

Office of the President

June 11, 2025

Kaila Mitchell Otipemisiwak Métis Government Citizens' Council Representative Provincial Secretary

Re: Mandate Letter for Health, Wellbeing & Seniors

Dear Secretary Mitchell,

It is my pleasure to appoint you as a Provincial Secretary to the Cabinet of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, holding the portfolio of Secretary of Health, Wellbeing & Seniors.

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. Advance a Métis Health Strategy to be developed and implemented by Administration that addresses physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing through culturally-grounded approaches.
- Advocate for Expanded Primary Healthcare Access to services tailored to Métis needs across all Districts, with special attention to rural and remote communities, in collaboration with Administration.
- 3. Advance a Whole Health Approach to Addictions by positioning the Otipemisiwak Métis Government as an Indigenous Government leader in addictions recovery, by supporting the implementation of a Métis-led recovery continuum, and by collaborating with the Secretary of Housing and Infrastructure to support the development of recovery-focused housing and addiction recovery treatment centers.
- 4. **Support Métis Seniors** by ensuring the Health Department endeavours to create comprehensive support programs for Métis seniors focusing on culturally-appropriate care, housing, and social connection, based on available funding.
- 5. **Establish Health Partnerships** between our Government and healthcare providers to ensure delivery of trauma-informed and anti-racist care for Métis patients.
- 6. Honour Traditional Healing by supporting Department initiatives that integrate traditional healing practices common to Métis Citizens and their communities, with mainstream healthcare services through collaboration with Knowledge Keepers.
- 7. Advocate for Métis-specific Health Policies and funding at federal and provincial levels with the support of Administration and in collaboration with the Office of the President.
- 8. Advance Accountability & Transparency by supporting the implementation of measurable health outcomes tracking to evaluate program effectiveness and identify service gaps within the Health Department.

In your role, you will have support from and liaise with the Office of the President, and the Health Department 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

Andrea Sandmaier President Otipemisiwak Métis Government