WHAT WE HEARD

Harvester Feedback from Engagement Sessions
Dear Fellow Métis Nation of Alberta Citizens,

2017-2018 started off as a challenging year for the nation when it came to Métis harvesting in Alberta. We were at an impasse with Alberta; we could not support the 2007 (updated in 2010) policy, as it was rife with uncertainty and did not provide any comfort to our harvesters that they would not be charged with illegal harvesting. We then began a conversation and with the political will to support a real Métis Nation harvesting policy dialogue, we were able to work through that impasse and began to collectively engage with Métis harvesters in Alberta. We wanted the Government of Alberta (GoA) to hear directly from our citizens and hear from you they did. GoA was certainly shocked by the turnout at our engagements. Eight-hundred harvesters attended the sessions and 757 contributed through online and paper engagement surveys.

It is with great pleasure we present the feedback received from harvesters at our provincewide harvesting engagements this past spring. This document is a result of the strong and committed voices of Métis harvesters, which will continue to guide us going forward. We want to thank the hundreds of harvesters who came out to the engagements; you have not lost faith and hold steadfast to what harvesting has and will always mean to us as Métis people, despite the barriers we have faced. This past year has brought renewed hope in having our harvesting rights recognized and we could not have accomplished this important work without you.

We are confident the province finally sees how its policy has deeply affected our way of life, and we are hopeful the GoA will make a decision to change its policy to one based on the research, feedback, and information we have provided.

This is “What We Heard” from you.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Karen Collins and Bev New
Co-Ministers of Métis Rights and Accommodation
WHAT WE HEARD –
Harvesting Engagements

BACKGROUND
The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) and the Government of Alberta (GoA) agreed to collaboratively review the GoA’s Métis Harvesting in Alberta Policy (the policy), which was unilaterally implemented in 2007 and updated in 2010. As part of the collaborative review process, the MNA and GoA undertook a series of engagement sessions and conducted online and paper surveys as a means to gather feedback from Métis harvesters. The feedback from the engagement sessions and the survey were compiled to feed into and inform the policy review process.

This What We Heard document is a high-level, thematic document speaking to the most prominent themes which emerged from the engagements and the surveys. This is our guiding document and will provide policy direction to leaders and employees of the nation in development of a harvesting policy in Alberta.

Currently, the GoA policy only focuses on hunting and fishing harvesting activities. For the Métis, harvesting also includes gathering and using plants, berries, medicines, timber, and other items for food, health, and cultural purposes. It is rooted in the commercial history of the Métis Nation in Canada. Harvesting is a cultural and social activity involving strong governance and mercantile components, with rules and knowledge handed down through generations. Harvesting for the Métis is a holistic and inclusive activity allowing for the transmission and maintenance of culture and community.

Métis harvesters have expressed a desire for the review of the GoA’s policy to be consistent with Métis history, culture, and traditions; fully recognize their constitutional rights; and reflect the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

METHODOLOGY
Engagement Sessions
Seven collaborative engagement sessions were conducted by the MNA and GoA across the province. An eighth session was conducted in Lethbridge by the MNA. There was total participation of 800 Métis harvesters and citizens across all eight engagements.

The GoA was invited to accompany the MNA to the Lethbridge session, but declined all invitations, citing limitations due to its interpretations of the Hirsekorn case.

The eight sessions involved four topics of engagement with guiding questions, which have been used in structuring this What We Heard document. [See Appendix A – Topics of Engagement].

Feedback from the engagement sessions was captured on flip charts and by notetakers. The feedback was then reviewed, themed into larger concepts, and organized by the topics of engagement. These themes are presented in this document.

TABLE 1:
Engagement Dates, Locations, and Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th># OF PARTICIPANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton</td>
<td>April 5, 2018</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Deer</td>
<td>April 6, 2018</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort McMurray</td>
<td>April 12, 2018</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lac La Biche</td>
<td>April 13, 2018</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnyville</td>
<td>April 14, 2018</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace River</td>
<td>April 20, 2018</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slave Lake</td>
<td>April 21, 2018</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lethbridge</td>
<td>April 28, 2018</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Engagement Participants 800

“The rules and knowledge around harvesting are handed down through generations.”
1. Importance of Harvesting

WHERE PEOPLE WANT TO HARVEST

Métis harvesters have a desire to harvest freely throughout all of Alberta and the Métis Homeland. To exercise and continue their practice of responsible and sustainable harvesting, they need access to lands where the environment is healthy and populations are plentiful enough to support their harvesting activity. Métis harvesters are currently restricted to a 160 km radius, which does not give freedom to harvest some desired species and puts pressure on animals in a small area. There is also a desire to harvest different areas depending on preferred species and animal population availability in the region.

