



Office of the President

June 11, 2025

Joe Chodzicki
Otipemisiwak Métis Government
Citizens' Council Representative
Provincial Secretary

**Re: Mandate Letter for Acting President; Secretary of Citizenship & Registry;
Governor of Métis National Council**

Dear Secretary Chodzicki,

It is my pleasure to reaffirm your appointment as Provincial Secretary to the Cabinet of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, holding the portfolios of Acting President; Secretary of Citizenship & Registry; Governor of Métis National Council.

As a Provincial Secretary and member of Cabinet, you hold a critical role in advancing our Nation's priorities and serving Métis Citizens across Alberta. Your leadership, alongside your colleagues, will help drive progress on key initiatives, including the negotiation of a modern Treaty to secure and protect our rights and self-determination; a historic opportunity to benefit current and future generations. At a time of shifting political landscapes both federally and provincially, your work must be strategic, adaptable, and rooted in our Constitution's vision of fairness, accountability, and the advancement of Métis self-government in Alberta. Together, we will uphold these principles while ensuring our laws and policies reflect the needs of Citizens in all five Métis Territories and beyond.

The Otipemisiwak Métis Government is committed to strengthening our Nation-to-Nation and government-to-government relationships, asserting our jurisdiction, and delivering programs that improve the lives of Métis families and communities. As both an ambassador and key part of the executive branch of this government, as well as in a renewed focus on developing our governance framework here at home, your portfolio will play a vital role in shaping our future. As outlined in the Self-Government Act, you will collaborate with the Citizens' Council, engage meaningfully with Citizens, and ensure transparent decision-making that aligns with our collective goals. The path to a modern Treaty requires unity, persistence, and bold leadership; qualities I know you will bring to this role.

I am confident that your dedication will help us meet these challenges and seize the opportunities ahead. By working with integrity and purpose, you contribute to a stronger, more self-sufficient Métis government that honours our past while building a brighter future. Thank you for stepping forward in service to our people, and I look forward to achieving meaningful progress together.

With respect to your portfolio area, over the next 12 months, you are empowered with the following mandate:

1. **As Acting President** act on my behalf, if I am unable to fulfill my duties, in the capacity as Acting-President in accordance with the conditions set out in the Self-Government Act.
2. **Uphold the Nation's Citizenship Registry** with integrity, maintaining the rigorous and world class standards which have been developed over more than two decades.
3. **Develop Regulation** in collaboration with the Secretary of Harvesting & Culture to refine policies for identifying Métis rights-holders and harvesters to be set out and regulated by a Regulation to the Citizenship Act.
4. **Advocate for Federal/Provincial Recognition** of Métis Citizenship cards as valid government issued photo identification.
5. **Act as Governor to the Métis National Council** representing the Otipemisiwak Métis Government as the second representative to the Métis National Council, ensuring Alberta's distinct voice is heard and our interests protected.
6. **Support District Councils** by ensuring Administration has processes established to validate Citizenship in support of District level programs and services.
7. **Promote Awareness** of the Registry's role in preserving Métis history and community ties both in Alberta and beyond.

In your role, you will have support from and liaise with the Office of the President, the Registrar, and the Self-Government and Intergovernmental Relations Departments through their associated Directors and/or Department heads.

As you move forward in this vital role, remember that your leadership is part of a greater journey; one shaped by the resilience of our ancestors and the dreams of future generations. The work ahead will demand courage, creativity, and unwavering commitment to our Nation, our Citizens, and our Government; but it is through this collective effort that we will secure true self-determination, protect our rights, and build a thriving Métis Nation within Alberta. I have every confidence in your ability to rise to this challenge with integrity and heart. Together, let us honor our past, serve our people, and forge a legacy of strength and unity. *Marsee*, thank you, for answering this call to leadership.

Sincerely,



Andrea Sandmaier

President

Otipemisiwak Métis Government