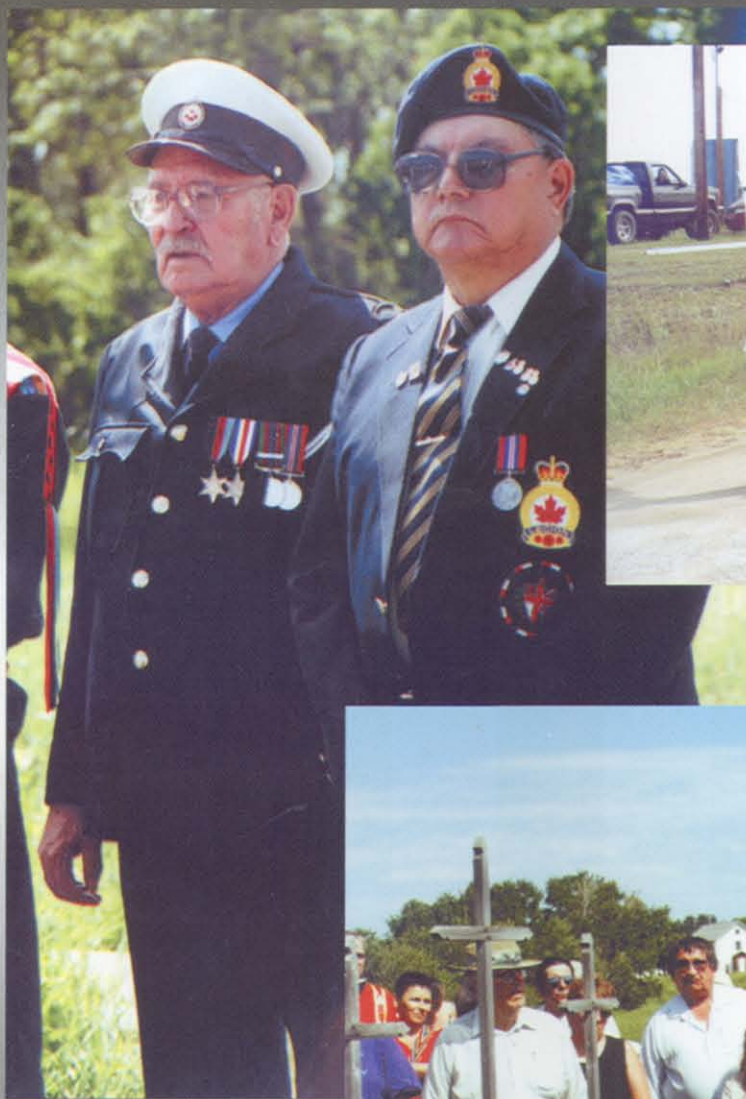


New Breed

MAGAZINE

Aug-Nov 2000

Double Issue



To Remember The Past

NEW BREED MAGAZINE
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**New
 Breed**
 MAGAZINE

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Photo Credit: Kurtis Hamel

President's Message

*A message from Clem Chartier,
President of the Metis Nation of
Saskatchewan*

November marks that time of year when we pay tribute to the thousands who sacrificed their lives in the two world wars and the Korean conflict. Many of these thousands were Métis and Indian persons. Many did not return. Many were severely wounded. All made a great personal contribution which we must not forget. In this connection, both November 11th, Remembrance Day & November 16th, the anniversary of Louis Riel's execution are two extremely important dates we must continue to remember and honor.

Our people, the Métis, have a long history of defending our homes and our liberty. With the flying of the Métis flag for the first time at the Battle of Seven Oaks in 1816, and with the last great resistance at Batoche in May 1885, the Métis warriors have proven themselves to be valiant and courageous. These same noble traits were demonstrated in the 20th century when our modern day Métis warriors fought to defend the values which both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples hold dear to their hearts.

It was against this backdrop that I witnessed the modern day Métis warriors joining other Métis people at the mass-gravesite at Batoche this past July commemorating the memory, dedication and sacrifice made by those Métis and Indian allies who lost their lives at the Battle of Batoche in 1885. To be part of such an event and see this continuity of Métis valor was indeed very touching. I want to personally thank those Métis Warriors (Veterans) who

were able to attend the July ceremony, along with the other Métis people there assembled. To be able to participate in such a spiritual event is what gives me, and many others I am sure, the drive and determination to continue struggling for our peoples' rights for the next year, until we meet again at the gravesite.