Participants identified various areas they wish to have access to for the purposes of harvesting; such as, all Crown lands, National Parks, Provincial Parks, family traplines, personal property, community pastures, buffer zones, army bases and air weapons ranges, grazing leases, and private lands with permission from the landowner. Some of these areas are currently inaccessible to harvesters for numerous reasons; for example, grazing leases are made inaccessible by the lease holder in blatant disregard for existing regulations and limitations provided by the lease.

SPECIES

Across all sessions, the selection of species to harvest was said to be dependent on the sustainability of the species. Sustainability was examined through the Métis traditional knowledge lens. Métis harvesters prefer to harvest what is available and the purpose of the harvest informs what is harvested. For example, harvesting for sustenance, family, community, one meal, ceremony, or for cultural purposes have different needs. Participants noted all species in Alberta as significant. The harvest is dependent on need and availability; if you are hungry you will harvest what is available. See Appendix D for a list of specific species named across all sessions. The species list is categorized by big game, small game and fur-bearers, fish, plants, and medicines. It should be noted, this list is non-exhaustive and may not include all species relevant to Métis harvesters.

2. Current Harvesting Opportunities and Concerns

WHAT WORKS WELL ABOUT HOW YOU HARVEST?

There was some confusion about this question. It was intended to gather information on best practices for harvests, but defaulted to a discussion about how the current policy does not work. The majority of session participants agreed nothing was working well about how they were currently harvesting, whether it was under the GoA’s policy, or other recreational rules and regulations. Those who have been harvesting under the existing GoA’s policy noted the only aspect working well for them is the ability to harvest year-round.

PROBLEMS FACED WITH HARVESTING

Métis harvesters feel they are being restricted, or in some cases, completely prevented from carrying on their traditions. A fear of losing the ability to transmit knowledge across generations was consistently expressed. Additionally, sharing harvests remains an important aspect of Métis harvesting across the Homeland. Currently, sharing of harvests has certain prohibitions which are not historically or currently relevant to Métis.

Some harvesters registered under the current policy, noted the 160 km radius used to identify harvesting areas can be limited by proximity to areas which are inaccessible or out of jurisdiction. For example, harvesters in the Cold Lake area have their available harvesting territory limited due to their proximity to the Saskatchewan border and Cold Lake Air Weapons Range, leaving little area to exercise their rights.

In other cases, there is a lack of available Crown land in the radius leaving few options for exercising rights. There were problems noted in the administration of the GoA’s policy including: systemic racism, duplicating genealogy work already done for the MNA, the format and wording of the Alberta response letters, and inconsistencies in the level of knowledge and enforcement application by both Métis harvesters and Fish and Wildlife enforcement. Métis harvesters stated that the administration of the GoA’s policy lacked an understanding of Métis harvesting or Métis ways of life. Suggestions provided by harvesters to address the knowledge gap were: a call-in number, a guidebook, and Métis specific training for Fish and Wildlife staff.

