develop consensus based regional consultation protocols consistent with the *Statement of Principles* that will define the processes by which the Crown and industry ought to consult with the Métis in specific geographic areas of Alberta; and
- 3) Preparation of proposed amendments to the Métis Nation of Alberta's *Policy Guidelines Regarding the Duty to Consult and Accommodate Métis Aboriginal Rights and Interests in Alberta* (July 2009) to ensure its consistency with the *Statement of Principles*.

Moved by: Cliff Supernault

Seconded by: Karen Collins

RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



ORDINARY RESOLUTION #10

Brian Fayant moves that the MNA create a monument to the Veterans located here at Métis Crossing.
Seconded by Nora Chapdelaine.

Moved by: Brian Fayant

Seconded by: Nora Chapdelaine

RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



Special Resolutions 2016-2017



SPECIAL RESOLUTION #1

SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE MÉTIS NATION OF ALBERTA ASSOCIATION

The special resolution below contains an extensive number of amendments to the Métis Nation of Alberta Bylaws. Due to the bulk of the background documents, they are referenced with internet links as it is not practical to print them in newspapers or newsletters. If you do not have access to the internet, you are encouraged to contact someone who does in order to access the documents. Printed copies will be available at the MNA Assembly and copies may be obtained from MNA Head office and MNA Regional Offices.

WHEREAS pursuant to Ordinary Resolution #8 passed at the 87th Annual Assembly held August 6-9, 2015 a complete and comprehensive review of the Métis Judiciary Council (MJC) has been conducted, which included consultation with Métis communities and members in connection with the redesign of a Métis judicial process to be operated at the highest judicial standard possible (the MJC Resolution);

AND WHEREAS pursuant to the MJC Resolution the review of the MJC that was completed has included the preparation of an Independent Third Party Review of the MJC by Deloitte (the Deloitte Report) as well as the preparation of proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association (the MNA Bylaws) by a separate independent committee (the MJC Review Committee) based upon the recommendations contained in the Deloitte Report;

AND WHEREAS the proposed amendments to the MNA Bylaws can be viewed in two separate versions as follows:

1. One version in .pdf format with all proposed amendments tracked so that the existing wording of the MNA Bylaws can be viewed at the following link:

<https://files.acrobat.com/a/preview/7443747d-eb53-4a6c-9faa-d482bcf2f01e>

2. One version in .pdf format with all proposed amendments incorporated (ie. a 'clean version') can be viewed at the following link:

<https://files.acrobat.com/a/preview/c2b64540-b671-44b2-996c-8c2beb230441>

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the MNA Bylaws be amended as set out in the 'tracked' version (Version 1) above and that the amendments come into force on the later of:

- a. Registration of this Resolution Amending the MNA Bylaws with the Registrar of Corporations;
- b. The adoption of a Manual of Procedural Rules and a set of Operating Standard & Procedures for the MJC by the Métis Nation of Alberta Provincial Council;
- c. The selection of members of the MJC in the manner provided for in the proposed amendments; and
- d. January 1, 2018.

MOVED BY: ANDREA CALDER

SECONDED BY: BRIAN LIZOTTE

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #2

WHEREAS: the objectives of the Métis Nation of Alberta Article 1.6 To develop prosperity and economic self-sufficiency within the Métis Nation of Alberta;

WHEREAS: An ordinary resolution was passed at the 88th, Métis Nation of Alberta's Annual Assembly at Métis Crossing;

WHEREAS: A Special Resolution was to be drafted and brought to the 89th, Métis Nation of Alberta's Annual Assembly;

WHEREAS: The current Métis Nation of Alberta's bylaws Article 24.2 states

24.2 An Annual Assembly shall not be held twice in one Region before it has been held in every other Region or otherwise determined by the Provincial Council

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Article 24.2 is replaced with the following;

24.2 An Annual Assembly shall be held at Métis Crossing each year

Moved by: Angie Crerar

Seconded by: Marilyn Lizee

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #3

SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE MÉTIS NATION OF ALBERTA ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS Article 1.7 of the MNA Bylaws states that one of the objectives of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association is "To promote and ensure participation of Métis Elders, Métis Women, *Métis Youth* and Métis persons with disabilities in the educational, cultural, political and social development of the Métis Nation of Alberta."