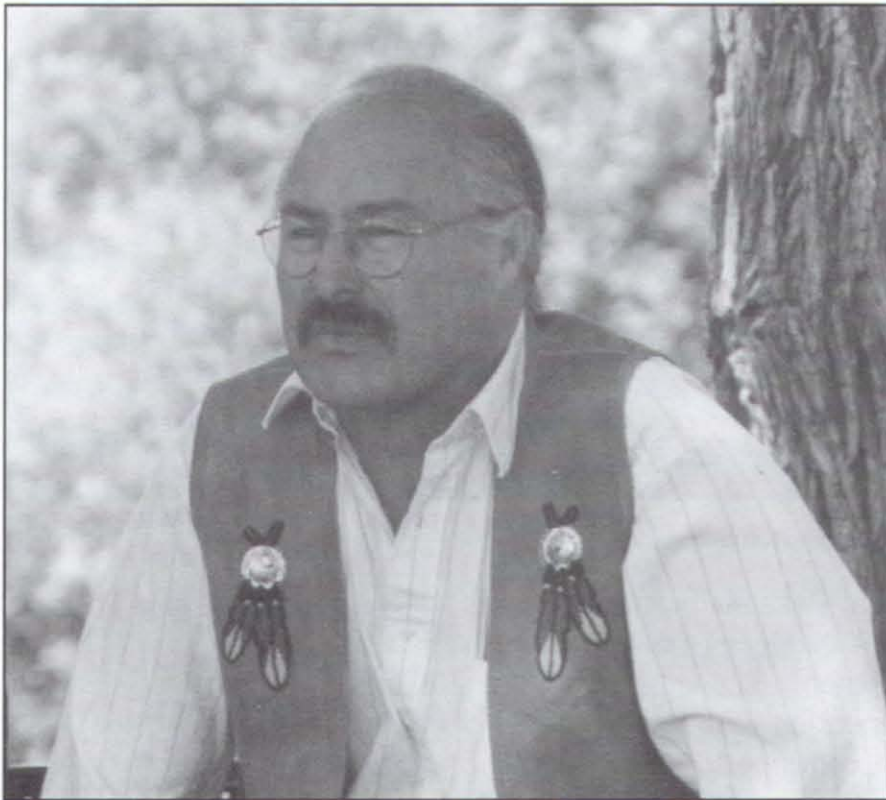


Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

Batoche is indeed a spiritual place. It certainly gives perspective to what our struggle is about. The participation of our Elders, Senators, youth, women, citizens generally, and our Métis Veterans specifically, makes our dedication to securing Métis rights meaningful. Thank you.

Message From Minister Philip Cartier

Over the past 30 years the Metis Nation has faced several challenges. In this time relationships with all levels of government have waxed and waned. In the midst of these shifts we have remained unified in our vision of a self-determined future. METSI works to further this mandate by fostering growth in our communities.

Through our agreements with government we have, among many initiatives, built roads, trained our youth, and assisted our elders. Collectively we move forward with the efforts of our affiliates and our citizens.

METSI with the Local Metis Management Boards are developing our capacity as a nation through educational enrichment. Economic prosperity is tied to our connection with each other and the land. We must continue to innovate at the community level and share our wisdom. It is in our communities that we derive strength.

As we move forward we gain opportunities to flourish in the private sector. Potential has been realized in several industries, with future

partnerships promising sustained growth to our Nation.

We have been advancing the inherent rights of the Metis people on several fronts. Through the courts we continue to achieve recognition of our right to harvest the resources of the land. Challenges to the Canadian constitution have legitimized the rights of our people. Politically we continue to assert our right to self-govern.

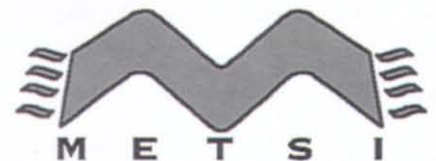


Photo By: Lori Nixon

As our political consciousness emerges we must remember the lessons of the past and move together towards the future. As a nation we must celebrate our successes. Please join me in acknowledging the accomplishments of our people and our communities.