A lack of access to land was indentified as a common reality for harvesters. Métis harvesters expressed concern over the lack of Crown land, ability to gain access to private lands with permission, and the attitudes of private land owners. There were many instances where harvesters could not access Crown lands with leases for other uses compatible with harvesting. Since Alberta relies heavily on a resource extraction economy, the availability of lands to exercise harvesting rights is a great level of concern, as the amount of available land decreases in proportion to the level of resource development.
Harvesters said their ideal new policy would honor Métis harvesting practices, which center on respect, reciprocity, sharing, and conservation, it would also reflect the Métis culture - past and present. Drafting of any policy should be shared and guided in Métis harvesting practices, not solely done by the GoA. As the governing authority for Métis people in Alberta, the MNA should be included in the making of laws directly impacting Métis people; in this case, Métis harvesters. An ideal new policy would be realistic, sustainable, and grounded in evidence. Further, it would be based on taking only what is needed, and enable connections to community. An ideal new policy allows for sharing and gifting of harvests and will respect whole animal use (antlers, fish scales, feathers, hides etc.), without added permits or use (antlers, fish scales, feathers, hides etc.). An ideal new policy would allow for harvesters to go where the food is and for families to harvest together, regardless of where they live in the province. Historically, Métis harvesting included a commercial aspect allowing for a reasonable livelihood. The Métis were integrally linked to the fur trade economy. Many became independent traders, acting as middlemen between First Nations and Europeans. Others traded the fruits of their harvests. The Métis bison hunters hunted as both a commercial and subsistence activity. Bison provided meat for pemmican and was sold to fur-trading companies to feed the traders; hides were processed and traded; meat was kept for personal food; bones were used for tools and artwork, or crafts etc. The whole animal was used for personal needs or traded. Throughout the engagement sessions, harvesters described a commercial aspect to harvesting which has yet to be recognized.

AN IDEAL NEW POLICY FULLY INCORPORATES AND RESPECTS MÉTIS VALUES AND TRADITIONS

A need for Métis specific traplines was reported across all sessions. Traplines are a vital part of the Métis way of life. Many Métis trappers have lost traplines, or lost portions of traplines to development. Métis trapping traditions have been completely lost in some cases, and the only way to ensure the practice continues is to make trapline ownership available to Métis trappers. Métis trappers want to have the ability to harvest fish and wildlife on their traplines; the current trapping regulations do not permit these activities. Presently, trappers must be registered under the GoA policy and their line must fall within the assigned 160 km radius. Trappers identified the need for a process allowing Métis people to have access to traplines, or land allocated for Métis specific traplines. Métis trappers also have concerns about being able to continue their way of life on the trapline due to industry and development interfering with their lines.

What does the ideal Alberta Métis Harvesting Policy look like?

THE IDEAL POLICY FULLY INCORPORATES AND RESPECTS MÉTIS VALUES AND TRADITIONS

Harvesters believe their rights need to be fully recognized. This includes recognizing a historic and contemporary presence in all of Alberta, including southern Alberta. A policy should recognize the history of the Métis people; the mobility and the kinship connections across vast distances, as opposed to concentrated community areas with ancestry in that designated area. An ideal new policy would allow for harvesters to go where the food is and for families to harvest together, regardless of where they live in the province.

AN IDEAL NEW POLICY FULLY RECOGNIZES THE RIGHTS AND HISTORY OF THE MÉTIS IN ALBERTA AND IN THE HOMELAND

An ideal new policy would include opportunities for intergenerational knowledge to be transferred. Education of new harvesters and youth was noted as pivotal. At every session it was stated there needs to be a teaching process, or certification of some kind to ensure responsible harvesting. Education needs to be informed and delivered by Métis traditional knowledge holders. An ideal new policy would be user friendly across a broad spectrum of audiences, and should consider literacy levels, modes of communication, languages, and modality of access from application to operation.

An ideal new policy would be nimble enough to account for security to the policy, meaning it should recognize the history of the Métis people; the mobility and the kinship connections across vast distances, as opposed to concentrated community areas with ancestry in that designated area. An ideal new policy would allow for harvesters to go where the food is and for families to harvest together, regardless of where they live in the province.

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3. Registration and Identification

EXPERIENCES APPLYING UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA POLICY

Many of those who have applied under the current GoA policy found it frustrating and cumbersome, often not understanding what information Fish and Wildlife was seeking from them. There were concerns around providing genealogy twice (once to the MNA and again to Fish and Wildlife), the inconvenience of having to travel to a Fish and Wildlife office, and the length of time for approval.

A major concern of those who struggled to get approved was the contemporary connection requirement in the GoA Policy, which requires a person to prove their current day connection to the listed community in the policy for which they were applying. In many cases this was a limiting factor to their willingness to apply, as some participants felt sure they would not be approved. Above all, harvesters found it discouraging to have to prove their ‘Métis-ness’ to the GoA. To a majority of harvesters, having to prove your Métis ancestry to Alberta via the current policy is essentially asking Alberta to identify Métis people, which has already been done by the MNA.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN IDENTIFYING MÉTIS HARVESTERS?

