

CHRISTMAS ISSUE
December, 2000

New Breed
MAGAZINE



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Any correspondence or inquiries can be made to:
 104-219 Robin Crescent
 Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M8

Editorial Board
 Kathy Hodgson-Smith
 Wilf Blondeau

Editors
 Kathy Hodgson-Smith
 Lori Nixon

Design & Layout
 Lori Nixon

Cover
 Front - Photo by Lori Nixon
 Back - La Loche Déné High School Mural; photo by
 Kathy Hodgson-Smith

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New Breed

MAGAZINE

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Christmas Greetings from the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Executive

As Christmas comes around again, we think to times past when Christmas meant a special time shared with family and friends, a hot meal, a chance to share laughter and to enjoy the simple things in life together.

Our Elders have given us so many wonderful traditions to live by and I am grateful for their determination and wisdom. As we strive together to build our Nation and to provide for one another, we can look to the past to guide us confidently into the future.

At this time I would like to wish all of the citizens of the Métis Nation and our many friends and neighbors a peaceful holiday season and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Clem Chartier
President

On behalf of wife Betty and my children Kyra, Brady, Breanna and Julia, I would like to extend best wishes for a Merry Christmas to all Métis citizens living in Saskatchewan.

The Christmas season is a time of giving, renewal and hope. As our families and communities come together, it is my hope that the coming year will see the realization of your hopes and dreams.

May the goodwill of Christmas continue throughout the new year and enrich your life as we the Métis people work together to build a strong Métis Nation based on the principles of honesty, integrity and respect.

Sincerely,
Robert G. Doucette
Provincial Secretary

Christmas is a time to reflect on the family, both our immediate family and the extended family that we call the Métis Nation. We have accomplished much as we continue to grow.

As we enter another Christmas season, may your dreams be realized for a joyous and prosperous future.

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Murray Hamilton
Vice President



Tansi

As a Métis Nation, we have strived throughout the year to make our work and homes a better place to live and prosper.

I am often reminded of a time when Métis families would gather together to enjoy Christmas celebrations with joy and happiness.

As your Treasurer and from the entire Métis Nation of Saskatchewan administration staff, may the gentle peace of Christmas enter your hearts and touch your spirits.

We wish you a joyous Christmas Season and a Happy New Year!

Allan Morin
Treasurer

MESSAGE TO ALL FIREARM OWNERS

1

You NEED A FIREARMS LICENCE by January 1, 2001

Due to heavy demand, the \$10 fee for a Possession-Only Licence will remain in effect until December 31, 2000.

Only the \$60 Possession and Acquisition Licence will be available after this year. (You must pass the Canadian Firearms Safety Course or equivalent to get this licence.)

For more information, assistance or forms:
call **1 800 731-4000** or visit our Web site
at **www.cfc.gc.ca**

Application forms
are also available at
Canada Post outlets
and Service Canada
Access Centres.

2

If you DON'T PLAN TO GET A LICENCE by January 1, 2001, these are your options:

A You can sell or give your firearm to a properly licensed person or business
OR

B You can turn it in to your local police station
(Call first.)
OR

C You can have it properly deactivated.

**IT IS NOT A
LEGAL OPTION
to have a firearm
without a licence.**

To find out about the legal requirements for any of these options, call **1 800 731-4000** or visit our Web site at **www.cfc.gc.ca**

Canada

Story and Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

La Loche is situated in northern Saskatchewan at the end of highway number 155. The village overlooks Lac La Loche and is nestled between the Clearwater River Provincial Park, Turnor Lake, Churchill Lake and Big Peter Pond Lake, otherwise known in Metis country as the Clearwater-Clear Lake Region. The successful completion of the Garson Lake road on the Saskatchewan side of the Alberta/Saskatchewan border has made the link to Fort McMurray, Alberta, only a short distance, except for the 55 kilometer hop over the unfinished section on the Alberta side. While the completion of the road remains the hot topic of the day, easier access to La Loche for



From left to right: Philippe Doré, Brian Bickley, Armand Murray, J.J. Janvier, Ken Dickerson, Clem Chartier, Bob Lauder, Bob Brault, Kelly Lendsay, and Larry Ellis

visitors, businesses and community members will mean wonderful opportunities for economic and social benefits for all. For tourists, the northern villages of La Loche, Black Point, Garson Lake, Bear Creek, Turnor Lake and many others will become the destination of many who wish to find peace and quiet and breathtaking scenery in an otherwise hectic world.

On Monday, December 4, 2000, the La Loche Village and the Metis Nation - Saskatchewan hosted a one-day tour of La Loche in preparation for the opportunities resulting from the Oil Sands development in Fort McMurray, Alberta. While La Loche is situated across the provincial border, it remains the second closest community to the Fort McMurray / Wood Buffalo region. This tour resulted from more than a year and a half's work by Metis Nation - Saskatchewan President, Clem Chartier, to gain the attention and support of the major stakeholders in the opportunities of the Oil Sands for members of the Metis / Dene community



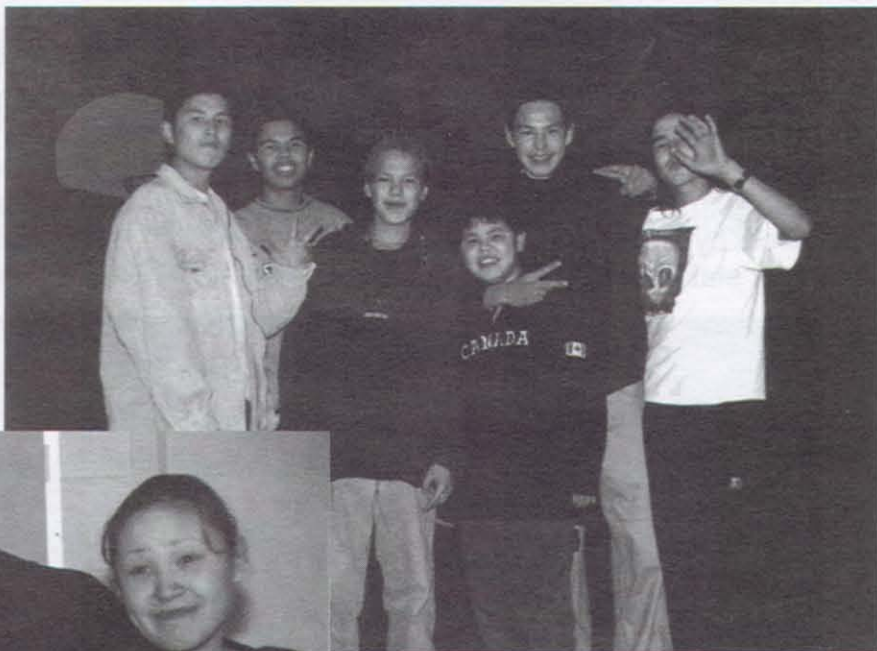
of La Loche and surrounding area. The Government of Canada Office of the Privy Council was represented by Philippe Dore, Bob Brault, Ken Dickerson, with the Government of Saskatchewan represented by the Apprenticeship Commission and Post-Secondary Education and Skills Training. Kelly Lendsay Representing the HRDC Aboriginal Human Resource Development Council, as well as Larry Ellis, Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada, were also in attendance. The Metis Nation and Municipal representatives were:

Federal Officials Visit La Loche

Clem Chartier, President MNS, Philip Chartier, MNS Regional Director, John J. Janvier, Mayor La Loche, Town Counsellor Armand Murray, Town Administrator Doug Gailey, and Teddy Clarke - La Loche Radio Station and Local School Board Member.

The first part of the tour was spent at Dene High School where we visited the technical education facilities, metal and carpentry shops, commercial cooking facilities and computer laboratories. We visited as well, the Journalism class who were studying local, provincial and national issues relating to abortion and AIDS. Principal Greg Hatch guided us through the school highlighting the creative abilities of the youth. La Loche Community School provides education through two centres: the Dene High (Grades 7 - 12) and the Ducharme Elementary School (Grades K - 6). Our group was joined by members of the Northern Light School Division who spoke openly for new opportunities for northern youth. There was a recognition during the discussions that the youth were a growing population and would be the greater percentage of residents in La Loche and surrounding communities. It was recognized also that there is a lack of participation by youth in the local economy and that young people desired a much greater role in the affairs of the community. While the community schools remain primarily focussed on K 12 education, it became apparent that the infrastructure provided a wonderful opportunity to support adult learners who did not complete their grade twelve certification and sought upgrading.

As employment opportunities become available in the Oil Sands with companies such as Syncrude and Suncor, a grade twelve requirement for entrance into apprenticeship training programs or to gain employment is the first challenge. Immediate educational support is required. Of particular interest is the large number of women who are returning to complete their education and training. We look to the good work of the Metis Locals and Dumont Technical Institute and Northlands College in providing excellent adult education opportunities based in the community. Metis Employment and Training of Saskatchewan Inc along with Methy Pathways Board officials, Kathy Hodgson-Smith and Bev Laliberte discussed the need to ensure that programs were designed to meet the specific needs of the residents of North West Saskatchewan and made



La Loche Déné High School Students



available to residents right in the community whenever possible. Residents are encouraged to register with the Methy Pathways office in Buffalo Narrows and La Loche to ensure they are considered for both employment and training opportunities.

Federal and Metis Nation officials visited the La Loche Village Office, where town council members, along with Mayor Janvier, spoke to the economic development needs of the community and their visions for increased opportunity for the citizens of La Loche and surrounding communities. Town administrator Doug Gailey



La Loche Village Office

highlighted the housing initiatives that the Village is proposing to address the serious shortage of housing. Community Development Corporation officials, Randy Janvier and Wendy Lemaigre talked about the need to bring immediate relief to overcrowding and community wellness issues. As well, North West community partners have worked hard for the past ten years to build the Garson Lake road recognizing that the northern communities must be linked to ensure participation in Canada's economic development riches. While the Garson Lake road was officially completed two years ago, the village office and those trained through the road development process remain ready, equipped and able to undertake future heavy equipment tasks METSI Minister Philip Chartier encouraged the government to build on existing services and support community-driven initiatives. He commended community organizations for their excellent work to date..

The day also included a drive-by visit to the new health facility that is being built. The community has undertaken a fund-raising effort to raise the required financing for the facility. Currently, residents are



New hospital facility in La Loche

flown to Fort McMurray for health services, for emergency care, for prenatal services and other major interventions. The new hospital will mean that quality health care is no more than a few minutes away, a service that we tend to take for granted in the south. The health care facility is expected to cost about ten million dollars, with the funding made available by Saskatchewan Health. The community challenge is to raise \$700,000 for fixtures and equipment. About \$250,000 has been collected to date, as displayed on the large thermometer display on main street, with \$100,000 donated by Cogema Resources and

Federal Officials Visit La Loche - Continued

\$150,000 raised locally, including the contribution of the Local Radio station La Loche Radio / Cable TV Company has contributed \$100,000. Wolfe Management is the contractor for the job and the facility is scheduled for completion in July or August of 2001.

While La Loche remains a remote northern



Meeting at La Loche Community School

community, the opportunities seem endless. With the right coordination and commitment of Canadian, Provincial, Metis Nation and First Nations governments, the residents of North West Saskatchewan could find themselves enriched and strengthened by northern development initiatives such as the Oil Sands, forestry and tourism. As Metis and First Nations continue to promote self-determination and self-governance as the strength of the people, it will require an intimate and determined effort on the part of everyone to ensure the economy of the region serves the needs of the people who live from the lands within it.



Philippe Doré, J.J. Janvier, Doug Gailey and Greg Hatch



Here in Saskatchewan we have much to celebrate and be thankful for this Christmas season. Since 1997 it has been my pleasure to act as the voice of Metis and Non-Status Indians within the federal cabinet.

I would like to assure you that First Nations and Metis issues are a priority for the Government of Canada over the course of our next mandate. It is important that we work together to realize our common objectives and I very much look forward to doing so.

I would like to wish all the readers of New Breed magazine a Merry Christmas all and the very best in 2001.



Ralph Goodale,
Minister of Natural Resources,
and Federal Interlocutor for Metis and Non-Status Indians

Canada

NOTICE

Metis Nation Saskatchewan
General Election
February 17, 2001

Those who can vote:

Metis registered with an MNS Local

An electoral list will be available on January 17, 2001 at the MNS Local offices. Check the list and inform your local President or Chief Electoral Office If your name is missing. There is a revision period of thirty days prior to the election to add, remove or transfer names of voters.

If you require additional information contact your local President or call Toll Free 1-866-651-1440.