AND WHEREAS the MNA passed Ordinary Resolution #1 at the 2015 Annual Assembly resolving "that this Assembly direct MNA Provincial Council to take all steps necessary to develop the framework for a youth council to bring forward for consideration at the 88th Annual General Assembly."

AND WHEREAS the MNA passed Ordinary Resolution #2 at the 2016 Annual Assembly resolving "that this 88th Assembly support the establishment of a provisional youth council, and the MNA find the funds to put that plan into action and provide administrative support, with regional and provincial youth advisory support."

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Ordinary Resolution #1 passed at the 88th Annual Assembly held August 2016, a provincial youth coordinator was hired and a Provisional Youth Council was created by nominations of a youth representative from each of the 6 Regions.

AND WHEREAS the Provisional Youth Council met and discussed proposed bylaw changes to finalize a youth council framework for the 2018 MNA general election.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a new Article be added to the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Bylaws to read as follows:

Article 80 MÉTIS YOUTH COUNCIL

80.1 There shall be established a Métis Youth Council.

80.2 The Métis Youth Council shall consist of the following Métis Lifetime Members:

(a) Six (6) Regional Youth Representatives (one elected from each of the six (6) regions); and

(b) Six (6) Regional Youth Vice-Representatives (one elected from each of the six (6) regions).

80.3 Métis Youth Council members shall serve a four (4) year term.

80.4 In order to be a candidate for Regional Youth Representative on the Métis Youth Council, the individual must have the following qualifications:

(a) must be a Métis Lifetime member;

(b) must be between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30) years old at the time of the election; and

(c) must not have been convicted of an indictable offence in Canada.

80.5 In order to be a candidate for Regional Youth Vice-Representative on the Métis Youth Council, the individual must have the following qualifications:

(a) must be a Métis Lifetime member;

(b) must be between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty (30) years old at the time of the election; and

(c) must not have been convicted of an indictable offence in Canada.

80.6 The Regional Youth Representatives and Regional Youth Vice-Representatives shall be elected in accordance with the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws.

80.7 Each elected Métis Youth Council member shall serve as an Ambassador for youth in their region and shall be responsible for the following:

(a) bringing the perspective of their region's youth to the Métis Youth Council;

(b) advocating for the needs of the youth in their region;

(c) being a positive role model and resource for Métis youth within their region;

(d) serving as an Ambassador of Métis youth in Alberta;

(e) actively working to move Métis youth issues forward;

(f) participating at Regional Council meetings in their region; and

(g) adhering to the requirements of the Métis Youth Council Terms of Reference, as amended from time to time.

80.8 A member of the Métis Youth Council shall automatically cease to be a member of the Métis Youth Council upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

(a) death;

(b) absence from two (2) consecutive Métis Youth Council meetings without reasonable excuse;

(c) delivery of a written resignation to the Secretary of the Métis Youth Council;

(d) if a Métis Youth Council member becomes registered in the Indian Register according to the provisions of the Indian Act;

(e) if a Métis Youth Council member no longer resides in the Region from which they represent;

(f) if a Métis Youth Council member fails to submit two consecutive monthly reports to the Métis Youth Council without reasonable excuse;

(g) if a Métis Youth Council member is absent from two (2) Métis Youth Council meetings without notifying the Métis Youth Council of their absence at least 24 hours before the meeting.

80.9 Any unexpired term created by any vacancy of a Regional Youth Representative position due to resignation, removal, or incapacity shall be filled through the following process:

(a) if the Regional Youth Vice-Representative from the same region as the vacancy is of full age of eighteen (18) years, this Regional Youth Vice-Representative will become the Regional Youth Representative of his or her region.

(b) if the Regional Youth Vice-Representative from the same region as the vacancy is not of full age of eighteen (18) years, the vacancy will be filled by the following process:

(i) The Regional Council of the region with the vacancy will post a call for applicants who meet the criteria set out in Article 80.4;

(ii) The application period will be open for two (2) months after the call for applicants was made;

(iii) Following the two (2) month application period, the applications collected will be submitted to the Métis Youth Council;

(iv) The Métis Youth Council will select from the applicants the replacement Regional Youth Representative within one (1) month of receiving the applications.

80.10 Any unexpired term created by any vacancy of a Regional Youth Vice-Representative position due to resignation, removal, or incapacity shall be filled through the following process:

(a) The Regional Council of the region with the vacancy will post a call for applicants who meet the criteria set out in Article 80.5;

(b) The application period will be open for two (2) months after the call for applicants was made;

(c) Following the two (2) month application period, the applications collected will be submitted to the Métis Youth Council;

(d) The Métis Youth Council will select from the applicants the replacement Regional Youth Representative within one (1) month of receiving the applications.

