

CELEBRATING OUR  
SEVENTH YEAR!



JUNE 13-14 ∞ MÉTIS CROSSING

— EVENT PROGRAM —



Otipemisiwak  
Métis Government

[albertametis.com](http://albertametis.com)



@ABMetisYouth

# EVENT AGENDA

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## FRIDAY, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>

4:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.	Fish Fry and Burgers
6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Bingo
8:00 P.M. – 11:00 P.M.	Métis Jamboree with JJ Lavallee

## SATURDAY, JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>

10:00 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.	Grand Entry
10:15 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.	Opening Ceremonies
11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.	Alberta Métis Music Showcase
3:00 PM – 4:00 P.M.	Homeland Hour: Donny Parenteau
4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.	Jigging Competition
5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.	Bison Dinner
6:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.	Square Dance Showcase
9:00 P.M. – 11:00 P.M.	Métis Jamboree

### 50/50 DRAWS – FRIDAY & SATURDAY!

All proceeds support the Métis Education Foundation, helping to fund post-secondary opportunities for Métis students.

**GRAB YOUR TICKETS AND  
SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!**

**PLEASE NOTE:** This event is being live-streamed, filmed, and recorded.

# GREETINGS

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Welcome to the 7th Annual Alberta Métis Fest!

This weekend, we come together to reconnect, reflect, and remember. Our ancestors fought hard for the rights we have today, and it's because of their determination that we stand here, on a path toward self-government.

Métis Fest is full of music, food, and celebration but it is so much more than that. It's a reminder of who we are. You'll hear it in the sound of the fiddle, feel it in the rhythm of the jig, and see it in the faces of our youth, Elders, and families coming together across generations.

This event doesn't happen on its own. We would not be here without the individuals in our community who have contributed their time, energy, and talents to bring this celebration to life. I want to thank everyone who has worked behind the scenes to bring this festival to life, from the volunteers to the performers. Your efforts are what make Métis Fest such a powerful expression of our community year after year.

Whether this is your first time or your seventh, I hope you leave with some joyful new memories and a deeper connection to what it means to be Métis, because it is truly something that worth celebrating.

**– President Andrea Sandmaier**





## MASTER OF CEREMONIES

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### ROSS 'MEMPHIS' PAMBRUN

Ross 'MEMPHIS' Pambrun is a talented, spirited, and engaging individual who uses humour and storytelling to enhance his varied speaking engagements. Ross recently spoke at the 'Wall Street Journal Future of Everything Festival' in NYC about the social progress of Artificial Intelligence.

An Indigenous Métis business leader, Ross is also the CEO of an award-winning cyber innovation company, The Memphis Group, who uses artificial intelligence derived approaches to protect communities around the globe.

Ross proudly wears medals awarded from the Province of Alberta and City of Calgary for his 24+ years of service as a professional firefighter. A popular emcee with experience as an international actor and musician, he is skilled at connecting everyone in a room.

Ross completed a 100-podcast-episode series interviewing guests from diverse backgrounds and is the lead host of a 13 episode Treasure Hunting TV show 'Red River Gold' released on May 5, 2025. Watch for the show on national broadcaster APTN.



## SQUARE DANCE SHOWCASE

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### CREELAND DANCERS

The Creeland Dancers are one of Western Canada's longest-serving Indigenous square dance groups, known for their unique fusion of Métis jigging, traditional dances, and square dancing. Founded 41 years ago by Cree and Métis Elders Therese Seesequasis and her late husband Ken, the group performs at festivals, schools, and cultural events with a mission to foster cross-cultural understanding and pride in Indigenous identity. Their shows are high-energy, entertaining, and enriching cultural experiences.



# SQUARE DANCE SHOWCASE

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## KIKINO NORTHERN LITES

The Kikino Northern Lites is a Métis traditional dance troupe founded in 1978 by Elders Georgina Thompson and Doris Bellerose. Named for the Cree word “Kikino” (our home) and the Métis belief that spirits dance in the northern lights, the group was led by Gerald White and his wife Denise, who dedicated their lives to preserving Métis culture through music and dance. After Gerald’s passing in 2006, the group went quiet until 2023, when his son Trevor White, inspired by the birth of his daughter, revived the troupe to continue sharing Métis traditions with future generations.



## NORTHERN PRAIRIE

The Northern Prairie Dancers bring a high-energy showcase of traditional Métis jigging and prairie square dance—two deeply rooted dance forms that continue to unite communities across the northern plains. Known for their vibrant style, precise footwork, and spirited group performances, the troupe offers a lively celebration of culture, history, and community through movement. Blending traditional Métis styles with community-driven square dance, the group highlights the living spirit of prairie dance traditions passed down through generations and still thriving today. Their performances are a tribute to resilience, celebration, and the shared joy of movement.