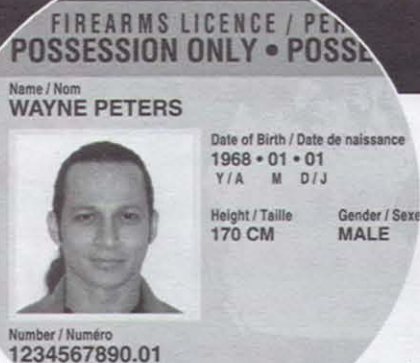
Chief Electoral Officer

Important Information

for all Canadians about

responsible firearm ownership

An update on licensing



The law requires that firearm owners be licensed by January 1, 2001.

1.7 million Canadians have already complied with the licensing requirements of the *Firearms Act*.

And recently, Canadians have sent in their firearms licence applications in record numbers. To meet this overwhelming demand, temporary licences are now being issued to eligible firearm owners.

Public safety remains the cornerstone of the firearms program.

For example, temporary licences are only being issued to those who are successfully screened against Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) databases. And, like current licence holders, those with temporary firearms licences will be continuously screened against police databases. Firearms licences will be issued only to those found eligible after further screening.

These public safety checks conform to the *Firearms Act* and keep firearms away from those who should not have them.

Temporary licences will be issued to eligible firearm owners who applied in the fall. Temporary licence holders are not permitted to acquire firearms. However, they will be in legal possession of their firearms and they will be able to purchase ammunition as of January 1, 2001. Temporary licences are only valid until June 30, 2001 or until those eligible receive their 5-year licence.

For more information, assistance or forms, call 1 800 731-4000 or visit our Web site at www.cfc.gc.ca

Canada

Remember, Our Children Are Watching

The History of La Loche Community Development Corporation

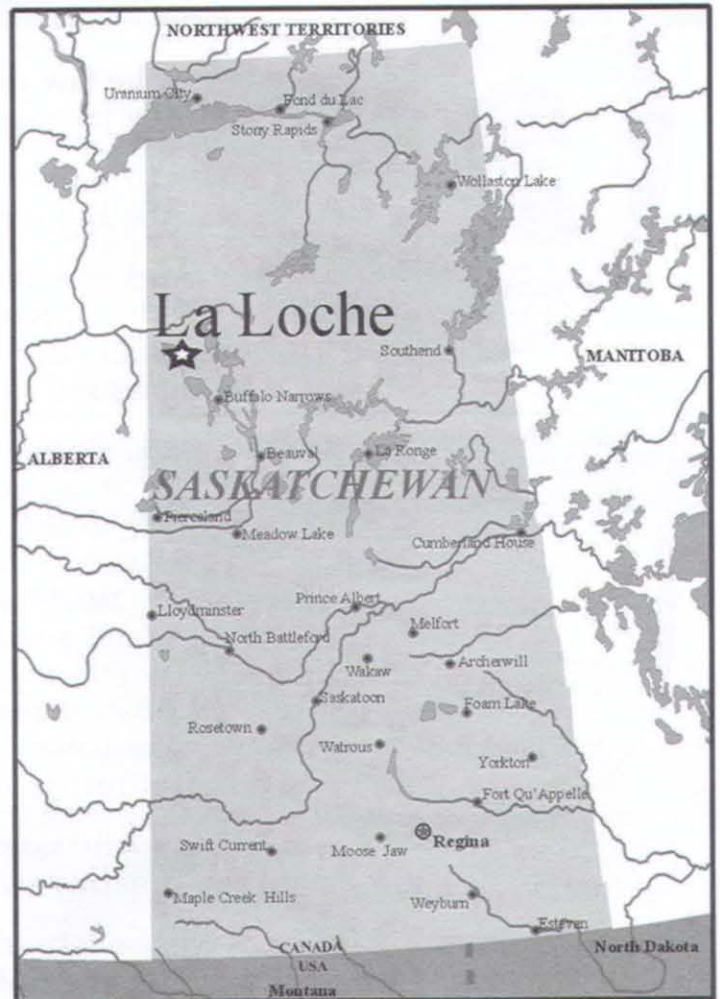
By Wendy Lemaigre

"Remember, our children are watching" is a powerful slogan, one that captures a message and direction for the La Loche Community Development Corporation. Established in 1992 by the Provincial Government's Department of Municipal Government, The CDC has provided leadership for the community and served as a launching pad for many beneficial programs to the community. A year later following a meeting in LaLoche with Premier Romonow and MLA Fred Thompson, a strategy was developed to coordinate and integrate provincial government programs and expenditures to better meet the needs of La Loche. This led to a report by John Hylton called the La Loche Report that highlighted a number of recommendations including the following:

- That La Loche embark on a fundamental healing / strategic planning process to implement change
- That La Loche establish a Community Development organization which would support social and economic development
- That an interdepartmental steering committee be established to undertake joint planning between Government departments and the Village.
- That Government decision making and resource allocation practices support the joint planning process.

From these recommendations flowed the development of the La Loche Strategic Plan which identified Accountability, Participation, Involvement, Restructuring of Current Systems, Economic Development, Community Healing and Human Resource Development as priorities.

It was in 1996 that the La Loche Community Development Corporation came of age with its incorporation as a non-profit organization and the establishment of it's first Board of Directors. From that point in time the CDC has accomplished much for the community and the people that it serves. From Social Justice issues to Health Care the CDC has provided leadership in its relationship with the Provincial Government. It is a history for which it can be proud.



The La Loche Community Development Corporation Mission Statement

We look forward to healthy children, adults and elders living in a supportive, productive Déné community that is in control of it's destiny and has living conditions and standards of respect and caring which lead to peace, health and security for all our citizens.

A Summary of the Programs and Initiatives Undertaken or Influenced by the La Loche Community Development Corporation

1995 The Saskatchewan Action Plan for Children funds a Family coordinator position in La Loche, under the direction of the La Loche Action Committee for Kids.

La Loche Victim Services, police based, receives approval and funding and opens its doors at the La Loche RCMP detachment.

La Loche submits a proposal for Community Justice Worker with a Community Development aspect to the program from a cultural perspective.

The Family Coordinator position is transferred to the CDC.

The Community Justice Development Program receives approval and the programs implemented.

Elders Committee identified as a priority for Community Development.

1996 The Community Justice Program hires a part time support person.

CDC establishes a Board of Directors and is incorporated as a non-profit organization.

Holistic healing and wellness programs are established in La Loche through CDC programs.

The Minister of Health improves mental health services for the north and approves a staff position for La Loche. The Northern Village also receives funds to hire a Community Support person to assist the Mental Health Program.

Victim Services and the Courtworker program move to the former RCMP building along with the Community Justice Program.

The CDC hires a temporary coordinator and continues to work with the Government partner's to fund a management position for the CDC. The CDC requests involvement in the hiring process for public service employees. The village is asked to appoint 2 people to represent the community on public service commission hiring.

1997 The Community Justice Program agrees to test

pre charge diversion for minor criminal offences for first time offenders.

Community agencies are assigned and or invited to participate in a Task Team, developed to guide the La Loche Alternative Measures Program (LLAMP).

Dr. Carol LaPraire prepares "Seeking Change: Justice Development in La Loche for Saskatchewan Justice.

Victim Services, the Courtworker, Community Justice and the Community Support Worker programs become CDC programs.

The CDC management position is filled after successful negotiation with government departments to jointly fund the position.

The CDC sponsors a Youth Cultural camp as part of our pre charge diversion program.

The La Loche Family Violence Prevention Committee, a subcommittee of the CDC is established as an interagency committee devoted to the prevention of family violence.

LLAMP begins pre charge and post charge diversion. Some CDC staff receives training in Mediation and Family Group Conferencing.

1998 The CDC receives funds for a Youth Intervention position. The position is responsible for programming for youth at risk.

The CDC is assigned as the agent for the Fine Option program.

The CDC begins family group conferencing with the schools on a referral basis.

The CDC sponsors educational and awareness sessions, for the community, on healing and wellness.

CDC staff is trained in Suicide Intervention/Critical Incident Debriefing as a community response to suicide and suicide attempts.

The CDC is beginning to be seen as the social development arm of the Northern Village of La Loche.

The CDC receives approval for a Crime Prevention Program.

The CDC receives approval for a Women's On Line Program.

1999 CDC staff and community members are trained in Community Justice Forum delivery.

CDC opens a sub office in each of the La Loche Community Schools.

Season's Greetings from La Loche CDC Staff

Wendy Lemaigre	Manager, Mediator
Viviane Janvier	Community Justice Coordinator, Mediator
Randy Janvier	Courtworker, Mediator, Family Group, Facilitator
Dean Herman	Youth Intervention
Victoria Murray	Support Staff
Lorna Janvier	Victim Services
Lorna Murray	Family Needs Coordinator
Faye Janvier	Fine Option



North West Saskatchewan Northern Project 2000

by Yvonne Vizina

My name is Yvonne Vizina, and I have recently accepted the position of Northern Project Coordinator. I would like to share with you some information about myself, and the Northern Project. It is my hope that after reading this newsletter article that you will know more about who I am, and what the Northern Project is working toward for the people of North West Saskatchewan.

I am a graduate of the Gabriel Dumont Institute, SUNTEP Program, where I completed a Bachelor of Education Degree, specializing in Native Studies and Biology. I have worked with the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan during the last couple of years because I enjoy being with my own people, and because I feel a strong sense of commitment to the Nation.

Background

The Tripartite Northern Project (NP) was created to focus on two main areas 1) Regional Governance



On behalf of the entire Senate:

Back Row: Senators Jacob Lavallee, Gilbert Pelletier, John Boucher
Middle Row: Senators Nora Ritchie, Marie Chaboyer, Joe Perreault
Front Row: Senators Johnny Woodward and Albert "Hap" Boyer

The Metis Nation - Saskatchewan Senate would like to wish each and everyone a special holiday season. Life is so very busy it seems and it is important that we find time to rest, to consider our dreams, to help one another and to enjoy life's precious gifts.

We know many of our people are unable to be with family or are unable to go home for Christmas.

We send our warmest greetings to you all.



Model Development, and 2) Devolution of Programs and Services. In addition to the Tripartite Process discussions between the MNS, Canada and Saskatchewan, discussions were extended to include the North West Municipalities Association. Northern Project staff have worked with the Leaders and NP Committee members to begin looking into the development of a viable governance model and devolution of programs and services.

On the governance front, the paper "Otipimsuak" was developed in 1998 by Clem Chartier for the Northern Project. Among other things, the paper provides a discussion of the objective of the Northern Project, a review of existing infrastructures and institutions in NW Saskatchewan, a review of existing models of Aboriginal governance in Canada and proposes new governance options.

The North West Saskatchewan Metis Council (NWSMC) was formed to strengthen the work being done with respect to regional governance. This ensured that the Metis Council and the Municipalities Association would have complimentary regional bodies with the organizational capacity and structure to interface more easily on a consistent and formal basis through their Executive members.

The Northern Project has been involved in other initiatives besides governance. This is the work related to issues of devolution of programs and services to NW Saskatchewan. In 1998, a Northern Project working group developed a 5-Year Blueprint for Devolution. The main purpose of the Blueprint is to provide a direction and a focus to the development of the Northern Project. The Blueprint describes a sectoral development strategy for NW Saskatchewan.

In 1999, the provincial government undertook its own study of municipal governance in urban, rural and northern settings. The Northern Sector Final Report covers such things as the need for municipal renewal, views on municipal renewal, local municipal governance, regional municipal governance, and other related topics.