80.11 Each member of the Métis Youth Council shall be required to take an Oath of Office prior to the commencement of their term as a member of the Métis Youth Council.

80.12 Each member of the Métis Youth Council shall be required to follow the same conflict of interest guidelines as the Regional Council outlined in Article 48 of these bylaws.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 5.3 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws be amended to read as follows (*italicized writing indicates suggested change*):

5.3 An elector is entitled to only one (1) vote for each office for which *they are eligible to vote for*.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 5.5 be added to Article 5 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws to read as follows:

5.5 Any Métis Lifetime member who:

- (a) is between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty (30) years old;
- (b) has been or will have been ordinarily resident in Alberta for at least one (1) year prior to the date of the election;
- (c) will sign a declaration stating he/she is not currently registered as a status Indian under the provisions of the Indian Act, prior to casting his/her ballot.

Shall be entitled to vote for any Candidate for office of Regional Youth Representative and Regional Youth Vice-Representative in his or her Region.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 6.2 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws be amended to read as follows (*italicized writing indicates suggested change*):

6.2 Nominations of candidates for office of President, Vice-President, Regional President and Regional Vice President, *and Regional Youth Representative and Regional Youth Vice-Representative*, shall be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer at a location specified by the Chief Electoral Officer prior to 5:00 pm on the date fixed for the closing of nominations.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 6.4 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws be amended to read as follows (*italicized writing indicates suggested change*):

6.4 A Métis Lifetime member is eligible to be nominated as a candidate/*or office of President, Vice-President, Regional President, and Regional Vice-President* in an election if on the day his or her nomination paper is filed he or she:

- (a) is a Métis Lifetime member who is entitled to hold office;
- (b) is of full age of sixteen (16) years or will be that age on election day;
- (c) has been ordinarily resident in Alberta continuously from the day 12 months immediately preceding the election day; and
- (d) has no financial debt owing to the Métis Nation or its affiliates that is more than thirty (30) days in arrears.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 6.7 be added to Article 6 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws to read as follows:

6.7 A Métis Lifetime member is eligible to be nominated as a candidate for office of Regional Youth Representative if on the day his or her nomination paper is filed he or she:

- (a) is a Métis Lifetime member;
- (b) is between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30) or will be that age on Election day;
- (c) has been ordinarily resident in Alberta, pursuant to Article 5.2 of these Election Bylaws, continuously from the day 12 months immediately preceding the Election day; and
- (d) has no financial debt owing to the Métis Nation or its affiliates that is more than thirty (30) days in arrears.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 6.8 be added to Article 6 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws to read as follows:

6.8 A Métis Lifetime member is eligible to be nominated as a Candidate for office of Regional Youth Vice-Representative if on the day his or her nomination paper is filed he or she:

- (a) is a Métis Lifetime member;
- (b) is between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty (30) or will be that age on Election day;
- (c) has been ordinarily resident in Alberta, pursuant to Article 5.2 of these Election Bylaws, continuously from the day 12 months immediately preceding the Election day; and
- (d) has no financial debt owing to the Métis Nation or its affiliates that is more than thirty (30) days in arrears.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 6.9 be added to Article 6 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws to read as follows:

6.9 All nominations for Métis Youth Council shall include the following:

- (a) written acceptance of the nomination by the candidate;
- (b) 20 signatures of Métis Lifetime members who reside in the Region nominating the candidate, 10 of which signatures must be from Métis Lifetime members who are between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty (30) at the time of election; and
- (c) Persons applying to hold an elected office within the Métis Nation of Alberta shall provide an official letter to the Chief Electoral Officer declaring that they are not currently registered with the Department of Indian Affairs as a Status Indian under the provisions of the Indian Act.

MOVED BY: BRETT CHERNOW

SECONDED BY: MEGAN CLAUDE

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #4

WHEREAS: Article 1 Name and Objectives of the Métis Nation of Alberta Bylaws Article 1.7 states: To promote and ensure participation of Métis Elders, Métis Women, Métis Youth and Métis persons with disabilities in the educational, cultural, political and social development of the Métis Nation of Alberta.