## UNITED THUNDER

United Thunder is a vibrant Indigenous square dance group rooted in the Red River Jig and traditional square dancing, formed to share and preserve cultural traditions. Hailing from rural Manitoba communities like Sandy Bay, Crane River, and The Pas, they celebrate Indigenous pride through high-energy performances. Blending modern flair with time-honoured moves, United Thunder honors the rich legacy of First Nations and Métis communities, captivating audiences with their dynamic rhythms and spirited dancing.



## SQUARE DANCE SHOWCASE

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### JASON LEPINE

Jason Lepine is a self-taught Métis fiddle champion and recording artist from Portage la Prairie, now based in Winnipeg. He began playing the fiddle at age 7, learning by ear from his father, Garry Lepine, a fellow fiddling legend. In 2020, both were inducted into the Manitoba Fiddle Wall of Fame. Known for his energetic and heartfelt Métis fiddling style, Jason is a regular performer with Red River Jigging and Square Dance groups, and has won numerous competitions including the Manitoba Championship and Festival du Voyageur. He also teaches, judges contests, and plays for a wide variety of events.

Throughout his career, Jason has performed across Canada and in the U.S., with highlights including the Celtic Colors International Festival, Métis Back to Batoche Days, and Keplinfest. He's opened for notable acts such as Donnell Leahy, Natalie McMaster, and Doc Walker. In 2014, he won "Best Fiddle Album of the Year" at the Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards. Jason has released three albums: "Hearsay", "Drivin' Force", and "Métis Flair", continuing to share and celebrate Métis culture through music.

## ALBERTA MÉTIS MUSIC SHOWCASE PERFORMERS

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**Amy Moore**  
**Brettyn Rose**  
**Cassandra Vreeling**  
**Darla Daniels**  
**Donny L'Hirondelle**  
**Garry McLean**  
**Jacquie Daniels**

**Kaeley Jade**  
**Kinley Paul**  
**Lillian Parenteau**  
**Nisto**  
**Priscilla Morin**  
**Wyatt Schiefelbein**



## HOMELAND HOUR

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### DONNY PARENTEAU

Donny Parenteau is a proud Métis Country Music artist, born and raised in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Donny is a multi-instrumentalist, a singer-songwriter, and is one of the most nominated Independent acts in Canada.

Donny spent 12 years touring the world with Neal McCoy, recording on multi-platinum selling albums, and played on numerous shows with performances on The Grand Ole Opry, and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.

After starting his solo career in 2003, Donny has garnered more than 100 nominations at 7 major awards shows, which include 3 Juno nominations, and his first USA nomination for Best Country CD at the 2014 Native American Music Awards. His latest CD, Bring It On, is the only CD placed in a time capsule at the Regina Legislative Building, to be opened in 100 years, because of Donny's song Deep In the Heart of Saskatchewan.

Donny's latest singles from 2020 to 2024 have all been added to the Indigenous Music Countdown, and made it to the top five spots, while also being played on Sirius 165- Indigiverse. Parenteau's last 4 singles have all reached #1 on MBC Saskatchewan's Indigenous Countdown, and his latest single, It's All I Need, went #1 on the Indigenous Music Countdown top 40 across Canada. Today, Donny continues to teach music at his Donny Parenteau School of Music, and performs with his band across Canada.

## HOUSE BAND

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**Cory Poitras**  
**Donny L'Hirondelle**  
**Garry Pruden**

**Jeff Courtorielle**  
**JJ Lavallee**  
**Rollie Poitras**



**MUSTER  
POINT**



**PUBLIC PARKING**

**VICTORIA TRAIL**

**CAMPGROUND**

**FOOD  
TRUCKS**



**MAINTENANCE  
BUILDING**

**VENDOR  
MARKET**



**CHILDREN'S  
ACTIVITIES**



**HARV  
ACT**

**YOUTH  
ACTIVITIES**

**VOYAGEUR  
GAMES**



**PRIV  
DWE**



**âwatâw  
Stop**



**ATM**



**First Aid**



**Information**



**Toilets**



**Muster  
Point**

Additional ATM and Toilets located in Cultural Gathering Centre

**NORTH SASKA**



## OVERFLOW CAMPING



# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES - JUNE 14, 11 AM TO 6 PM

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Métis Crossing strives to share the distinct Indigenous story of the Métis people through experiential or hands-on cultural experiences. Our cultural experiences provide opportunities for unique interactions on the land sharing Métis ways of life with visitors. For Alberta Métis Fest we have invited Métis Experience Providers from across Alberta to share and celebrate Métis traditions and culture with you.