North West Saskatchewan
Northern Project 2000 - Continued

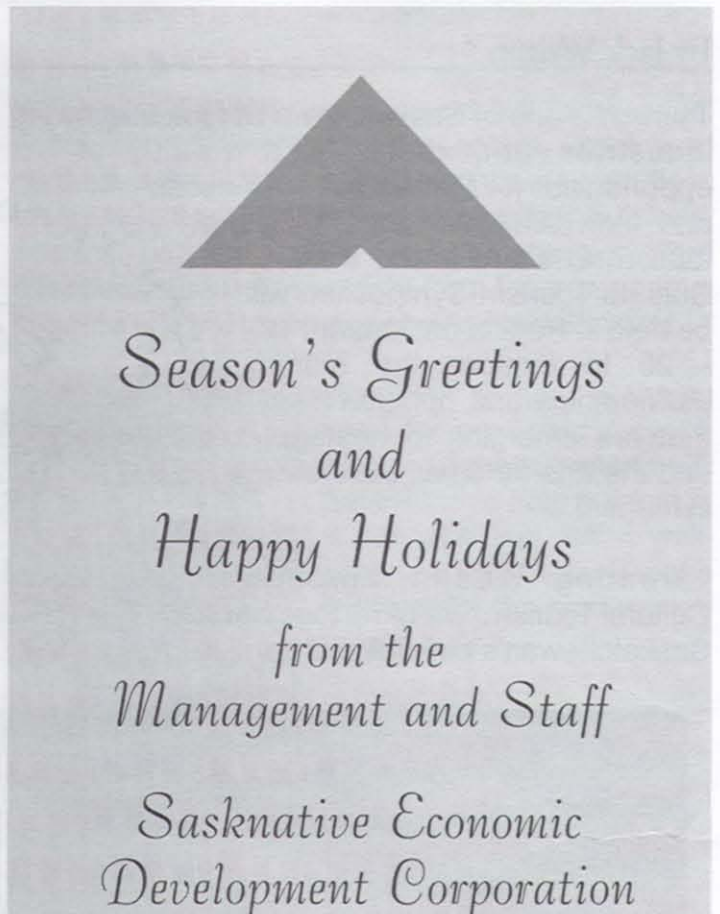
The Municipal Task Force's Northern Sector Final Report does say that they focus on the "building blocks" that will need to be addressed in governance renewal, rather than providing a "plan" or "blueprint." The report clearly states that the development of such a blueprint for renewal "rests with provincial and municipal officials and the ratepayers they represent and serve." Since the provincial government currently has no legislation that would allow for regional governance, a special Act would have to be developed to allow for both local and regional governance to exist. It is our belief that Aboriginal organizations must not be left out of this process, or relegated to "advisory committee" status. Indeed, in order to come up with the best plan it is important that the Northern Project forums are utilized to their fullest potential in order to best represent the interests of Metis people.

The Northern Project continues its work under the Tripartite Work Plan for 2000-2002. As Coordinator, it is my hope that the people of NW Saskatchewan will continue to come together in an effort to ensure that any new regional governance or devolution process adequately represents their interests as Metis people. The progress of the Northern Project is reliant not only upon the work of the staff, but upon the involvement and participation of all people in NW Saskatchewan. In carrying out commitments for the development of a viable governance option, and sectoral devolution, the Northern Project seeks to work with NW residents, and to honour the work individuals and communities are already doing.

A Northern Project Committee meeting is being planned for January 9, 2001 in Buffalo Narrows. Mayors and Local Presidents of North West Saskatchewan will be contacted by mail.

CORRECTION

The name Dorothy Aubichon was misspelled in the article and accompanying photo "Métis National Council Meets to Preserve and Promote the Michif Language" from the April/May 2000 issue of New Breed, page 15.



Back Row: Cory McDougall, Roger Ethier, Bill Bonyk, and Lloyd Laliberte
Front Row: Connie Dean, Greg Fofonoff, and Erin Ebach

Opportunities for Métis Cultural Tourism

By Jack Walton

Tourism is one of Saskatchewan's fastest-growing industries and there is a wealth of opportunities for Métis small businesses and individuals working in cultural tourism to share in the wealth. A Cultural Tourism Symposium will be held in Regina on January 18 - 20 to explore the many partnerships and opportunities that are emerging in heritage and the arts for small business in tourism.

"Creating Wealth Through Cultural Tourism" will bring together Saskatchewan's cultural and tourism

communities. These groups, who sometimes work in isolation from each other, will learn about and explore the exciting opportunities for growth and excellence that can be gained from working together. A range of speakers, panels and workshops will provide information on partnership opportunities as well as helpful information on the development of cultural tourism products.



For more information, please contact SaskCulture at (306) 780-9284 or visit the web site at www.saskculture.sk.ca

Highway Hotline Information

Regina city and surrounding area: **787-7623**

Saskatoon city and surrounding area: **933-8333**

All other areas of Saskatchewan:

Toll Free 1-888-335-7623

Internet:

www.highways.gov.sk.ca



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Hon. Maynard Sonntag
Minister

Youth Worker Rises to Challenge

By Al Rivard

Raeanne Cameron was busy at her regular activities, compiling a database of Metis youth that have been using the Youth Activity Centre at Jim Brady Development Corporation, in La Ronge. She was honing her computer skills becoming familiar with a variety of software packages, including desktop publishing.

Then all hell broke loose! She was requested to participate as Co-ordinator for the 1st Annual Training and Employment Conference, and the accompanying 2nd Annual Métis Employment & Training (MET) Awards Banquet. The scope of this activity was huge, and although Raeanne had never done anything like this before, in fact, had never attended a conference, she was willing to apply her current skills and to learn some new ones along the way. She wasn't sure what she was getting into, but within a very short period of time, she accomplished a great deal.

First she had to become familiar with the structure of Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and its affiliates, particularly the structure and the entire staff of METSI Head Office and the LMMBs.

Then she reviewed the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings and what the committee had already put in place. She then met the Planning Committee by conference call and became an active member in the planning sessions. The committee had done a lot of work: caterers, speakers, music, a M.C., and other areas were already booked. As well, the committee had begun a fund-raising campaign and had assigned responsibilities for presenters at the workshops.

What was needed was tying up the loose ends. Following up with the presenters, continued contact with the booking contracts, endless mailouts to the LMMBs, develop programs, tickets, posters, and on and on. That her energies were effectively spent was evident from the tremendous success of the Conference and Awards Banquet.



We hope to start planning soon for next year's event, and hope that Raeanne will be around to help out again. If not, she has left a well-organized file that will make it easier for the next worker to take over.

Thanks from everyone on the Planning Committee. Raeanne, we would never have accomplished as much without your help.

Planning Committee: April McPherson, Trevor Kennedy, Tara Gilbert, Al Rivard, Kathy Hodgson-Smith, Keith Henry, Henry Cummings, Kelly Prudent, Bev Worsley, Karen Larocque, Dwayne Docken, Mavis Taylor.

*Greetings of the Season
&
Best Wishes for the New Year.
May the Happiness & Good Cheer
of the
Holiday Season
be yours throughout the New Year
From Methy Pathways Board and Staff*

Aboriginal Athletes Receive Tommy Longboat Awards

By Dwayne Docken

Tommy Longboat was one of the most celebrated and accomplished Aboriginal athletes in Canadian History. Tom Longboat was one of the most gifted long distance runners of his time. In just his third competition race, he set the world record for the World marathon, smashing the previous mark by over five and one-half minutes. He attracted sell out crowds, he was the world's professional Champion.

Established in 1951, the Tom Longboat Award serves as a proud national symbol for all Aboriginal peoples of Canada.

The Aboriginal Sports Circle, Canada's national voice for Aboriginal sport, annually recognizes the achievements of gifted Aboriginal athletes. Every year, the top male and female Aboriginal athletes from each province/territory are selected for the Tom Longboat Regional Award. These recipients automatically advance as nominees for the prestigious National Award that is presented to the most outstanding male and female Aboriginal Athletes in Canada. The regional finalist that went on to the National competition are the following two individuals.

Our provincial female athlete of the year from Saskatoon is Ms. Jacqueline Lavallee. Jacqueline is a Metis who competes at the Provincial, National, and International level in Basketball, Track & Field, and Soccer.

Jacqueline is a fourth year student attending the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teachers Education Program through the University of Saskatchewan under the schooling of Gabriel Dumont Institute. She is working hard to obtain her Education Degree and also her Kinesiology degree. Jacqueline made the University Women's National team playing basketball. She has traveled to Spain for the Federation Internationale du Sport Universities (FISU) World University Games and



Jacqueline Lavallee and Ralph Kennedy

then on to Taiwan for the Jones Cup of Basketball. It was a dream come true for Jacqueline. Upon her return she finished her soccer playing with Edmonton Ital Assuri major soccer league. Some of Jacqueline's highlights in athletics consist of 1997 University of Saskatchewan Most Outstanding Rookie Soccer Player and also Basketball Player; a double award. In 1999, Jacqueline was nominated for the Kinsmen Athlete of the Year Award. As a member of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, we are very proud of Jacqueline and she brings honour to our people.

Dana Lamframbois, a First Nations boxer out of Regina Saskatchewan was born on April 25, 1980 in Regina Saskatchewan. He is second child of five children for Les Lamframboise and Tina La Rose.

Dana began his competitive boxing at the tender age of 10 years old. Since then Dana has racked up wins on the provincial, national and international levels. Dana's record stands at 125 fights, 106 wins, and 19 defeats. His

Aboriginal Athletes Receive
Tommy Longboat Awards - Continued

many awards include the 1993 North American Indigenous Games Champion, 1995 Canada Games Gold Medallists, 1996 Bronze World Junior Olympics, 1999 Silver PanAm Games Medalists. These are but a few of Dana's accomplishments in his career.

On behalf of the Aboriginal Sports Council of Canada, Saskatchewan Metis Sport, Culture, Recreation & Youth, Inc. of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. We are very proud of the accomplishments of these two athletes and would like to congratulate them as our provincial winners of the Tommy Longboat Awarded Medals. We wish these two athletes the best of luck in the future.



Dana Laframboise and Ralph Kennedy

METIS NATION - SASKATCHEWAN GENERAL ELECTION - FEBRUARY 17, 2001

ARE YOU MÉTIS?

If you are, do you know that the Métis Nation Election is on February 17, 2001?

WHO CAN VOTE?

Only those Métis who are registered to an MNS Local. There will be no Métis declarations on Election Day.

DO YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If so, contact your MNS Local President, Area Director, or call Toll Free 1-866-651-1440

MÉTIS ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Vision for the Future

Employment & Training Conference and MET Awards

By Kathy Hodgson-Smith and Keith Henry

Metis Employment and Training of Sask. Inc. (METSI) held its first employment and training conference on November 30, December 1 and 2. The event was located in Saskatoon at the Union center with several delegates and presenters for the event.

The title of the Conference "Vision for the Future" was chosen specifically to focus on the education of Youth. The labor markets are changing and the Conference provided insight into existing and future opportunities. There were approximately 60 youth representatives and 300 registered participants. Many of the Local Metis Management Boards supported the Conference through their attendance and allowing their staff to attend. The Conference also had several dignitaries attend the opening ceremonies.

METSI Minister Philip Chartier, as Master of Ceremonies for the event, opened the gathering with welcoming remarks and spoke to the quality of work being done on behalf of Metis people all across the province. Metis N a t i o n - Saskatchewan President Clem C h a r t i e r encouraged the youth to participate in the affairs of the nation, to face the challenges of the economy through access to education and to feel proud of their history and culture. Minister of Northern Affairs, Keith Goulet, gave a warm and encouraging speech, encouraging Metis people to work towards leadership roles in Saskatchewan and to be supportive of those individuals who move toward success. He spoke also the importance of having an open mind to new relationships with others as



Minister Philip Chartier at Opening Ceremonies
photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith



Registration - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

thanked the many participants for coming to the conference as well as the many organizations that helped to make the conference possible. She encouraged the women to be confident in all matters of their life, including employment and training. April McPherson, Vice-President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council thanked the conference organizers and the METSI Board of Directors for allowing the youth to be meaningfully involved in the conference planning and encouraged the youth to take full advantage of the workshops and sessions with potential employers. Last but not least, Lynn Anderson brought greetings from the Department of Education brought greetings and best wishes for the conference from Minister Jim Mellenchuk.

The Conference was designed to bring information to community members from across the province on METSI's "employment and training" initiatives.



Apprenticeship Booth - photo by Keith Henry

The event focused attention on the labor markets as displayed by Health, Apprenticeship, Small Business Entrepreneurs, Forestry, and others. Many of the labor sectors had displays and representatives for seminars. Each Conference participant registered in the seminar of their choosing.

The highlight for the event was the MET Awards. This was an evening for METSI to celebrate individual accomplishments and recognize the outstanding work in the province. The response was great with roughly 450 guests in attendance at the banquet. The evening was set in the positive energy of Mr. Don Burnstick, who emceed the evening. He provided the humor between awards and made for an evening filled with laughter and enjoyment. The Awards were an honoring for each recipient and many of these individuals will continue the Metis tradition in the future. The evening concluded with music and dance. In fact, Elvis "was in the building". Needless to say the evening was a success.

the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, Provincial Métis Housing, Gabriel Dumont Institute,

Métis Employment and Training of Saskatchewan Inc would like to recognize all sponsors for their financial assistance in covering Conference costs. The event would not have been possible except for the generous contributions of many individuals and organizations. In working together, we can make a difference. Fundraising was coordinated by Keith Henry, with the help of Karen LaRocque, Dwayne Docken, Kelly Pruden. Thanks also to Ralph Kennedy for his support. In the hope of remembering everyone, METSI would like to thank to



Audience at the MET Awards Ceremony - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

SaskNative Economic Development Corporation, Clarence Campeau Development fund, Sasktel, Meyers Norris, Penny, Saskatchewan

Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, Human Resource Development Canada, Métis Employment and Training of Saskatchewan and the Local Métis Management Boards for their contribution. Thanks to Saskatchewan Institute of applied Science and Technology for the conference bags.