Most session participants expressed the identification of Métis harvesters should be done by the MNA as their representative government. Because the MNA already has a registry of Métis people in Alberta, it would certainly be able to manage the registry process of Métis harvesters with adequate funding from the GoA. A limited number of harvesters did acknowledge there should be a choice for those who are not MNA citizens.

It was echoed time and again how education and training form part of the identification process, and responsible harvesters should be the only harvesters. Historically, Métis across the Homeland identified their own harvesters, and since it was heard the policy should be reflective of Métis culture, this component should be a part of the identification process. Overwhelmingly, it was heard the Métis in southern Alberta must not be excluded, as this goes against Métis identity and nationhood.

There were differing ideas on how harvesters would show identification in the field while harvesting, but it was unanimous the identification did not involve carrying a letter. Ideas were: just the MNA card, an extra identifier on the card, a shared GoA - MNA harvester identification system.

Above all, harvesters found it discouraging to have to prove their ‘Métis-ness’ to the Government of Alberta.”
4. Conservation and Reporting

The questions put to harvesters, with respect to conservation and reporting, revolved primarily around willingness to and preferred mode of reporting their harvests. Métis harvesters agree, reporting is part of being a responsible harvester. Most are willing to report to the MNA, with the information aggregated and shared with the GoA. There were mixed opinions as to whether the reporting should occur locally, regionally, or provincially. Regardless, many agreed on a need for multiple reporting avenues; ensuring accessibility for all. It was expressed many times reporting should also involve providing information beyond what was harvested when possible, including animals and plants sighted in the area, health of the animals, landscape, and invasive species, etc.

There were concerns around reported numbers being used as support for Fish and Wildlife to limit or restrict access to harvesting for sustenance. Regardless of the direction of the Supreme Court in the Powley decision, it is felt that Alberta would restrict harvests due to a conservation need. The majority of harvesters identified they currently practice conservation in all their harvesting activities. In most cases, the active harvester has the knowledge and experience to make informed decisions on what, where, and why to harvest and when to move elsewhere to allow stocks to replenish. Métis harvesting is, by its very nature, conservation focused.

Many harvesters expressed concern with the lack of accountability, or in some cases, lack of any type of reporting mechanism for harvesting by other groups such as guides and outfitters, recreational harvesters, and other Indigenous groups.

OTHER CONSERVATION THEMES

Larger themes emerged in natural conversations about conservation during this part of the engagement sessions. Métis harvesters continually expressed the need to be actively involved in conservation science and decision making around Fish and Wildlife management practices.

Métis harvesting practices are rooted in traditional belief systems and ways of life, participants reported. Taking only what you need is an innate aspect of harvesting. Conversations regarding sustainability and reporting expressed, once again, that education of new and young harvesters is essential.

Some harvesters desire to have it known Métis harvesters are responsible harvesters who care about sustainability for the next generation. Métis people believe in respecting the land, water, and animals, and take only what is needed. Métis harvesters believe there is a false stigma around Métis harvesting, which needs to be addressed through proper education and communications efforts directed toward government and recreational harvesting groups.

CONCLUSION

Métis harvesting is about food, spirituality, tradition, respect, and culture. It is more than simply hunting or fishing. For the participants of these engagement sessions and surveys, harvesting is an important part of the Métis way of life and a mechanism for cultural transmission. The majority of participants support regulation of Métis harvesters, such as reporting harvests and general conservation methods, as this is integral to the Métis harvesting practice. The difference lies in who has the authority to oversee and enforce the policy. Session participants identified a desire for the MNA to administer a policy for the Métis. This includes identification of harvesters, reporting, and enforcement. Proper funding is required for the MNA to implement a new policy to make sure there are dedicated staff to utilize and expand the harvesting portion of the registry.