Yours truly,

Philip Cartier



Message From Associate Minister Al Rivard

November 2000

As the Associate Minister of METSI, this past year I have worked closely with the staff of Metis Employment & Training to develop and strengthen the organizations' policies and procedures, and I would like to commend them for the progress that they have made during this time. The METSI staff has worked through a number of challenges this past year, and it is to their credit that we have continued to move forward. One of their major accomplishments was the development and implementation a Work Plan that provides a future vision for METSI, and I would like to recognize them for all of their efforts in this endeavor. Although METSI has undergone a tremendous amount of



Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

change over the past year, I am pleased with the stability that the current management team has brought to the organization. Undertaking the publishing of New Breed magazine as a vehicle to promote the employment and training opportunities for the Metis of Saskatchewan is but one of the new developments and one more opportunity to celebrate our successes as a people. I am excited and optimistic about this organization, and am confident that next year will be even better.

Yours truly,

Al Rivard



Message From The Executive Director - Tara Gilbert

I wish to thank the Metis Employment & Training Board of Governors for the opportunity to contribute to the growth of the Metis Nation through my assigned capacity as Executive Director. METSI is a vibrant organization that in collaboration with twelve independent regional offices deliver quality training and employment services to the Metis community. Currently, METSI is working with government and industry to develop capacity in the health, forestry and apprenticeship sectors.

I believe that self-sustaining prosperity will be achieved through economic and educational enrichment. The strength of the nation will enable the creation of strategic alliances. Relationships with the private sector offer lasting opportunities for economic gain in the Metis community, through both employment and training avenues. As well,

development of small business will create a rich economy.

Today, METSI must capitalize on its strengths and confront its challenges to allow us to move forward. Community representatives united will create a strategic plan to determine future directions. Joint ventures with the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Affiliates will harness expertise and potentials. Training programs will be developed to support Metis entrepreneurs. Collectively, the opportunities are limitless. I look forward to the exciting journey ahead.

Yours truly,

Tara Gilbert



METSI Board of Directors

Current Structure and Contributions

BY KEITH HENRY

Metis Employment and Training of Saskatchewan Incorporated (METSI) is the training and employment arm of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. The services provided by METSI range from individual sponsorship to provincial and regional employment and training initiatives and programming. The Metis community is provided these opportunities and services through regional offices. The province is separated into 12 regions with offices in the following communities:

Buffalo Narrows, Beauval, La Ronge, Cumberland House, Prince Albert, Meadow Lake, North Battleford, Saskatoon, Regina, Archerwill, Yorkton, and Fort Qu'Appelle.

Each office decides their regional needs and evaluates student applications for funding through their regional Boards or rather the LMMB's. (Local Metis Management Board).

METSI is represented by a provincial Board of Directors which dedicates time and energy to creating and enforcing policies and procedures. The work these representatives undertake drives the training and employment initiatives for the entire province. All 12 regions are represented by a board member from each region. The board is also appointed with a Minister and Associate Minister.

The Board of Directors currently includes the following individuals and lists some of their contributions and experience:

- **Philip Chartier – Minister** - Buffalo Narrows. Involved in the Pathways office since the inception in 1989. Currently continues to work as an Area Director. Mr. Chartier is directly responsible for negotiating the original Pathways agreement.
- **Al Rivard – Associate Minister** - La Ronge. Mr. Rivard has been the Associate Minister since spring 1998. He continues to work as the Area Director for Northern Region I and act as the

Minister of Northern Affairs for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

- **Harold Fosseneuve – Eastern Region I rep** - Cumberland House. Mr. Fosseneuve has served as a Board member for the past year. He is currently employed at Key Lake as a carpenter with 20 years of dedicated service to the company.
- **Viola Bell – Eastern Region II rep**-Invermay. Miss Bell has served as a Board member since January, 2000. She is actively involved in the region serving as a LMMB Board rep and on the areas Justice Committee for Eastern Region II.
- **Eugene Fluery – Eastern Region III rep** - Yorkton. Mr. Fluery has served as a Board rep for the past 3 years. He also works as the Local President for Local 13 and serves as a Board member for Eastern Region IIA.
- **Bev Worsley – Eastern Region III rep** - Lebret. Miss Worsley has served as a Board member for the past few years. She also works as a Board member for Eastern Region III and is very active for the Metis Women of Saskatchewan.
- **Doyle Vermette - Northern Region I** - La Ronge. Mr. Vermette is a Local President for local 19 in La Ronge. Has been an active board member for Northern Region I over the past three years. He has served as a METSI Board rep for the past 2 years while maintaining a janitorial company.
- **Gordie Morin – Northern Region III** - Ile a la Crosse. Mr. Morin is a Metis entrepreneur. He has served as a Board rep for roughly 8 months. His expertise is in the Forest and Trucking industries.
- **Pat Letendre – Western Region IA** - Leask. Miss Letendre has been a long time Board member. Currently she works as a library technician for the local school. She is also the President of Local 77 and been the Secretary for Western Region II over the past 10 years.
- **Henry Cummings – Western Region IIA** - Saskatoon. Mr. Cummings has served as a Board member for the past year. He also serves as an area board member for Western Region IIA and is