METSI Workshop - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

The workshops were most appreciated by participants. Thank you to April McPherson for her outstanding contribution in the organization of the workshops and the participation of the youth from across the province. Paul Tourand and Al Rivard organized the disabilities workshops. Thank you. As well, thanks goes to all those who gave their time and energy in providing workshops at the Conference: Louise Legare, Indian Teacher Education Program; Max Morin, Keewatin Yahthe Health District; Victoria Gubbels, Saskatchewan Association of Health Associations; Peter Kalyn, Weyerhaeuser; Dianne Yeryk, Saskatchewan Student Loans; Richard Klyne, Saskatchewan Labour; Greg Fofonoff, SNEDCO; Roland Duplessis, CCDF; Lisa Wilson, Dumont Technical Institute; Al Douglas, Apprenticeship Commission; Jim Ludwig, SIAST; Carl Bradbook, Canadian National Institute for the Blind; George Ward, Gary Tinker Foundation; Jack

Kinear, Saskatchewan Environment Resource Management; Laura Langstaff, Métis National Council; Gary Ivanochko, Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food; Raymond Laliberte, Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan; Western Economic Diversification; Philip Chartier, Methy Pathways; Keith Henry and Kathy Hodgson-Smith, Métis Employment and Training. Thank you as well to Dave Ross for providing shuttle and security services for the event.

Displays were provided by: Darren Prefontaine and Leah Dorion, Gabriel Dumont Institute; Veeshia Lato, SIAST; Angie Merasty, Sasktel; Bret D'Amour, Apprenticeship Branch; Victoria Gubbels, SAHO; Eli Fleury, NORTEP / NORPAC; Val Arnault, Native Access to Nursing; Jackie Crosman, National School of Dental Therapy; Diane Maier, Weyerhaeuser; Coffee Dot Com; Kelly Pruden, Can/Sask Career Centre and George Ward, Gary Tinker Foundation.

Special thanks goes to Al Rivard, Associate Minister for Métis Employment and Training for organizing conference displays and who's



MET Awards Audience - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

leadership in the coordination of this conference in its entirety made it a successful event. As well, special thanks to Reanne Cameron for her efficiency and flexibility in stepping into a project already underway and bringing it to completion. Métis Employment



and Training would also like to thank Laura Ruby-Stade along with Lori Nixon of METSI for making the awards that were presented at the MET Awards Ceremony. Special thanks to the METSI staff for being available at a moment's notice, especially the Finance Department: Pam Larson, Andrea Micklewright, Tracey Nguyen, Shelley Honish for coordinating all financing and for managing the registration process and to Cheryl Hill for handling the many phone calls and inquiries as the conference plans unfolded and for making the secretarial tasks just that much more manageable. Thanks to Tara Gilbert who's quiet background coordination and behind-the-scenes support helped to bring success to the many efforts. And of course, special thanks to Philip Chartier, our Minister, whose vision for community involvement is impressed upon each and every undertaking of METSI and whose determination kept each of us

moving forward when the obstacles seemed too large.

The MET Awards banquet room was wonderfully decorated by the Métis youth, with balloons, streamers and festive decorations. Evening refreshments were provided by the Saskatoon Urban Métis Council, with the exquisite meal and catering from the Union Centre staff. Don Burnstick Productions provided a warm and jovial environment for our celebrations.

Conference evaluation and feedback has brought confidence that the annual MET Awards banquet and dance will now be joined by annual conference workshops. We look forward to next year and hope to see you there.

Christmas is a time of hope, a celebration of love. SaskTel has embraced the cause of child abuse because our employees listened with their hearts and hoped to make a difference to the children of Saskatchewan.

Working with our partners: the Saskatchewan Institute on Prevention of Handicaps, the Pipestone Health District and the Provincial Association of Transition Houses of Saskatchewan (PATHS), we no longer have to hope to make a difference. We know we are, by providing educational parenting programs and better access to local help lines.

With our assistance:

- * the Saskatchewan Institute on Prevention of Handicaps' "Healthy Parenting Home Study Program" is now available, and interactive, on their Web site;
- * the Pipestone Health District has the tools to promote their "Parenting Plus Program"; and
- * PATHS will have a page in every 2000-2001 SaskTel phone book titled "Abuse Help Lines" so people know who to call for assistance and advice.

*Child abuse.
We can prevent it.*

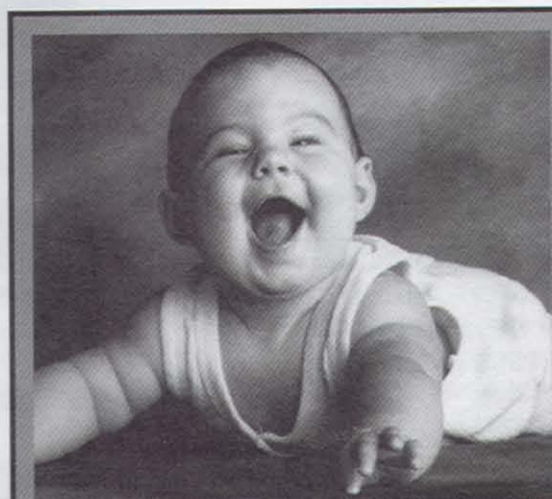
www.sasktel.com

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SaskTel



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with your
Heart



NBA / CBO Award
Val Perreault presenting to Vince Folk on behalf of the Lebret Farm Foundation Inc.



Education Institution Award
Miles Pelletier presenting to George Fayant on behalf of Parkland Regional College



Government Participation Award
Tara Gilbert presenting to Earl Cook on behalf of Post Secondary Education Skills Training Regional Services Branch - La Ronge



Business Participation Award
Clem Chartier presenting to Larry Richard on behalf of SaskTel



METSI Staff Award
Philip Chartier presenting to Keith Henry



Joe Amyotte Award (Service Delivery Site Staff)
Mechtild Morin presenting to Barbara Jackson



Lawrence Langan Award (Service Delivery Site Manager)
Mavis Taylor presenting to Ryan Calder



Stan Durocher Award (Service Delivery Site)
Al Rivard presenting to George Fayant on behalf of Métis Human Resources Eastern Region III Inc.



Urban Development Awards
Wayne Trotchie presenting to Gabe Lafond, Gail Boucher, Kelly Pruden and Merril Fiddler (missing)



& Training Awards



Board of Directors Award
Bev Worsley presenting to
Viola Bell



**Guy Bouvier Award
(Lifetime Achievement)**
Al Rivard presenting to
Senator Nora Ritchie



Métis Youth Council Award
Trevor Kennedy and April
McPherson presenting to
Kylie Janvier



Métis Woman Award
Maryanne Gagnon presenting
to Bev Laliberte on behalf of
Marlene Hanson



Minister's Honour Award
Philip Chartier presenting
to Kathy Hodgson-Smith



**Tommy Longboat Award
(Aboriginal Sports)**
Ralph Kennedy presenting to
Dana Laframboise



**Tommy Longboat Award
(Aboriginal Sports)**
Ralph Kennedy presenting to
Jacqueline Lavallee



**Gabriel Dumont Institute
Counsellors in Aboriginal Employment Development Certificate**
Dianne Barr and Donna Heimbecker presenting to Cameron Jolibois,
Martin Bembridge, Merrilee Schott, Louise Kitzul,
Vanessa Patterson, Mechtild Morin and Rhonda Desjarlais



**Minister's Honour Award
(Metis Sports, Recreation
and Culture)**
Ralph Kennedy presenting to
Vince Folk

Métis Youth Proud to Work with Métis Youth

By Tristan K. Zachow

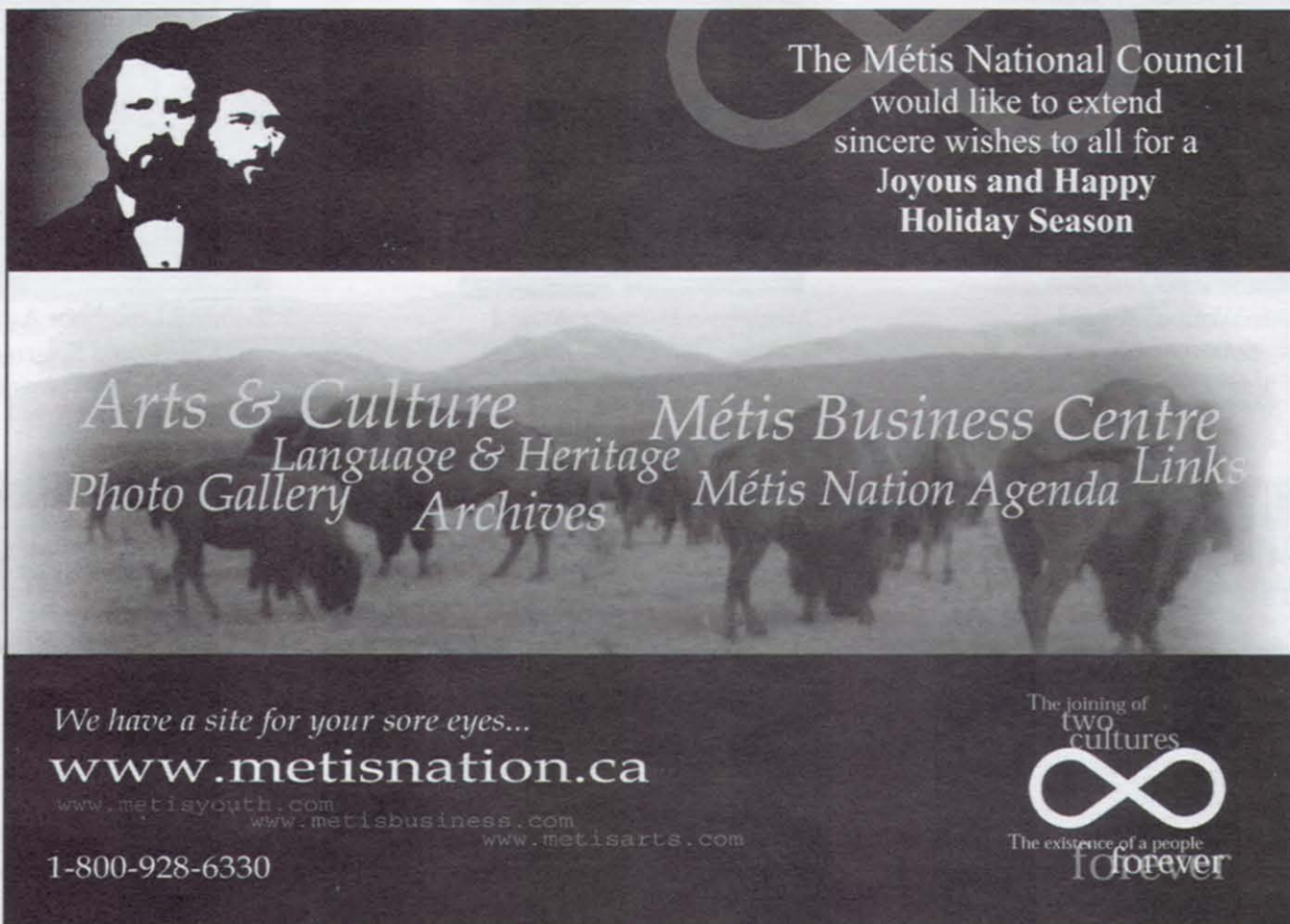
In 1999 I graduated from Dumont Technical Institute Inc. (DTI), finishing with Two Diplomas in Economic Development and one Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business, as well as some formal training on computers. DTI is an affiliate of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

After graduating I was approached by the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Tripartite and Bi-Lateral Unit (Intergovernmental Affairs), and was offered a job by Minister Allan Morin. I came in to the MNS head office in Saskatoon to check things out and accepted the position. Although I did not know a whole lot about Governance processes and how the MNS was structured, I felt I could contribute to the overall mandate.

I found things very challenging when I began working in September 1999. The learning curve was rather demanding. Going through old files and documents, learning the Protocol of the office and the Nation through its structure.

Near the end of September '99, I was assigned my portfolios. Under the Tripartite MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) I was assigned: Urban Governance, Metis Women's Perspective and Justice. Under the Bi-Lateral MOU I was assigned: Health, Housing and Social Development.