WHEREAS: Article 26 of the Election Bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta states: An advance poll shall be held on Saturday ten (10) days before the election to enable:

- a) Electors who are disabled;
- b) Electors who believe that they will be absent from their ordinary place of residence on polling day; and
- c) Poll clerks, returning officers, scrutineers and candidates who believe that because of their official duties on polling day they will be unable to attend at the polling station to cast their votes;

To vote in advance at an election.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Article 26 of the Election Bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta be amended to read as follows:

An advance poll shall be held on the third Saturday of August to enable

- a) Electors who are disabled;
- b) Electors who believe that they will be absent from their ordinary place of residence on polling day; and
- c) Poll clerks, returning officers, scrutineers and candidates who believe that because of their official duties on polling day they will be unable to attend at the polling station to cast their votes;

To vote in advance at an election.

Moved by: Sheila Genaille

Seconded by: Marilyn Lizee

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #5

WHEREAS: the first Tuesday of September follows the Labour Day long weekend, and is the beginning of the new school year.

WHEREAS: to increase voter turnout by moving the date to the third Tuesday in September, would give Métis citizens more time to participate in the election

WHEREAS: to give the Chief Executive Officer more time between the advance polls and the election to prepare

WHEREAS: The Election bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Article 3 Date of Election 3.1 states:

The date of the election shall be held on the first Tuesday in the month of September in the year that the election is required or any other date determined by the Provincial Council, Annual Assembly or Special Meeting according to the bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Article 3 Date of Election is replaced with the following:

The date of the election shall be held on the third Tuesday in the month of September in the year that the election is required or any other date determined by the Provincial Council, Annual Assembly or Special Meeting according to the bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association.

Moved by: Sheila Genaille

Seconded by: Marilyn Lizée

Correction to printing error on page 138.

In accordance with MNA Bylaws, MNA made the complete list of Special Resolutions for the 89th Annual General Assembly available in a variety of online and in-person mediums 21 days prior to the Business Meeting.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #6

SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON MÉTIS NATION CITIZENSHIP

WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Alberta (“MNA”) is the democratically elected government of the Métis Nation within Alberta;

WHEREAS the MNA has incorporated an association under Alberta’s *Societies Act* called the ‘Métis Nation of Alberta Association’ to act as its legal and administrative arm until such time as its full self-government is recognized through a negotiated agreement or modern day treaty with the Crown;

WHEREAS the MNA maintains a centralized Registry of members who have met the requirements of the National Definition of Métis and have completed the application process for membership, as amended from time to time, as set out in the MNA Bylaws;

WHEREAS while these registered individuals are identified as members for the purposes of the MNA Bylaws they are also duly registered citizens of the Métis Nation and should be recognized as such within Alberta as well as throughout the Métis Nation Homeland and beyond;

WHEREAS clubs and organizations issue memberships whereas Métis Nation governments such as the MNA-recognize and registered individuals who are the citizens of the Métis Nation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 4.5 in the MNA Bylaws be rescinded and replaced with the following:

- 4.5 Member - means a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association who has met all of the requirements of Articles 3.1 and 3.2 as well as the Application for Membership requirements set out in Article 10 as amended from time to time. A member shall also be recognized as being duly registered as a citizen of the Métis Nation based on the MNA’s authority as the representative government of the Métis Nation within Alberta. For the purposes of these Bylaws, a member and a citizen or membership and citizenship mean the same thing.

Moved by: Marlene Lanz
Second by: Audrey Poitras

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #7

SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON MÉTIS CONSULTATION & ACCOMMODATION

WHEREAS the recognition and advancement of Métis rights is one of the foremost priorities of the Métis Nation of Alberta ("MNA");

WHEREAS the Crown, as represented by Canada and/or Alberta, is required to consult with the MNA-as the government of the Métis Nation within Alberta-in relation to decisions or policies that may impact collectively-held Métis rights, interests and claims throughout Alberta;

WHEREAS the MNA-as a democratically elected Métis Nation government-is comprised of the Provincial Council, Regions and Locals and these Métis self-government structures must work-together-to ensure Métis rights, interests and claims are respected, protected and advanced throughout Alberta;

WHEREAS it is the MNA's position that all members have the right to be engaged on consultation and accommodation and share in the benefits that flow their collectively-held Métis rights, interests and claims, and, that Crown consultation owing to the Métis should not be limited to just a few selects individuals, some Locals or one region or area of the province;

