



## CONTACT US

For more information on Métis harvesting in Alberta, call us at **780-455-2200** or email **harvesting@metis.org**



In 2019, the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) and the Government of Alberta (GoA) signed the *Métis Harvesting in Alberta Policy*, which came into effect September 1, 2019.

The policy allows approved MNA citizens to hunt, fish, and trap for food in larger harvesting areas.

## MÉTIS NATION OF ALBERTA PROVINCIAL OFFICE

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11738 Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton  
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 @abmetis  @albertametis

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# MÉTIS HARVESTING IN ALBERTA





## WHO CAN APPLY?

MNA citizens who meet the following criteria may apply for an MNA Harvester Card.

1. Demonstrated pre-1900 *ancestral* connection to one or more of the four Métis harvesting areas in Alberta.
2. Demonstrated *contemporary* connection to one or more of the four Métis harvesting areas established by having a history of harvesting and/or intention to harvest in that area.

For a detailed list visit [albertametis.com](http://albertametis.com).

## WHAT'S THE BENEFIT?

This policy allows you to exercise your Section 35 rights and engage in traditional Métis ways of life.

Once your MNA Harvester Card is issued you may hunt any game in Alberta excluding endangered species. You no longer need to apply for tags or a hunting license with Fish & Wildlife.

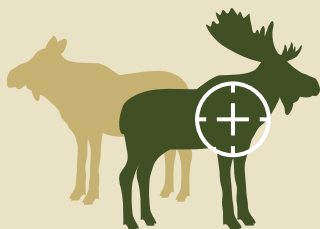
To fish, you will need a Wildlife Identification Number (WIN card) to obtain a Domestic Fishing License (DFL). Both are issued for free with your MNA Harvester Card.

If your ancestry comes from southern Alberta, we encourage you to apply and add your voice to those calling on the GoA to negotiate harvesting rights in the south of the province.

## WHEN CAN I HARVEST?

MNA approved harvesters can harvest year-round; however, there are yearly fishing closures, most of which are April 1 to May 14 annually. Stay informed by regularly checking the current Domestic Fishing Licence regulations.

As with traditional Métis harvesting practices, we encourage you to consider sustainable and responsible harvesting and fishing methods for future generations. This includes not harvesting any females (cow or doe) and young between the months of January through July.



## WHERE CAN I HARVEST?

Four harvesting areas have been established north of the City of Red Deer including the area around Rocky Mountain House, but excluding national and provincial parks. Approved Métis harvesters can hunt on unoccupied Crown land and on property they have permission within their approved harvesting area(s).

These areas were established to align with the Supreme Courts' judgement in *R. v. Powley*, and the boundaries were set to reflect historic Métis communities of the North Saskatchewan, Peace, and Athabasca rivers, as well as Lesser Slave Lake.

Southern Alberta currently falls outside of this boundary, in accordance with the problematic judgement made in *R. v. Hirsekorn*, where the Provincial Court of Alberta ruled there is not, nor has there been a rights-bearing Métis community in southern Alberta. However, the policy does commit the GoA to continue negotiations with the MNA to resolve this issue.

**The MNA will never give up on what we know to be true: the Métis Nation within Alberta have inherent harvesting rights covering every corner of our province, including the south.**



## HOW DO I APPLY?

Applications are available at your regional office, the provincial office in Edmonton, and online at [albertametis.com/harvesting](http://albertametis.com/harvesting)

Current MNA citizens can begin the application process using the methods above. New applicants will be able to apply for citizenship and harvesting simultaneously.