I have since passed on the Urban Governance portfolio and accepted the Metis Youth



The Métis National Council
would like to extend
sincere wishes to all for a
**Joyous and Happy
Holiday Season**

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Métis Nation Agenda
Links

We have a site for your sore eyes...
www.metisnation.ca
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www.metisbusiness.com
www.metisarts.com
1-800-928-6330

The joining of
two
cultures

The existence of a people
forever

Métis Youth Proud to Work with Métis Youth - Continued

Perspectives portfolio, as offered by Minister Morin. As a Metis Youth I really took a particular interest in Metis Youth portfolio. Notwithstanding I will be a Metis Youth for only another year.

Since the youth portfolio is new to the Tripartite process I was coming into the initiative at the same level as everyone else. Which wasn't the case for my other portfolios; this would allow me to grow with the initiative, and that, I felt was an advantage.

Over the past 9 months the Metis Youth Perspective portfolio has really allowed me to realize my contribution to the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. By working closely with the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council (MNSYC) as the Metis Youth Perspectives Tripartite Development Officer, I can say that I have not had a more recognized or gratifying contribution to anything I have been involved in. I think that I can contribute that in part to my Minister, Allan Morin, Trevor Kennedy - President MNSYC, and Jennifer Brown (who harasses me on a daily basis, and whom I make work like crazy).

My main duties to the portfolio are to ensure that

the deliverables or objectives of the Tripartite work plan are being achieved in a timely and professional manner. Staying within budget and accounting for their responsibilities are also key factors. I am happy to report that the Metis Youth Perspective 2000 - 2001 deliverables have been achieved to date. Not only do the youth achieve their set out deliverables, but they push the envelope and go beyond the call of duty. Working long days and nights aside from their day jobs are not uncommon occurrences. There have been times when I see that Jennifer has sent me e-mail while working into the wee hours of the morning. Maybe that is insomnia. Ha Ha.


It has been such a successful youth initiative because of the relationships we have established amongst peers. To define it would describe it as: Professional, Diligent, Committed, Timely, Focussed, Determined and in the Spirit of our Ancestors and in the consideration of future Metis Youth.

I am extremely proud to be a part of paving the future with the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council, and I applaud them for their efforts; my colleagues and my friends.

To close this introductory article to the Gazette I would like to express my utmost gratitude to Jennifer Brown who saw enough in me to nominate me to the National Metis Youth Role Model Program. Thanks a lot Jennifer, that really means a lot. Wish me luck all.

If anyone would like to get a hold of me for questions on the Tripartite process or anything else I can be reached by phone (306) 343-8285 or in SK 1-888-343-6667 or by e-mail at: tzachow.mns@sk.sympatico.ca.

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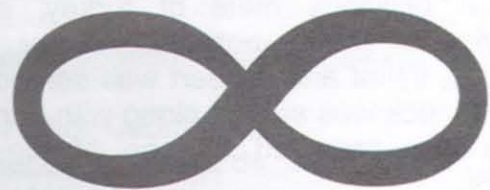
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Regina Métis Women's 2ⁿ^d Annual Métis Recognition Awards & Banquet

by Rhoda Fisher

On Friday, November 24th, the Regina Métis Women honored 15 individuals of Métis ancestry for their outstanding academic, career and community contributions in 11 different category areas. The 2nd Annual Métis Recognition Awards & Banquet was held in the elegantly decorated Canadian Ballroom at the Ramada Hotel. Approximately 260 people attended the gala event, which had an atmosphere that was relaxed, friendly and festive.

Welcoming remarks were given by the co-hosts for the evening, Carrie Bourassa and Murray Hamilton.

The evening began with a procession of the 2000 award recipients being presented to the audience. The "Red River Jig" played as the procession entered into the ballroom which was led by Métis veterans carrying the Canadian flag and the Saskatchewan flag. Clem Chartier, President, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan carried the Métis flag. Also, included in the line of dignitaries was Margaret Samuelson, President, Regina Métis Women. The 15 recipients made an impressive entrance and were well received by the excited and joyous crowd.

The Métis seniors and Veterans in attendance were then introduced individually to the audience. Regina Métis Women had provided free admission tickets to 16 seniors and had also provided free transportation to and from the event for seniors requiring this service.

Prior to the commencement of the banquet, a prayer was said by one of the recipients, Tyrone Fisher. A delicious meal of turkey, stuffing, cranberries, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, salad and dessert was served. Also, baked bannock was served along with buns. The bannock was prepared by one of the Board members.

Regina Métis Women's president, Mrs. Samuelson, gave welcoming remarks. Mrs. Samuelson welcomed all the guests and thanked all the sponsors for their generous financial support. She informed the audience of RMW's future intentions of advancing the Métis Recognition Awards to the provincial level once enough financial support is obtained.

As the representative for the Government of Canada, the presenting sponsor for the 2000 Métis Awards, the Honorable Ralph Goodale, Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, was the first dignitary to bring greetings. Honorable Joanne Crofford gave greetings on behalf of the Province of Saskatchewan. Clem Chartier, President of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan brought greetings on behalf of the Métis Nation. A letter from Maryanne Gagnon, President, Métis Women of Saskatchewan, was read out to the audience as she regretfully was not able to attend the awards event in person. Mr. Bill Parker brought the greetings on behalf of the City of Regina.

The first awards of the evening went to Rhyse Cardinal and Ken Schaffer as winners of the Arts & Entertainment Award which was sponsored by Jacqui Shumiatcher. The Social Work Award was presented to Tyrone Fisher and Georgina Fisher with the Health & Medicine Award going to Brent Robison. The Law & Justice Award went to Marilyn Poitras.

Corinna Hayden-Fidler walked away with the Education Award which was sponsored by the University of Saskatchewan. The Elder Award was presented to Fed Desjarlais and the Business & Commerce Award went to Marty Klyne.

Each recipient received a keeper award, a Métis sash and their name entered on the annual plaque along with their respective category.

The Riel Reelers, A Regina based

Regina Métis Women's 2nd Annual
Métis Recognition Awards & Banquet - Continued

adult square-dancing troupe, invigorated the audience with their delivery of four dances: The Star, Birdie on the Outside, the Riel Reelers Special and the Red River Jig. Maria Campbell, John Arcand and Vicky Arcand delighted the audience with their storytelling, fiddle & guitar playing performance.

In appreciation of their hard work and dedication, roses were presented to Regina Métis Women's Board of Directors, the members of the Métis Awards Planning Committee, and the members of the Awards Selection Committee.

A special presentation was made to the Awards Coordinator and in her speech she once again thanked all of the sponsors and she invited current sponsors, who were not gold award sponsors, to think about upgrading their sponsorship level next year. She pointed out to the audience that the

awards were in very real jeopardy of being cancelled completely for the year 2000. However, it was the formal approval of funding that RMW received on October 6th from the presenting sponsor that enabled the organization to proceed with hosting the awards. A sincere thank-you was expressed to the Honorable Ralph Goodale and his office for assisting Regina Métis Women in keeping the awards alive.

The following sponsors made the awards a reality for the year 2000, they include:

Presenting Sponsor:
Government of Canada

Gold Sponsors:
Jacqui Shumiatcher, SaskPower
and University of Saskatchewan

Silver Sponsor:
City of Regina

Bronze Sponsors:
Métis Nation - Saskatchewan,
SaskTel, Gabriel Dumont Institute,
CreeRunner Communications Ltd.

The Métis Awards received overwhelming support from the following media:

CKCK-CTV, STV, CBC, Access Communications, 62Kool, CHAB, CJME, Z99-FM, CKRM, Wolf 104.9FM, Leader post, Eagle Feather News, SAGE/Windspeaker and New Breed.

Regina Métis Women would like to thank all volunteers, organizations and individuals who helped in making the 2nd Annual Métis Awards & Banquet a huge success. See you next year!

For award & sponsorship inquiries, contact:

Rhoda Fisher, Coordinator
Métis Recognition Awards
Regina Métis Women
(306) 543-3296



The Métis Rights Defence Fund pays for the defence of Métis Rights Test Cases.

Contributions can be made to the Métis Rights Defence Fund by mailing cheque or money order to:

Métis Rights Defence Fund
Box 370
Buffalo Narrows, Sask.
S0M 0J0

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SIFC
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Lian Ruetz
from Oxbow
4th Year Accounting
University of Saskatchewan
\$1,000 Scholarship



Jillian Ross
from Regina
4th Year Business Administration
SIFC
\$1000 Scholarship



Dawn Thomas
from Saskatoon
4th Year Computer Science
University of Saskatchewan
\$1000 Scholarship



Kristen Crippen
from Rockglen
1st Year Hotel & Restaurant
Administration
SIAS, Kelsey Campus
\$500 Scholarship



Marnie Dunlop
from Swift Current
1st Year Instrument
Engineering Technology
SIAS, Palliser Campus
\$500 Scholarship



Denni Nelson
from Prince Albert
2nd Year Business Administration
SIAS, Woodland Campus
\$500 Scholarship



Danica O'Neill
from Carlyle
1st Year Hotel & Restaurant
Administration
SIAS, Kelsey Campus
\$500 Scholarship



Kristy Smith
from Moose Jaw
1st Year Business Administration
SIAS, Palliser Campus
\$500 Scholarship



Sharon Pahtayken
from Onion Lake
2nd Year Management Studies
SK Indian Institute
of Technologies
\$500 Scholarship

Diane Vanghel
from Davidson
2nd Year Recreation & Leisure
SIAS, Kelsey Campus
\$500 Scholarship

Lenny Pahtayken
from Onion Lake
1st Year Office Education
SIAS, Wascana Campus
\$500 Scholarship

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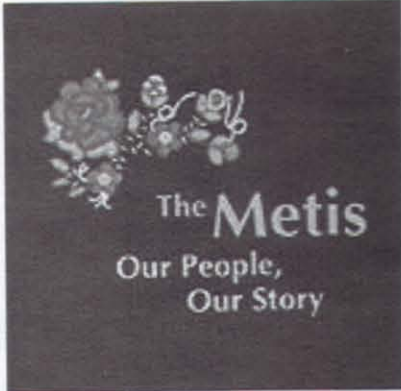
For more information about Casino Regina's
Scholarship Program, call 1-800-555-3189 or
visit www.casinoregina.com

Review of *Our People, Our Story*

Interactive CD ROM

By Christi Belcourt

The Gabriel Dumont Institute has just released an interactive CD Rom, entitled *The Métis: Our People, Our Story*.



The text and content of The Métis CD ROM was authored exclusively by the Gabriel Dumont Institute, and it shows. The Métis voice in this CD ROM comes out loud and clear.

It is estimated that there are over 700 pages of text within the CD. There are thousands of images of which are catalogued, and for anyone who needs to do research for Métis images within various archives across Canada, the list provided in this CD is a godsend.

The categories and topics of information you can find in The Métis are too numerous to list here, but all of them are uniquely Métis and offer a fair and refreshing balance between old and new, men and women, community and the individual.

Of notable acknowledgment are the extensive set of maps; the short video clips that are interwoven with the rest of the images; the bibliography and credits; and the biographies on contemporary Métis activists.

As with any project of this magnitude there is always room for improvement. The area I noticed where amendments or improvements could be made in future releases of the CD are in the contemporary views of Métis communities and political structures.

Case in point, the information on the Métis Nation of Ontario and on Sault Ste. Marie, in my opinion, didn't go nearly as far as it could have, especially with the historical research that's been done with the Powley case.

To be fair however, we need to understand that this CD was about six years in the making and anyone who is familiar with Métis politics understands that our political organizations and structures change which is why

Louis Riel had the foresight to call his government "provisional".

The job that Gabriel Dumont Institute has done in pulling as much information together as they have has to be commended. Overall, they have done a fantastic job. Unlike the "Making History" CD Rom that is more geared towards young audiences, this CD has enough relevant and important information that can be used at the high school and university level, or for anyone looking to do research. The bibliography and list of credits alone make this CD ROM a good buy.

The CD Rom is available for \$69.00 from the Gabriel Dumont Institute and can be ordered by calling 1-306-244-0252, or it can also be ordered directly from GDI's secure e-commerce site at www.gdins.org.



Merry Christmas
&
A Happy New Year

Elts'udi
Weechihitotan
Let's Help Each Other

Keith N. Goulet, MLA, his family and staff extend warmest wishes for the best this season has to offer.