## **Hide Tanning Demonstration**

The traditional process of hide tanning is an important skill that honours the animal, connects us to culture, and transforms a hide into valuable materials for a wide range of uses. From fleshing and dry scraping to braining and smoking, each stage requires different skills and tools, offering participants hands-on opportunities to explore some tanning techniques and learn from a variety of hides.

## **Leather Crafting**

Dive into the timeless art of leather crafting with our introductory workshop designed specifically for beginners. Throughout this hands-on program, participants will learn the essential skills and techniques needed to create beautiful leather goods from scratch.

The workshop will cover the basics of working with leather, including understanding different types of leather, essential tools and materials, and safety precautions. Participants will have the opportunity to practice fundamental techniques such as cutting, stitching, and edge finishing, gradually building their confidence and proficiency.

By the end of the workshop, beginners will have gained a solid foundation in leather crafting and completed their first handmade leather creations, ready to embark on further exploration and mastery of this rewarding craft. Join us and unlock your creativity with leather crafting!

## **Archery/Slingshots**

Step into the shoes of traditional Métis hunters as you learn the art of archery. Under the guidance of skilled instructors, participants will have the opportunity to practice their aim and technique with bows and arrows. Discover the significance of archery in Métis culture, where it was once a vital skill for survival and sustenance.

## **Traditional Skills - Shelter Building**

Shelter building will involve learning some basic knots, a short discussion on materials and types of shelters and then setting up a tarp shelter.

## **Moose Meat Smoking**

Join Ron Quintal for a traditional Métis culinary experience as he smokes moose meat using time-honored techniques. Participants will learn about the importance of moose hunting in Métis culture and the art of preserving meat through smoking. Discover the flavors and aromas of smoked moose meat while gaining insight into Métis hunting traditions and culinary practices.



# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES - JUNE 14, 11 AM TO 6 PM

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## **Bannock Making**

Bannock was originally brought to Canada by the Scottish explorers and traders. Indigenous and Métis people adopted this style of bread over the 18th and 19th centuries, once upon a time corn flour and plants were used in place of wheat. We still use this method of traditional Bannock making today.

## **Fish Scale Art**

Delve into the world of Métis artistry with fish scale art, a traditional craft that dates back generations. Participants will have the opportunity to create stunning works of art using fish scales, a unique and sustainable material. Learn various techniques and designs inspired by Métis culture and create your own masterpiece to take home as a memento of the experience.

## **Buffalo Camp**

Immerse yourself in the atmosphere of a traditional Métis buffalo camp, where life revolved around the hunt and the buffalo provided sustenance, clothing, and shelter. Explore replicas of traditional dwellings, hear stories of Métis hunters and their deep connection to the land and the buffalo, and gain insight into the cultural practices and traditions of buffalo hunting.

## **Life on a River Lot Homestead**

Step back in time and explore the daily life of Métis families on the river lot. Visit a recreated river lot home and see firsthand how Métis families lived, worked, and thrived along Alberta's waterways. Gain insight into traditional Métis architecture, household chores, and domestic activities that were integral to river lot life.

## **Veterans Monument**

The Métis Veterans Monument stands as a powerful tribute to the brave Métis men and women who served in Canada's armed forces. More than a marker of military service, it honours a legacy of courage, sacrifice, and unshakable identity. As you stand before the monument, you are invited to reflect on the stories of those who fought for a country that did not always fight for them—individuals who carried the strength of their ancestors and the pride of their Nation into every battle.

This monument is a symbol of recognition long overdue, and a place for all generations to remember, learn, and give thanks. It reminds us that Métis contributions to Canada's history are not just chapters in the past—they are living stories that continue to shape our shared future.



## INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES - JUNE 14, 11 AM TO 6 PM

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### Art Show: Ron Dominique Métis Elder

Ron Dominique is a celebrated Métis artist whose work breathes life into traditional Métis culture through intricate and thought-provoking imagery. Drawing inspiration from the land, stories, and daily rhythms of Métis life, Dominique's art is a layered experience—each piece inviting viewers to look deeper. Hidden within his vivid brushstrokes are animals, spirits, and symbols that reflect the interconnectedness of all living things, and the oral traditions passed down through generations. With a style that blends realism, abstraction, and storytelling, Ron Dominique offers more than just a visual experience—his work is a journey into the heart of Métis identity.

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES - JUNE 14, 11 AM TO 5 PM

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LEARN TO JIG!	11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
READING OF "I AM MÉTIS"	1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.
BUBBLE PARTY	2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.
LEARN TO JIG!	4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

### DROP-IN ACTIVITIES

Fur Traders Game • Lawn Games • Métis Makers Space  
Michif Mobile Library • Métis Scavenger Hunt

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES - JUNE 14, 11 AM TO 6 PM

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VOYAGEUR GAMES RELAY RACES: 11:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

### DROP-IN ACTIVITIES

Beaded Lanyard and Sash Kits • Yarn Tufting • Colouring Sheets & Fans

## HARVESTING ACTIVITIES - JUNE 14

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FISH FILLET DEMO AND GILL NET HISTORY: 10:00 AM, 1:30 PM, & 3:00 PM

Join the Harvesting Department for a hands-on fish filleting workshop! Learn how to fillet a fish, explore Métis harvesting rights, get tips on registering as a harvester, and discover the history of the gill net.