All the information and feedback collected from the engagements was, and will continue to be used to assist the MNA's position on the policy options which the GoA is presenting to their cabinet. The information we received was valuable feedback, and we hope the decision made by cabinet reflects the meaningful discussions and feedback from Métis harvesters across the province. The information has been submitted to the GoA cabinet, and we expect a decision to be made very soon. Despite the GoA's mandate excluding southern Alberta, the MNA still pushed and presented the policy option including southern Alberta for submission to cabinet. The MNA's preferred option will always be that all eligible Métis harvesters be permitted to harvest throughout Alberta. Failing the acceptance of all of Alberta by cabinet, the next best approach would be one large harvesting area in all of central and northern Alberta, in which harvesters who live in the south could also harvest.

Should the GoA cabinet choose not to accept a policy option which includes all of Alberta, we will not move forward in any way until there is a solid commitment, in writing, with the revised policy to continue the work around southern Alberta. We have received a commitment to this from the GoA negotiation team. The GoA believes at the very least, this can be a phased approach, with Phase 1 transitioning from the existing dots-on-a-map policy to large regional harvesting areas, and Phase 2 a commitment to the ongoing conversations, additional research, and a longer-term solution around Métis harvesting in southern Alberta. The GoA has acknowledged they heard loud and clear from our harvesters: in order to reconcile with the Métis, any harvesting policy has to recognize the rights of Métis throughout the province. We cannot predict the outcome of the cabinet decision, but the MNA will not sway from the position—Métis rights must be recognized throughout the entire province.
The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) and the Government of Alberta (GoA) are jointly reviewing the existing Métis Harvesting in Alberta Policy (the policy). The policy was put into place by the GoA unilaterally in 2007 to replace the Interim Métis Harvesting Agreement, and updated in 2010. Now, the GoA and the MNA have agreed to collaborate in reviewing this policy in order to facilitate recognition for Métis rights in Alberta, uphold the honour of the Crown, and advance reconciliation.

This survey is for Métis individuals who cannot attend the policy review engagement sessions, but still wish to provide input. The questions in the survey are similar to those under discussion at the engagement sessions.

The survey includes 14 questions. All information recorded in this survey is for reviewing the policy and is anonymous. Your input and feedback is important to help us better understand the food and fish harvesting interests of Métis peoples. We look forward to your participation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SURVEY:
• Email – aquinta@Métis.org;
• Phone – 780-455-2200 ext. 256

APPENDIX B
SURVEY

The Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) and the Government of Alberta (GoA) are jointly reviewing the existing Métis Harvesting in Alberta Policy (the policy). The policy was put into place by the GoA unilaterally in 2007 to replace the Interim Métis Harvesting Agreement, and updated in 2010. Now, the GoA and the MNA have agreed to collaborate in reviewing this policy in order to facilitate recognition for Métis rights in Alberta, uphold the honour of the Crown, and advance reconciliation.

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APPENDIX A
TOPICS OF ENGAGEMENT

TOPIC 1:
IMPORTANCE OF HARVESTING
• Where would you like to harvest in Alberta?
• Are there any areas around where you live that are of cultural significance or importance for harvesting?
• Are there certain harvesting areas that should be reviewed and considered for a future policy?
• What species do you currently harvest?
• What is your preferred harvesting species?
• Are there certain animals that are important to Métis citizens and families?

TOPIC 2:
CURRENT HARVESTING OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS
• What works well about how you currently harvest?
• What are problems you face related to harvesting in Alberta?
• If you could change things to help improve these concerns, what would you do differently?
• What does an Alberta Métis Harvesting Policy look like to you?

TOPIC 3:
REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION
• Are you recognized under the existing GOA policy? If not, have you applied? What were your experiences while applying? If you have not applied, why not?
• If you ever applied to be a Métis harvester or are currently registered under the policy – tell us about your experience during the registration process.
• If you could change anything about the current process, what would you change?
• In your view, what is involved in identifying Métis harvesters?
• Do you want the MNA to identify you as a harvester? Should it be a separate harvesting card or a sticker on your existing card?

TOPIC 4:
CONSERVATION AND REPORTING
• In order to ensure better environmental conservation, it is valuable for Fish and Wildlife management to better understand what populations are harvested and how frequently by Métis harvesters. Would you be willing to share your harvest numbers in order to ensure these populations are better protected?
• How could we collect this information in order to ensure your privacy and cultural knowledge is protected? (Anonymous survey, community liaison, etc.) What would be a practical way for you, as a harvester, to provide this information?
APPENDIX B

SURVEY (List of questions that were asked in the survey)

1. Age: (please circle)
   1-18  19-30  30-60  60+
   Prefer not to answer

2. Gender: (please circle)
   Female  Male  Other: _______________
   Prefer not to answer

For all questions below, note that Harvesting includes big game, small game and fish.