KN Goulet
Keith Goulet

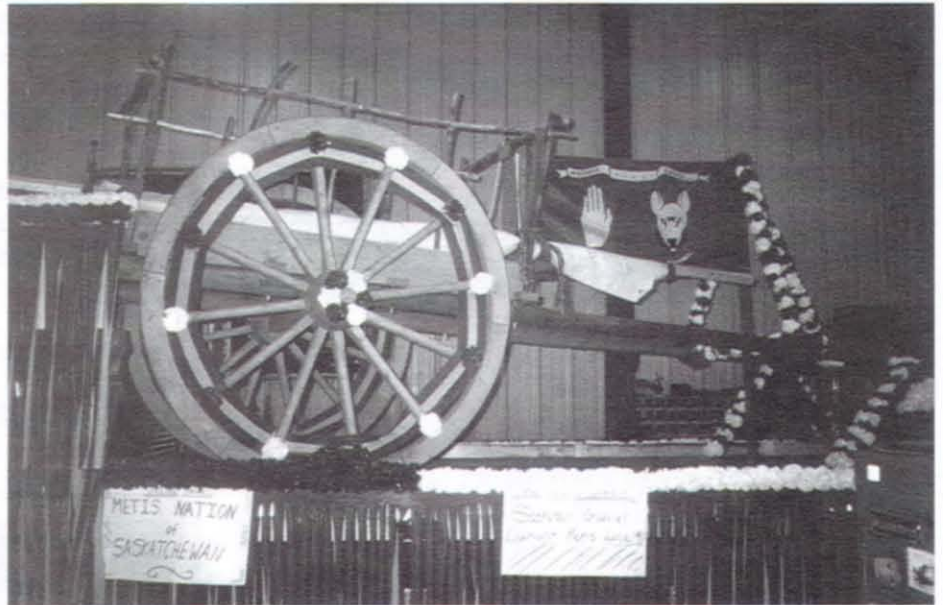
Box 192
La Ronge, Saskatchewan S0J 1L0
Telephone: (306) 425-2525
Facsimile: (306) 425-2885

Métis Elders Council of Saskatchewan Promote Métis Culture and Heritage in City of Saskatoon

By Louise Oelke

The Metis Elders Council of Saskatchewan Inc. entered a float into the Saskatoon Exhibition Parade in August. The Metis Elders Council of Saskatchewan received two awards for their float. The first award was the SaskTel Theme award awarded to the entry that best represents the parade theme which was 'Everyone Loves a Parade!' The second award was first place in the category of Provincial/National Associations.

The float design consisted of the traditional colors of blue and white, a replica of a log cabin, complete with bearskin hung over the roof, that was titled 'Riel's Cabin' and a red river cart. Other accessories included traditional sashes, flags representing the Metis nation, flag bearers, traditional music with jigging and several elders, a Senator and several youth and adults from the Metis community of Saskatoon.



The theme of the float was the passing of generations through knowledge and culture. The Metis Elders Council of Saskatchewan would like to thank the following for their contributions:



CUMFI Local 165
Saskatoon Gabriel Dumont Metis Local #11
SGDML#11 Home Care Assistant Program
Class 1A Instruction Centre Ltd.
Fort Garry Industries Ltd.
Peter Rudyck
And the many volunteers who assisted in the preparation of the float.



Health Award for Aboriginal Role Models

Courtesy Burnstick Promotions

Ken Ward has been honoured as recipient of the HEALTH AWARD for Aboriginal Role Models of Alberta Year 2000.

He will be presented with this award on Friday December 1, 2000 at the Beverly Hills Ballroom, Fantasyland Hotel in the West Edmonton Mall.

Ken Ward is a Cree living with AIDS from Alberta and is a nationally known keynote speaker on the AIDS/HIV platform. For over eleven years, he has successfully reached out and educated community groups about issues of sexuality.

On the same day Ken Ward will be receiving the HEALTH AWARD for his unending contributions to the awareness of AIDS/HIV, we will be acknowledging "WORLD AIDS DAY - Men Making A Difference". This surely is a sign!

Ken has been a teacher in the Moccasin County of Canada addressing HIV/AIDS for eleven years. His work in this area has been quite extensive and time consuming. His role is education and desensitizing Aboriginal peoples about issues of sexuality.

Ken has been instrumental in the formation of the Feather of Hope Aboriginal AIDS Prevention Society located in Alberta the All Nation Hope in Saskatchewan, and the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (formally known as Naphan). On a National level Ken has written and contributed articles for Windspeaker. Ken has also been in seven National videos. The most current one just released in 1999, which is entitled "The Long Walk". This video was done by the National Film Board and Du-Val Publishing in Edmonton. His work and accomplishments seem never-ending. He has reached many diverse peoples on the streets, and brothers and sisters who are incarcerated. He has accomplished this through visiting numerous communities, and addressing conference keynotes.

Following eleven years of extensive reaching out it was time for Ken to add the balance of humor. Ken has developed a unique style of his own through past audience interactions. He has brought laughter, which has enabled audience members to feel comfortable around issues like sexuality. He has taught people to respect their health as part of their survival. His travels have brought him to many humorous situations and predicaments. Humor being a teacher in itself, in that we do not laugh at diseases and predicaments but learn to respect illnesses. To basically look at the lighter side of life.

Ken Ward's personal contributions can attest to his commitment:

- 🎗️ Community Leadership Award 1992
AIDS Network Society, Edmonton
- 🎗️ Founder of Feather of Hope Society
1991 in Edmonton, Alberta
- 🎗️ 3rd place in Eclipse Publishing Literary Awards
Nationally in Canada in 1994
- 🎗️ International Poet of the Year August 1996
International Society of Poets, USA
- 🎗️ Appeared in feature column in New York Times 1995
- 🎗️ Columnist for Windspeaker Newspaper 1996-1998
National Aboriginal Newspaper in Canada as a contributor 1996-1998
- 🎗️ Receiver of Outstanding Role Model Award June '97
Selected by the youth of Enoch Cree Nation
- 🎗️ Person to be elected in Canada to a leadership position after being diagnosed with HIV is recognized by his peers Enoch Cree Nation Band councilor
- 🎗️ "I Will Not Cry Alone" video/docu-drama
18-month production, completion in 1998

You may contact Ken Ward at (780) 489-4826



Senator Vital Morin

June 17th, 1923 - November 13th, 2000

By Senator Nora Ritchie

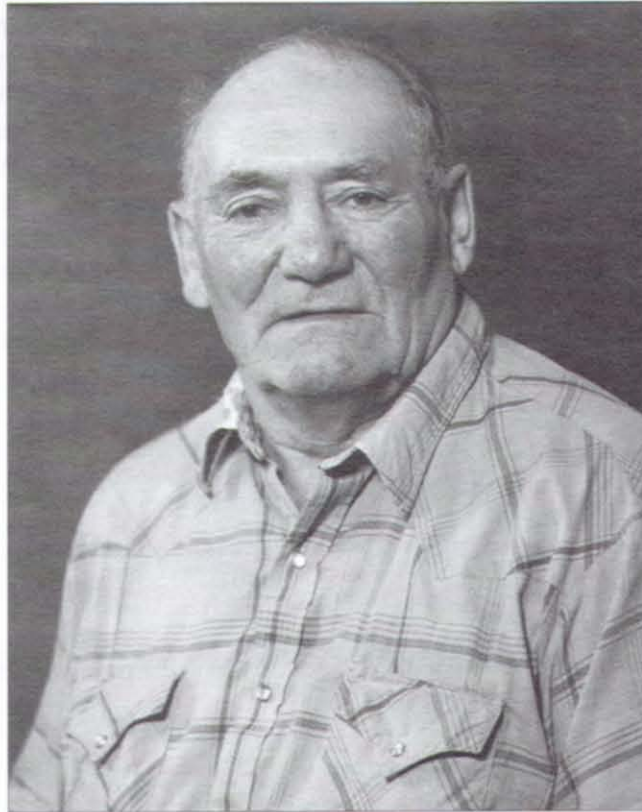
I have had the honor of knowing Senator Vital Morin for many years. I really got to know him better after December 3rd, 1993 when I became a member of the Senate and he was Chair of the Senate.

I felt honored to be his fellow Senator. The wisdom and knowledge that he has brought to our Senate and to the Metis people of Saskatchewan was invaluable.

When Senator Morin became ill, I was asked by the senate if I would be their interim Chair. It was such an honor for me to be asked to take over for such a great man. I spoke to Senator Morin and told him that I felt honored and it would only be until he got well again.

He told me that he was glad that the Senate had asked me and that he knew I would do well. It was a relief to me as I was afraid that I would never be able to fill the role of such a great man.

I always made sure that Senator Morin was kept informed on the Senate's business and called him on occasion to ask him his advice on several issues. It was just about a week ago that I last spoke to Senator Morin. He told me he wasn't feeling well but would like information on what the Senate was doing. I told him we would make sure and let him



know. That was the dedication that he showed to the Metis people.

Senator Morin would tell us stories of his past days in the army at our Senate meetings and he always had a joke to tell us.

Senator Morin sat on the RCMP Commanding Officers Aboriginal Advisory Committee until he became ill. He was greatly missed by all the Advisory members for his wisdom and humor.

Senator Morin received a number of awards and was recognized for his achievements. He earned the recognition and awards

by earning the respect and admiration of his peers for his hard work and dedication for the Metis people of Saskatchewan.

The Soldier Lays In Eternity Tonight

The Soldier lays in eternity tonight
My people as you gather today don't you cry
I'm leaving now its my turn to say goodbye.
My comrades they wait beyond the sky
It is my time, my time to die.
My armour, it's cold and grey
My last battle cry has come this day
I have laid down my armour, my last fight
I will sleep in eternity tonight

You may never understand a soldiers night
The dark and cold trenches the vicious fight
The pain, the tears you may never see
Just remember, Soldier boy is finally free

My people my dear loved ones don't you cry today
I'm leaving now, it's my turn to say
Remember to be strong, be brave
As you stand and hear the last call at my grave.

My comrades, my loved ones, they wait for me
Soldier boy, forever free!!!

We, the Senate, would like to say to the family that you have all been so blessed to have had such a great man in your life as a father, husband and brother. Senator Vital Morin was respected for his honesty, wisdom, loyalty and for being such a great man.

On behalf of the Metis Nation - Saskatchewan Senate, I would like to extend our condolences and deepest sympathies to the Morin family.

Senator Nora Ritchie

Métis Celebration in Calgary

November 13th, 2000 - November 18th, 2000

Courtesy Zone III Regional Council

Métis Nation of Alberta

Well, Metis week in Zone III was once again a great success. There were many activities through out the week with the Zone. The Metis people received a lot of publicity on the different activities happening and on the history of our people in general. All of the different events were well participated in by the membership.

To start off Metis week our President and Vice President appeared on A Channel for the breakfast show on Friday November 10th, 2000. They talked on the different events that would be held during the week and on the Metis community. On Monday November 13th, 2000 at 12:00 noon, we had our flag raising ceremonies at City Hall. Ephram Bouvier, our Zone III President and the Mayor both gave a brief speech. After the flag raising everyone met inside City Hall where Audrey Poitras, Alberta Provincial President and Raul Chavera, the US Consulate General said a few words. We had over two hundred people in attendance. There was an open house immediately after the flag raising ceremonies at the Zone III office, with lots of great food. Local 2003 also had flag raising ceremonies in Lethbridge. The number of people attending has also increased dramatically. Our Flag is also flying outside the Coast Plaza Hotel. So just in Calgary alone our flag was flying in two different sites. Some of the other events that occurred through the week were:

∞ Tuesday November 14th, 2000, Helping Circle Employment Services held their open house from 11:00 am to 4:00 p.m.

∞ Wednesday November 15th, 2000, Metis Urban Housing Corporation had their open house from 11:00 am to 3:30 p.m.

∞ There was a Metis business reception held at the Coast Plaza Hotel on Thursday November 15th, 2000. It was well attended, fifty-seven business associates and the US Consulate General were present.

∞ To start the day off, there was a fruit and bannock sale put on by Metis Family Services, KeMama Nnanik and the Medicine Wheel Early Learning Centre. All profits made from this will go towards a children's Christmas party. Aboriginal Futures Corporation had an open house which lasted from 10:00 in the morning to about 3:00 in the afternoon. On Friday November 17th, 2000 there was also a Seniors Supper, which was held at the Coast Plaza Hotel. We had over one hundred people in attendance for the Senior's Supper and thanks to all the generous donations supper was free of cost to everyone who attended. Calgary's Police Chief, Jack Beaton and his wife Brenda along with the MLA of South Calgary, Mo Amery joined us for this special occasion. The Metis Seniors have been raising money to sponsor a family in need for Christmas and they managed to raise close to three hundred dollars at the supper.

