



Office of the President

June 11, 2025

Grant Lacombe
Otipemisiwak Métis Government
Citizens' Council Representative
Provincial Secretary

Re: Mandate Letter for Harvesting & Culture

Dear Secretary Lacombe,

It is my pleasure to reaffirm your appointment as Provincial Secretary to the Cabinet of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, holding the portfolio of Secretary of Harvesting & Culture.

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.

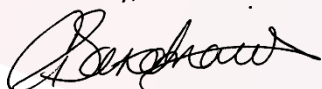
With respect to your portfolio area, over the next 12 months, you are empowered with the following mandate:

1. **Advocate for Expanded Harvesting Rights Recognition** in collaboration with the Office of the President and Administration, through continued negotiations with provincial and federal governments to secure comprehensive harvesting agreements across all Métis Territories.
2. **Advance Cultural Preservation Programs** to be developed by Administration, that document and revitalize traditional harvesting practices, including hunting, fishing, trapping, and plant gathering knowledge systems.
3. **Implement Youth Harvesting Education** initiatives in collaboration with the Secretary of Youth, Sport, and Gender Equity and Administration, that connect new generations with Elders and Knowledge Keepers through land-based learning experiences.
4. **Establish Conservation Partnerships** with environmental organizations in collaboration with the Secretary of Environment, Climate Change, and Emergency Management, that aims to ensure sustainable harvesting practices that protect ecosystems while asserting Métis rights.
5. **Promote Cultural Tourism Opportunities** that showcase Métis harvesting traditions and crafts while generating economic benefits for communities and serve on the Board of Directors of Métis Crossing and its associated corporate holdings.
6. **Strengthen Harvester Registry Systems** in collaboration with the Secretary of Citizenship & Registry, and the Registrar to verify and document harvesting rights-holders through culturally-appropriate processes.
7. **Develop Regulation** in collaboration with the Secretary of Citizenship & Registry which shall regulate and defines the inclusion of Harvester registration process and data with the Citizenship Registry in a manner that aligns with the Citizenship Act.

In your role, you will have support from and liaise with the Office of the President, the Manager of Harvesting, and the Registrar.

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