3. What community(ies) are you from and where do you harvest? Please list.


5. What do you prefer to you harvest? Please explain.

6. Are there specific species that are culturally significant? Please explain.

7. Are you harvesting in different areas for different species? Please explain.

   a. 30 minutes  b. 1 hour  c. 2-3 hours  d. Other: _______________

9. What works well about how you currently harvest? (example: Amount of animals in the area, ease of access to public land, etc.) Please explain.

10. Are there problems you face related to harvesting in Alberta? Please explain.

11. If you could change things to help improve these concerns, what would you do differently? Please explain.

10. Are you recognized under the existing GoA Policy? Circle: Yes or No
   a. If yes, what were your experiences while applying?
   b. If no, have you applied? Why or why not? What were your experiences?

11. Would you be willing to share your harvest numbers and species to help and inform conservation efforts? If yes, how? If no, why not? Please explain.

APPENDIX C

ANALYSIS OF QUANTIFIABLE SURVEY DATA

AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

For all questions below, note that Harvesting includes big game, small game and fish.

1. Age: (please circle)
   1-18  19-30  30-60  60+
   Prefer not to answer

2. Gender: (please circle)
   Female  Male  Other: _______________
   Prefer not to answer

For all questions below, note that Harvesting includes big game, small game and fish.

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11. Would you be willing to share your harvest numbers and species to help and inform conservation efforts? If yes, how? If no, why not? Please explain.

Thank you for sharing with us, your feedback is very important to better understanding the needs of Métis Harvesters in Alberta. For questions or inquiries please contact aquintal@Métis.org or 780-455-2200 ext. 256.
APPENDIX C
ANALYSIS OF QUANTIFIABLE SURVEY DATA

GENDER DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender Demographics: MNA Harvesting Survey

Gender Demographics: GoA Harvesting Survey

Total Gender Demographics

DESIRED TRAVEL DISTANCE

Comparative Desired Travel Distance (Totals)

Comparative Desired Travel Distance (Per cent)

Total Desired Travel Distance
APPENDIX C
ANALYSIS OF QUANTIFIABLE SURVEY DATA

DESIRED TRAVEL DISTANCE

How Far Would You Want To Travel To Harvest?
Text response comparison (totals)

Recognized Harvester: MNA
Recognized Harvester: GoA

Recognized Harvester Comparison
(Totals)

Recognized Harvester Total
### Big Game
- Moose
- Bison
- Elk
- Caribou
- Deer (Whitetail and Mule)
- Feral Horse
- Antelope
- Goats
- Black Bear

### Small Game and Fur Bearers
- Rabbits
- Wolves
- Muskrat
- Squirrel
- Beaver
- Coyotes
- Martins
- Fishers
- Wolverine
- Badger
- Porcupine
- Cougar
- Jackrabbit
- Fox
- Lynx
- Weasel

### Fish
- Walleye
- Goldeye
- Sucker fish
- Whitefish
- Perch
- Pike
- Northern Pike
- Lake Trout
- Burbot
- Clams

### Plants, Medicine, Spiritual
- Sucker fish
- Grizzly (S)
- Sheep
- Mint
- Rat Root
- Spruce Balsam
- Sweetgrass
- Sage
- Catnip
- Chaga
- Fungus
- Saskatoon berries
- Rosehips
- Berries
- Blueberries
- Cranberries
- Chokecherries
- Raspberries
- Antler sheds
- Feathers
- Timbers
- Bear grease & fat
- Bear gall
- Whitefish cheeks
- Moose and Bison hides
- Beaver meat, hide and castor

### Birds
- Geese
- Waterfowl
- Mud hens
- Partridge
- Grouse
- Gamebirds
- Pheasant
- Migratory Birds
- Turkey
- Pelicans
- Eggs

*This list is not exhaustive, in fact, it was noted all species which are not endangered are important to Métis harvesters*