∞ To end Metis Week in Calgary there was a fun day put on for all children at the Cross Roads Community Hall. It lasted from 11:00 am till 4:00 p.m. on Saturday November 18th, 2000. Some of the different activities done were a moose calling contest, where children won trophies and other prizes. Jigging and laughing contests were also put on for the children. Later on that night there was a traditional Supper and Dance held in the honor of Louis Riel. The band, Bear Claw was the entertainment for the night. Over Three hundred people attended the dance.

Thanks to everybody who participated in the Metis week celebrations. We were all very pleased with how good it turned out to be and would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this event successful. For we would not have been able to make this function happen without all of the help and support of the community. We hope to see everybody at future events.



Human Services Practitioner Program

Métis Regional College North Battleford - WRIA

By Rosalie Ruda

The students in the Human Service Practitioner Program are working hard with their Personal Development Studies prep phase which is seven months covering 870 classroom hours. These courses will help students with personal growth as well as prepare them for success at a university level or a career option of their choice. The students are just beginning their training for the Process & Chemical Dependency Management phase, aimed at a "personal" level for each student, and they are looking forward to the 4 month specialized summer Culture Camp.

The Students had the opportunity to be Ambassadors at METSI's Education and Training Conference and MET Awards. All the Students that participated enjoyed the Awards and came back with information that they can use to further their education and/or training. Some of the Students also had the opportunity to attend November's MNLA in Prince Albert as observers and learned about the structure of and the issues facing the

Metis Nation - Saskatchewan.
Congratulations to the following Students:

Perfect Attendance to:
Shelly Anderson

Birthday Wishes to:

Diana Poitras	Shelly Anderson
Irvin Applegarth	Jennifer Moore
Cynda Sayers	Nichelle Belanger
Daniel Bartake	Kathy Brown
Brandi Poletz	Wendy Delorme
Jose Pruden	Amanda Johnson
Stacey Pruden	Ted Kennedy
Amand Leibel	Zena Monnich
Jennifer Yonner	

On behalf of the Metis Regional College Staff, Students and Battle River Metis Development Corporation, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Season's Greetings
from the
METSI Board of Directors

On behalf of Métis Employment & Training and the Local Management Boards and Staff across the province, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As we move into another new year, we look forward to learning and growing with our clients and finding our way into new partnerships. May we all grow in unity for the betterment of all.

On behalf of the entire METSI Board of Directors,

Back Row: Associate Minister Al Rivard, Harold Fosseneuve (ERI), Wayne Trotchie (Urban Council), Henry Cummings (WRIIA), Dennis Shatilla (NRII), Minister Philip Chartier, and Gordon Morin (NRIII)

Front Row: Viola Bell (ERII), April MacPherson (Youth Rep.), Bev Worsley (ERIII), Pat Letendre (WRII), and Karen Larocque (WRIII)

Métis Women Work Towards Métis Self-Government

By Lisa McCallum

The purpose of the Equity and Participation Initiative is to ensure that the Métis women are actively involved in the development of Métis self-governance. The goal is for attendance and participation of the sub-committees at each step of the Tripartite Management Committee governance developmental process, to ensure that input from women is incorporated into decision making and influences policy development.

The Métis Women's Perspective Sub-Committee has developed and accepted the MNS - Tripartite - Métis Women's Perspective's 2000-2002 Workplan. The Métis women are working towards more involvement from Métis women at a community level. This communication strategy will begin to assist women at the community level better understand the Tripartite process and workplan. The Métis women believe in building partnerships based on mutual respect, trust and understanding of differing economic and social values and aspirations of all Métis people. The Métis women are committed to community enhancement that is consistent with diverse needs and interest of all women in the communities.

The Métis women are seeking further direction from Métis women at the community level on how to continue to build and be involved on the dialogue that is taking place with the Tripartite process. The Métis women come to their respective region and community to consult, educate and update the Métis women on the "Métis Women's Perspective's Strategic 2000-2001 Workplan" and in coordination with the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Tripartite Unit.

The Métis women will continue to assist in identifying and prioritizing its needs and capacities through the "Métis Women's Perspectives" workplan. The Métis women will enhance their knowledge with other initiatives happening with the Tripartite workplan, such as; Northern Project, Urban Governance, and others. The "Métis Women's Perspective's" workplan is presented below. We ask the Métis women at the community level to provide us with your thoughts, questions, or just to say that you don't quite understand this process... Please, we need your views and input into this very important process.

Métis Women's Perspective Key Principles

The Métis Women's Perspective's 2000-2001 Workplan is based on six key principles. They are endorsed by the Métis Women of Saskatchewan for participation and effective involvement that will meet the needs of the Métis Women at a community level. Principles are as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ∞ Access | Métis Women shall have full access at a community level. |
| ∞ Equality | Métis Women shall have equitable participation and involvement. |
| ∞ Right to be Involved in the Métis Governance Process | Métis women need to be involved in discussions. All discussions may not necessarily always include the Métis women's perspectives. |
| ∞ Recognition of Women's Involvement | All Tripartite initiative committees shall be required to have Métis Women's full participation. |
| ∞ Quality | Métis Women shall have meaningful involvement and participation. |
| ∞ Accountability | That information and materials be forwarded to the Métis Women at a community level. |

*The Métis Women of Saskatchewan would like
to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



Eastern Region III - Upcoming Events

Métis Nation - Saskatchewan

By Wayne Blondeau

Happy New Year! I wish everyone a positive holiday experience. Lucky for all of us at Eastern Region III, MNS will be holding their annual Metis cultural days during the August long weekend this upcoming summer. The events are growing and the energy is attracting all kinds of entertaining draws. Nelson Sanderson and his crew are coming out to Lebret to hold the first annual Lebret Voyageur Games. Nelson had some exciting words about the whole opportunity. "There is some good competition in the Saskatchewan area, we are very eager to get involved and develop the sport down in the southern region of the Province."

We are developing a theatrical theme in the Qu'Appelle valley to compliment all the skillful Metis talent that exists in the performing arts world. Family is a priority in all of our lives and can really be displayed through the beauty of art. "My people will sleep for 100 years and it will be the artists that awaken them." Louis Riel

We have the arts; we have the sports we will also have a lot of jigging; some good old time fiddling and all kinds of youth events. It's planned to have some for the wee little ones and some for the high spirited,. Got to keep them interested, oui?

Eastern Region III, MNS has all kinds of positive action happening on many levels. We will be offering summer student work experience again this year. Similar to what happened last year the game plan is to have the students assist in developing the Lebret Metis land base. Lots of ideas and ample energy to make something beautiful transpire. Metis Human Resources ER III will be offering an entrepreneurship program accredited through SIAST in the beginning of 2001. There is major emphasis being placed on developing partnerships to create efficiency. George Fayant, the Manager of MHRER III, had these words to share: "Our goal is to form long-lasting functional partnerships within our own region; province wide and eventually global."

The final details are being worked out regarding core funding of a Development Officer position at the Lebret Metis farm. The staff person's main responsibility will be the creation of self-sufficient initiatives regarding the land base. The Area Director Vince Folk who is instrumental in the progress of the Region shares these words: "We need to have the people working together as one. celebrating the good times and not concentrating on the bad, the power grows in our people."

We have just scraped the surface of the beauty and potential that exists in ER III, MNS and the Nation as a whole. Come out August long weekend to the Qu'Appelle Valley and have a gander. It sells itself. Together, we can all take it to the next level.



The Clarence Campeau Development Fund (CCDF) is designed to provide financial assistance to Métis individuals and Métis communities in Saskatchewan for economic and small business development activities.

The financial services designed to serve this purpose include:

- Equity Contributions
- Development of Management and Marketing Skills
- Community Development and Research
- Joint Venture Projects

Applicants must be individuals of Métis ancestry or a corporation or other approved entity, controlled or owned by MNS people.

Depending on the type of service requested, other criteria may also apply.

108 - 219 Robin Crescent, Saskatoon SK S7L 6M8
Phone: (306) 477-4356 • Fax: (306) 373-2512

Letter to the Editor

By Keith Henry

I would like to respond to the negative media the Metis Nation, specifically Metis Employment and Training, has received in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix.

In a recent article written by one of their "so called" writers, a picture misleading the public was once again an attack to discredit any assistance for Metis people. I am an educated Metis individual involved with the Nation. I am surrounded with many creative and resourceful Metis individuals who are educated and focused. I have observed the dedication of many staff beyond the benefits of wage or recognition. Many of the people involved want to develop the Metis Nation into an organization that all can be proud of.

The article I am citing was published on Saturday, December 2, Section A, page 2 "Who would want HRDC job?". The Saturday edition of the Star Phoenix is their premiere edition for the week. Consequently, an article on the second page makes very strong claims and accusations towards the programs of Metis Employment and Training and the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. The article claims that Metis Employment and Training is an organization with fraud and misappropriation of funds and poor leadership. The article then attacks the entire idea of the Metis Nation because the "Metis can not even define themselves."

The programs Metis Employment and Training offer provides many opportunities to the Metis people. There are regional offices located throughout the province with an administrative staff located in Saskatoon. The staff providing services to the province are working well beyond the demands of the program. The people within the organization continually work excess hours to ensure service. In fact, when HRDC was delivering the programs for Metis their staff had an estimated ratio of 4 more staff for each Metis Employment and Training position. This is a small fact the journalist "forgot" to include. The most outrageous statements were his attacks on the definition of Metis. The Metis Nation has continued to move this process. However, there are many

regional issues that a simple discussion will not resolve. That process will take negotiations and careful planning. A simple definition will not be sufficient. The Metis Nation does have a very strong sense of who they are. The locals all include members who have registered and this process has been recognized for some time. But when any sort of perceived benefit from the government is portrayed to the public these writers feel it is their civic duty to make the Nation look incompetent.

I wonder if the people of Saskatchewan realize the HRDC programming is available to the general public. Metis Employment and only receives the Aboriginal file because there was an inability to meet the demands or targets. I hope the Metis citizens are proud of who they are and where the organization is trying to move. Are there issues, of course, but the Nation should decide how to move these forward and not be ostracized by the opinion of someone who knows nothing of the Nation.

Thank you,

Keith Henry, Director of Programs, METSI

Palmbere Lake Stories

We are looking for people who have stories to tell about their experiences at Palmbere Lake in North West Saskatchewan. If you have family stories - past or present, photos, or other information that you would be willing to share, please contact Yvonne or Ray at (306) 235-4740 or (306) 343-3376.

This is an undertaking by the ClearWater ClearLake Region to commemorate the importance of Palmbere Lake as a traditional Metis gathering site.

General Assembly

On November 18, 2000, the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan held a General Assembly in Prince Albert. The Assembly attracted over 400 delegates from across the province.

The delegates were presented with the following State of the Nation Address by President Clem Chartier:

State of the Nation Address

By President Clem Chartier

Good morning Senators, Elders, Elected Leaders, Women, Youth, Men, Staff of our Affiliates. I wish to welcome you here this morning and begin by saying that I am humbled to stand here before you as your President. There is never enough time to gather like this to discuss our future as a Nation; to reflect on the road we have travelled to bring us to this point in our history and to plan for the best interests of our future as one people. But we do have this day and I hope this is a day that renews our collective vision. For if there is any one thing that will ensure a hopeful future, it will be unity.



Clem Chartier - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

Aboriginal people in this fine country. Louis Riel fought for land for the Métis, for land on which to build our economies, to teach our children and grandchildren the values and wisdom that was required to live in harmony with the earth. Riel fought for land so we might live off the resources of that land and feed our families and other peoples' families. Louis Riel fought for land so we might continue to exist as the distinct people that we are. Louis Riel fought also for our right to self-determination, to have a voice in all matters of concern to all. Louis Riel lost his life in this battle and so we continue this battle, more than

Two days ago, I attended the funeral of one of the great leaders of the Métis Nation, Senator Vital Morin. He was a man of wisdom, of honour, of valiance, of pride. He had a vision for us where we worked together, supporting one another and each brought our best efforts forward for the betterment of all. He offered his life to defend all Canadians in war. He raised a family of leaders, helped to build a community of leaders among us, as Métis people. The Nation suffered a great loss in the passing of Senator Morin and yet he leaves a legacy for us to hold on to, to guide us into the future. I am so thankful for his teaching by example.

Two days ago, we also remembered the passing of another great leader, Louis Riel. Riel is a symbol of our struggle now, our struggle to find our rightful place in Canada with formal recognition of our contribution to its development and with formal recognition that we have existing rights as

a hundred years later. We do not forget. We do never forget, do we.

Today, we may question what we have learned from these past leaders and so many others who have made a contribution.