# ENVIRONMENT BIRD WALK - JUNE 14

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## **DROP-IN MEETING TIMES: 11:15 AM - 12:45PM & 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

Join the Environment & Climate Change Department for a guided Bird Walk! This drop-in activity invites participants of all ages to explore the natural surroundings of Métis Crossing and learn about local bird species, their habitats, and the important role they play in our ecosystem. **Please meet at the Youth Activities area.**

## RESOURCES

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### KISIHTOSKATONAW MÉTIS ARTS COLLECTIVE

#### **Brenda's Cree-ative Collections**

@Brenda's Cree-ative Collections

#### **Brenda's**

sparklebk@hotmail.com

#### **Burningfolds**

@Burningfolds

#### **Christina Is Metis**

@Christina Is Metis

Kandcs27@gmail.com

#### **Eagle Spirit Creations**

@EagleSpiritCreations

Eaglespiritcreations@outlook.com

#### **Floral Moon Beadwork**

@floralmoonbeadwork

marissa.mcdougall11@gmail.com

#### **Generations Gift Company**

calgary.sunny@yahoo.ca

#### **glasses 2 go**

glasses2go.ca

glasses2go@shaw.ca

#### **Grace-Anne Grant**

www.graceannegrant.com

graceannegrant@gmail.com

#### **Happy Cat Creations**

kchikowski@gmail.com

#### **Inklore**

Brandonatkinson.ca

@Brandon\_atkinson\_118

#### **KMAXjewelry**

@kmkry1

www.kmaxjewelry.com

#### **Lynda's Scrabble Tile Art**

shaunlyndalavallee@gmail.com

#### **McKenzie Designy**

mckenzierachel@hotmail.com

#### **Melanie Hannigan Fine Art Studio**

www.melaniehanniganart.com

melanie0077@live.ca

#### **Métis Cree-ations**

metis.creations@gmail.com

#### **Metis Mamas**

www.metismamas.ca

@metismamas

#### **Michif Beading**

@michif.beading

kmcdougall94@gmail.com



# RESOURCES

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## **Michif Makers**

@Michifmakers

## **Miyaw Designs**

[www.etsy.com/shop/MiyawArts](http://www.etsy.com/shop/MiyawArts)

nadine\_f@shaw.ca

## **Prairie Roots Beading Co**

@Prairierootsbeadingco

sillitochantell@gmail.com

## **Red Eagle Gifts**

@RedEagleGifts

redeaglegifts@hotmail.com

## **Shauns Custom Mountain Shelving**

@Shaun's Custom Mountain  
Shelving

## **The Aroma Lotus**

r.thomco@gmail.com

## **The Catching Dreams Company**

deannatupechka@hotmail.com

## **The Sweat Shop**

@The Sweat Shop

## **Twisted Sister Designs**

@twistedsisiterdesignz\_

Darrbz23@gmail.com

## **Wild prairie beadwork**

@wild.prairie.beadwork

chett@live.com

## **Wildrose Beadwork**

@wildrose\_beadwork

@wildrosebeadwork





# RESOURCES

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## DEPARTMENTS, AFFILIATES & PARTNERS

- Alberta Indigenous Virtual Care Clinic
- Alberta Métis Works
- Apeetogosan Development
- Battle River Watershed Alliance
- Children & Family Services
- Cree Productions
- Electoral Office
- Environment & Climate Change
- Harvesting
- Human Resources
- Justice
- Métis Education Foundation and Otipemisiwak Métis Students Association
- Métis Artist Collective
- Métis Housing
- Nekinan
- North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
- Registry
- Rupertsland Institute
- Self Government
- Youth Programs and Services Department

## FOOD TRUCKS

- Bannock Bros
- D4J's House of Chicken and Kababs
- Freezing Hub
- Jo's Kettle Corn
- Just for Licks Small Batch Creamery
- Lord of the Grills
- Mak's Snack Shack
- MerMosSa Pinoy Food Truck
- MoJo Food Services
- Scoopz Ice Cream Hut
- The Dog Poutine, Sausage and Dogs



***Thank you  
for attending this year's  
Alberta Métis Fest!***



**Otipemisiwak**  
**Métis Government**



[albertametis.com](http://albertametis.com)



@ABMetisYouth