WHEREAS the 2016 Annual Assembly adopted a *Statement of Principles on Crown Consultation with Metis in Alberta*, which included direction to arrive at mutually agreeable Regional Consultation Protocols ("Protocols") that set out how the Provincial Council, Regions and Locals will work-together-to ensure that the Crown's consultation and accommodation obligations owing to Métis in Alberta were being met;

WHEREAS based on that direction from the 2016 Annual Assembly several Protocols have been negotiated and signed amongst the Provincial Council, Regions and Locals across the province, while others continue to be discussed with a view to arriving at mutually agreeable Protocols in the near future;

WHEREAS the MNA has been engaging in discussions with Alberta on the development of a provincial Métis Consultation Policy based on these Protocols and the *Statement of Principles on Crown Consultation with Metis in Alberta* with a view to arriving at a mutually agreeable policy, which would provide recognition and capacity to undertake consultation activities based on these Protocols;

WHEREAS recent Alberta court cases have highlighted the need for the Provincial Council, Regions and Locals to work-together-on these issues or consultation obligations owing to Métis in Alberta may be completely denied with the judge in the *Fort Chipewyan Métis Nation of Alberta Local #125 v Alberta* case writing the following:

"In a situation where the MNA, MNA Region 1, and the FCM Local purport to represent the Aboriginal rights holding Métis of Fort Chipewyan with respect to consultation, it is obvious that ascertaining who speaks for the Métis in asserting Aboriginal rights and seeking Crown consultation becomes a critical issue to be resolved. As such, this Court agrees with the Alberta Crown's submission that it would amount to a waste of resources for the Alberta Crown to potentially have to consult with several separate organizations who state that they represent smaller or larger subsets of the same group in respect of the same interests and the same project. It is efficient and justifiable for the Alberta Crown to seek some assurance that it is consulting with the authorized representative of an Aboriginal collective."

WHEREAS, since the release of this court decision, Alberta has confirmed in writing that it "does not currently engage in rights-based discussions with Local Associations," however, it working with the MNA to "develop a non-Settlement Métis Consultation Policy," which will recognize and engage with the structures agreed to in the above-mentioned Protocols for the purpose of consultation and accommodation;

WHEREAS the court also noted the need for Métis groups to have express "authority" in their bylaws in order to authorized to deal with Crown consultation on behalf of their members, and the 2016 MNA Annual General Assembly adopted a new oath of membership that includes this express authority within the MNA Bylaws, which is shared amongst Locals, Regions and the Provincial Council through the processes set out in the above-noted Protocols;

WHEREAS other Métis Nation governments, such as the Manitoba Métis Federation and Métis Nation of Ontario, have developed their own Crown consultation approaches that rely on similar authorizations, oaths and authorities in their Bylaws, which Canada and the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario respect and rely on;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in furtherance of ensuring Métis in Alberta are consulted and accommodated in relation to their rights, interests and claims, the following sections be added to Article 12 of the MNA Bylaws:

12.4 The Government of the Métis Nation, as authorized by its Members, and, the communities comprised of those Members, is owed Crown consultation and accommodation prior to other governments or entities making decisions or policies that have the potential to impact collectively-held Métis rights, interests and claims.

12.5 Consultation and accommodation with the Government of the Métis Nation shall take place based on the *Statement of Principles on Crown Consultation with Métis in Alberta* that has been adopted by the Annual Assembly, as amended from time to time, and, the Regional Consultation Protocols negotiated and signed pursuant to the *Statement of Principles on Crown Consultation with Métis in Alberta*.

Moved by: Audrey Poitras

Second by: Karen Collins

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #8

Special Resolution to Rescind 2016 MNA AGA Special Resolution on Oath of Membership:

WHEREAS the 2016 MNA AGA Special Resolution on Oath of Membership that was passed at the 2016 MNA AGA may result in Métis people terminating their membership in the MNA;

AND WHEREAS the Oath requires a voluntary authorization which offends the ability of regional rights bearing Métis communities to represent its members;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we hereby rescind the 2016 MNA AGA Special Resolution on Oath of Membership.