We have so many things for which we can be proud. We have found achievements. We have a Constitution as a distinct people in Canada. We have legislation that reflects our desire and ability to govern ourselves as a distinct people in Canada. We have democratically elected leadership to speak for us and to keep our interests on the table for discussion with government and with industry. We have a Métis Senate to guide and adjudicate our actions and our disputes, a development which cannot be matched in Canada, if anywhere on the globe. We have built a provincial Métis youth council, where

the youth in our province can undertake the responsibilities of leadership, where the youth can bring their ideas and energy for our collective future. We are so enriched by this development. I encourage people to support the Constitutional Amendments that will be presented later today and bring the youth formally into the governance structure.

We have filed the first Aboriginal title claim to land as Métis people, in 1994 through a Statement of Claim. We have seen the return of cultural lands such as Palmbere in northern Saskatchewan and the return of economic development lands in Lebret. We are working toward to the return of the traditional Métis lands at Batoche where our people are buried after the war with the Canadian government. We do own our small piece of land at Batoche and the grounds are being developed slowly each year. We are working toward the return of the Métis Farms spread out across the province.

We can look to the Alberta Metis Settlements and imagine a day when we will govern ourselves on our own territory. This can be achieved if we do not weaken in our course of action. Land can be regained for the Métis Nation. The citizens of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan are not alone in this struggle for land and self-determination. We are joined by Métis from across the homeland, from Ontario to British Columbia who are working toward the same goals in their respective provinces. When there is a victory for one there is a victory for all. The acquisition of land is no different. We will continue to fight for land and perhaps you will say today that land is the most important struggle of all.

We are educating and training upward of a thousand Métis people a year across the province through our education and training programs, and employing well over three hundred Métis people in the delivery of these educational opportunities. Across Canada, the Métis Nation, through our provincial institutions such as the Gabriel Dumont Institute in Saskatchewan and the Louis Riel Institute in Manitoba, are employing and training

many of our people. Education is extremely important, the old people say, time and time again. Louis Riel's education made the Manitoba Act a reality for all of Canada and made our struggle a national one. Our children's education will make the future our own. When we regain control of our Gabriel Dumont Institute and begin educating our children from kindergarten to grade twelve, I will feel comfort that we will have wrestled for our future and been victorious.

Our housing Affiliate and our addictions Affiliate are making a slow but steady return to financial stability. Where they were facing huge deficits they are now facing positive bank balances. Where



Christine Edwards and Adoneca Anweiler providing information on Métis Rights - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

they were facing cut backs in programs, they are now broadening their involvement. Our justice Affiliate is still struggling but we are all working toward a more positive future for these services. There continues to be problems and issues between Métis people and the police and the justice system generally. At a time when we need to get more involved in justice matters, our Affiliate is prepared to lead. We may need to set up our own Justice Inquiry, to travel to every region in our province and to address these matters ourselves. We will discuss this later



Assembly Crowd - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

today. At the same time, we cannot compete with one another over the delivery of these services. We have much more important work to do.

As part of the work of the Nation, we have embarked on Internal Governance. As part of this work, we are building our governance infrastructure. Legislation has been passed through special Legislative Assemblies to bring consistency to our governance processes. As part of the work of the Internal Governance Committee, we are working on an Affiliates Act that will lay out a process for bringing the Affiliates to their most productive state as Affiliates of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan. Our Affiliates need our support, our business, our participation. They belong to us. They belong to us as a Nation.

Our Affiliate board members work very hard to ensure quality programs and services. Every one of our Affiliates are working with a shortage of staff, doing twice or triple the work of any government official with the same responsibilities. Sometimes they are successful and sometimes they are not, but they will never be successful if the government for which they work is not consistent and unified in its goals. We must have a common vision for all of the distinct parts of our government to work

together efficiently.

We have a developing Métis Elders Council, Urban Governance structures, including the development of Métis urban councils. We have northern governance initiatives and in the near future, if things progress, rural governance developments, as well. We have regulated Métis Nation Legislative Assemblies and a Citizenship Act to oversee the registration of our citizens.

There is a growing need, as we build internal governance through the Legislative Assembly process, to keep the Métis Locals vibrant and active so that the work undertaken as part of the Legislative Assembly reaches all of our citizens. We need to ensure a healthy two-way flow of information. In the work yet to be done on governance, the need to examine, strengthen and revitalize our Locals is a priority. The registry process is but one example of the need for the involvement and understanding of every Métis person in the province, through their Locals.

Today, we will ask you to consider the Métis Act. I believe that the Métis Act is of significant importance in our governance development. There is a valuable



process imbedded in the Act. It will create an avenue for us to use to address issues such as the return of Métis Lands, for example, clauses dealing with issues such as governance, infrastructure and capacity-building. We need to move confidently on this matter, I believe, as we do not know who will form the next provincial government. We need to secure avenues for the future.

We have found victory in the courts in regards to hunting, fishing, trapping and resource use for subsistence, through the outcomes of the Morin & Daigneault case in Saskatchewan, the Powley case in Ontario, and others. We have a test case started in southern Saskatchewan (R. v. Folk) that may very well prove our existing rights across the entire province. The struggle for justice through the courts is costly and slow but a victory in this arena is great and has widespread impacts. We must unify our efforts to advance our collective interests.

On the best of days, I am very proud of what has been accomplished with so many issues to consider. On the best of days, I think we have made so many important strides forward as a Nation and I wish to celebrate every one so we do not lose hope or perspective. Yet I know that there is so much work yet to be done. There is no time for rest.

Today, at the first annual assembly in what the world considers the new millennium, we have an

opportunity to unify and clarify our goals and objectives as a Métis Nation.

We all agree that we are one people.

We all agree that we wish the best for the future of our Nation.

We all agree that the future of our Nation is a cause worth fighting for.

We will now have to negotiate to find the best way to achieve our collective goals. We have the power collectively to make a significant impact on the quality of life for many of our citizens, young and old. I believe that this is truly the heart of the matter. We must learn from the past. We must look ahead with the wisdom of the past. We must exercise patience and share our ideas. We must listen to one another and draw upon the collective wisdom and experience that is available to us.

We must honour, on this day, all of those we hold dear to our hearts and find the courage and the words to express our ideas, to make our Nation stronger with our words. I wish us all the best in these endeavours.

I carry with me today the emotion I feel over the loss of our Elders and the gratitude that I feel for their teachings. I believe this passing generation of Elders has given us the tools, the capacity, the empowerment, to take the struggle to the next step.

We can only try. I stand here today with courage also knowing that we will work it out together or we will not work it out at all. We have come through some tremendous struggles. We will face many new struggles and the measure of our success will be in our ability to come together and continue to build ourselves as a Nation of people who care for one another. This is the road to success. Of this I am sure. Thank you.



Assembly Crowd - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

Assembly Results

The delegates then got down to the business of the Assembly which proved to be productive. During the morning session, after hearing from the Honourable Jack Hillson, Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, the delegates voted in support of a draft Métis Act which the provincial government proposes to introduce for adoption in their spring session of the legislature. The draft was negotiated between the provincial government and the MNS under the leadership of Treasurer Allan Morin, who also serves as the MNS Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, and President Clem Chartier. The proposed Métis Act will recognize the distinctiveness of the Métis people in Saskatchewan, including their language (Michif), culture and traditions, as well as the important role the Métis played in building the economy of the province. The Act will also enable the MNS Secretariat Incorporated, the administrative arm of the MNS, to be registered under the Métis Act, thereby no longer being under the Non-Profit Corporations Act. More importantly, the proposed Métis Act will contain a process clause which will enable the Métis of Saskatchewan, through the MNS, to negotiate arrangements dealing with land, harvesting (hunting, trapping and fishing), governance and capacity-building. This will be implemented through a companion Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which will be signed between the MNS and the provincial government. The resolution of support for this initiative was passed unanimously.

Also receiving virtual unanimous support was a resolution endorsing the renaming of Highway 11

from Prince Albert to Regina, the 'Louis Riel Trail'. General support was also given to the establishment of a Justice Inquiry by the MNS if the province does not in the near future agree to the establishment of a provincial government sponsored Justice Inquiry. It was felt that there were too many instances of negative Métis-police incidents, and justice related matters generally which needed to be addressed for the Métis not to act.



Mrs. "Hap" Boyer and Kelsa Henry providing information to Assembly participants - photo by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

The delegates also dealt with constitutional amendments which had been passed by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA). Amendments endorsed by the Assembly included the change of name to Métis Nation Saskatchewan from Métis Nation of Saskatchewan. This was done to acknowledge that there

is only one Métis Nation, and that we are the Saskatchewan portion of that Nation which is represented by the Métis National Council. Other important amendments dealt with the expansion of the Provincial Métis Council by one and the MNLA by four in order to accommodate the Provincial Métis Youth Council and enable their full participation in the affairs of the Métis Nation Saskatchewan. A proposed amendment to change the definition of Métis was defeated, while a proposed amendment to change the election date from February to May was withdrawn, and a proposed amendment to require a voters list was not presented.

As a consequence of not changing the election date to the last Saturday of May every three years beginning in 2001, the next election of the MNS will take place on Saturday, February 17, 2001.

NEW BREED ADVERTISING

I invite you to take advantage of a unique opportunity to advertise your valuable business and service with one of Saskatchewan's first and most long-standing Aboriginal magazines, New Breed.

Since its first publication in the early 70's, New Breed has been the "voice of the Métis in Saskatchewan." We take pride in knowing we have become an important media source for Métis and Aboriginal people throughout Saskatchewan. Through means of feature articles, editorials and submissions, we bring forth a strong sense of identity, history and pride among Métis people. Our magazine also serves as an important communication outlet to highlight important information, current events and issues within our communities on matters of employment, training, education and others. It also focuses on many of our accomplishments, future endeavours and includes profiles of successful Métis individuals, programs and businesses.

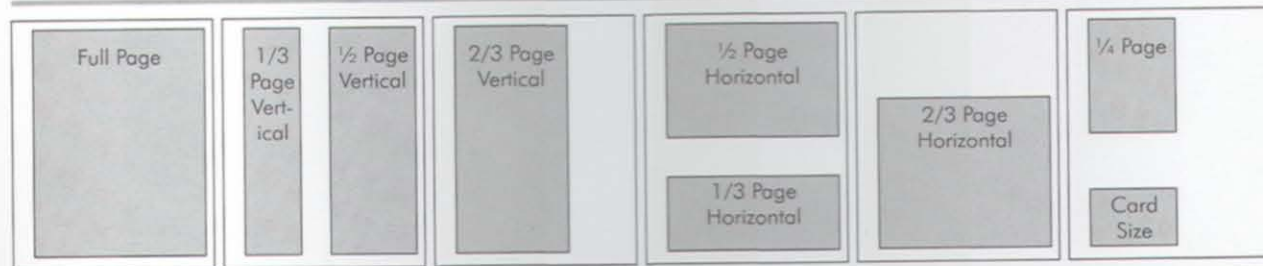
We publish and distribute 1500 copies bi-monthly and reach in excess of 130 communities across Saskatchewan through the Métis Local and Affiliate offices. There are also numerous subscription holders across the province and nation.

We welcome your organization's participation and thank you for your support. A New Breed Magazine inquiry can be directed to Métis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan Inc, by calling 306-668-7671, by fax at 306-244-5336 or by e-mail at kathyhs@metsti.sk.ca.

ADVERTISING DIMENSIONS & RATES

The following rates apply to advertisements published in New Breed Magazine. Ads appearing on the back cover are in full colour - these ads are subject to a 30% surcharge. All other ads are in black and white. There is a 20% surcharge for ads requested to be positioned on either the inside front or inside back covers. Please make all cheques payable to Métis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan Inc.

	AD DIMENSIONS		RATE PER ISSUE		
	width	depth	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues
Centrefold	16 inches	10 inches	\$2,800	\$2,520	\$2,380
Full Page	7 ¼ inches	10 inches	\$1,500	\$1,350	\$1,275
2/3 Page Horizontal	7 ¼ inches	6 ⅝ inches	\$1,125	\$1,012	\$956
2/3 Page Vertical	4 ¾ inches	10 inches	\$1,125	\$1,012	\$956
½ Page Horizontal	7 ¼ inches	5 inches	\$975	\$877	\$828
½ Page Vertical	3 ⅝ inches	10 inches	\$975	\$877	\$828
1/3 Page Vertical	2 ⅜ inches	10 inches	\$750	\$675	\$637
1/3 Page Horizontal	7 ¼ inches	3 ¼ inches	\$750	\$675	\$637
¼ Page	3 ⅝ inches	5 inches	\$500	\$450	\$425
Card Size	3 ⅝ inches	2 ½ inches	\$250	\$225	\$212





*Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!*