Moved by Ron Quintal

Second by Joe Blyan

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #9

Special Resolution to Clarify the Authority to Consult on Behalf of Local Communities:

WHEREAS Article 15 sets out the powers of the Local Council;

AND WHEREAS 15.1 sets out that each Local Council shall govern the affairs of the Local Community;

AND WHEREAS the affairs of the Local Community include Consultation on behalf of its members;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following be added to Article 15 of the MNA Bylaws as Article 15.8:

15.8 The Local Councils are the sole MNA authority to consult on behalf of its members and its Local Community. Such authority may be delegated by the Local Council to a third party, Regional Councils or the Provincial Council.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following definition be added to Article 4 of the MNA Bylaws as Article 4.14:

4.14 Consultation shall mean engaging with government and/or industry regarding the Crown duty to consult and accommodate Métis people, including the negotiation of any impact or accommodation agreement.

Moved by Ron Quintal

Second by Joe Blyan

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #10

Special Resolution to limit the Number of Terms of the Provincial President and Provincial Vice President.

WHEREAS the Membership wants to limit the number of terms of the Provincial President and Vice President;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following be added to Article 16 of the MNA Bylaws as Article 16.4:

16.4 Any Member elected to the office of Provincial President or Vice President shall be entitled to seek re-election for no more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Moved by Joe Blyan

Second by Stella Lavallee

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #11

SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE MÉTIS NATION OF ALBERTA ASSOCIATION

Whereas Article 39.1 states that the Bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta shall not be rescinded, altered or added to except by Special Resolution;

Whereas Article 13.2 states that the "13.2 The Provincial Council may exercise all powers as are permitted by these Bylaws to govern the affairs of the Métis Nation and carry out the objectives of the Métis Nation".

Whereas Article 9 currently reads as follows:

ARTICLE 9 SUSPENSION OF MEMBER'S RIGHTS

9.1 The Métis Judiciary Council may suspend any member's rights other than the right to vote at an annual assembly, special meeting or general election for any conduct or act which the Métis Judiciary Council determines is, has been, or will be, gravely detrimental to the Métis Nation or the interests of the Métis Nation.

9.2 Any member who has had their rights suspended shall immediately forfeit those rights in the Métis Nation for the period of the suspension.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 9.3 be added to Article 9 of the Bylaws of the Métis Nation of Alberta to read as follows:

9.3 In the event that the Métis Judiciary Council is unable to perform the powers granted by these Bylaws, a member's rights can be suspended by the following process:

(a) the Provincial Council can suspend any members' rights other than the right to vote at an annual assembly, special meeting or general election for any conduct or act which the Provincial Council determines is, has been, or will be, gravely detrimental to the Métis Nation or the interests of the Métis Nation.

(b) if the Métis Judiciary Council is again able to perform the powers granted by these Bylaws, any member who has had their rights suspended by the Provincial Council shall have their case brought before the Métis Judiciary Council for a final decision.

MOVED BY: DOREEN POITRAS-HAYES

SECONDED BY: NORMA SPICER

SPECIAL RESOLUTION #12

SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE MÉTIS NATION OF ALBERTA ASSOCIATION

Whereas Article 39.1 states that the Bylaws of the Métis Nation shall not be rescinded, altered or added to except by Special Resolution;

Whereas Article 6.4 of the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws currently state that a Métis Lifetime member is eligible to be nominated as a candidate in an election if on the day his or her nomination paper is filed he or she:

- (a) is a Métis Lifetime member who is entitled to hold office; and
- (b) is of the full age of sixteen (16) years or will be that age on election day; and
- (c) has been ordinarily resident in Alberta continuously from the day 12 months immediately preceding the election day; and
- (d) has no financial debt owing to the Métis Nation or its affiliates that is more than thirty (30) days in arrears;

Whereas Article 1 of the Bylaws of the Métis Nation states that the objectives of the Métis Nation of Alberta are to "promote the cultural, economic, educational, political and social development of Métis in Alberta and Canada" and "to develop prosperity and economic self-sufficiency within the Métis Nation of Alberta".

And whereas any member who purposefully engages in activities that put Métis Nation in financial or structural jeopardy is in complete contradiction with the MNA objectives set out in Article 1 of the Bylaws and therefore should not have the same rights to hold office as a leader of Métis Nation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 6.4 of Métis Nation of Alberta Association Election By-Laws be amended to include:

- (e) Has not filed a civil claim against the Métis Nation since the most recent Election called pursuant to the Métis Nation of Alberta Association Bylaws.

MOVED BY: DOREEN POITRAS-HAYES

SECONDED BY: NORMA SPICER



Métis Nation of Alberta 2016 – 2017 Annual Report 89th Annual General Assembly



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