Continued on Page 11

Métis Employment and Training Conference

METSI Hosts This First-Time Event

BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

Metis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan, on behalf of the Ministers and Board of Directors, is holding the first ever Metis Employment and Training Conference. The conference is set for November 30th, December 1st and 2nd, here in Saskatoon at the Union Centre. The twelve regions of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan will be represented by their Management Boards and staff, along with numerous representatives from the communities, both youth and Elders. The conference will provide a specific focus on the areas of forestry, health and apprenticeship, highlighting opportunities for training and employment and the means to gain access to these opportunities. As well, the Boards and staff will use this opportunity to advance the work of their respective regions through board development training and discussions on policy development and the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Strategy and subsequent agreements. The conference will open on the evening of November 30th where a number of dignitaries from the Federal and Provincial governments, as well as the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and Metis Employment & Training will bring greetings.

The evening of December 1st, the second annual Metis Employment & Training Awards Banquet will take place, hosted by METSI, to recognize some of the hard work and dedication that has shown as the Metis Nation undertakes to advance the situation of our citizens. A number of program graduates will be honoured, as well as awards to individuals and organizations throughout Saskatchewan and Canada, who have made a major contribution to this cause. A number of educational institutions, government departments, businesses, Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Affiliates and non-governmental organizations have been nominated for this year's event. As well, METSI recognizes the specific contributions of the many dedicated staff of the regions and head office. While the popular media remains



focussed on our failures, METSI is proud to participate in a celebration of our successes as we work our way to our rightful place in Canadian society.

Metis Employment & Training wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support in bringing us to this point in the organizing process: Clarence Campeau Development Fund; Provincial Metis Housing; Sask Native Economic Development Corporation; Human Resource Development Canada; Sask Tel; Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council Executive; Culligan Water; Methy Pathways Board of Buffalo Narrows, Northern Region III Metis Employment & Training Centre of Beauval; Missouri Coteau Development Corporation of Regina; Northcote Metis Development Corporation of Cumberland House; Battle River Metis Development Corporation of North Battleford; Northwestern Metis Training and Employment Inc of Meadow Lake; Eastern Assiniboine Training and Employment of Archerwill; Eastern Assiniboine Training and Employment Inc of Yorkton; Metis Employment & Training Institute of Saskatoon; Metis Employment & Training Centre of Prince Albert; Jim Brady Employment & Training Centre of La Ronge; Southeastern Metis Development Corporation of Fort Qu'Appelle; and METSI.

The METSI conference organizing committee invites you to participate by contacting your regional employment & training office or by contacting METSI head office where every effort will be made to support your attendance.

First Nation Members Living Off-Reserve

Have you Registered to Vote in your First Nation Election On-Reserve?

If you are a First Nation member living off-reserve and you wish to participate in your community's *Indian Act* elections and referendums held on or after November 20, 2000 - register to vote by providing your name and address to your band office.

First Nation elections between November 20, 2000 and January 7, 2001:

1. You must register no later than 31 days before the election.
2. Nomination meetings must be held 23 days before the election.
3. The Electoral Officer will send mail-in ballots to registered off-reserve voters three weeks before the election.

First Nation communities with terms of office expiring between November 20, 2000 and January 7, 2001:

Ontario:

Big Grassy
Batchewana
Whitefish River

Alberta:

O'Chiese
Tsuu T'ina
Driftpile

Manitoba:

Brokenhead
Pine Creek
Swan Lake
Ebb and Flow

Saskatchewan:

Key
Fishing Lake
Canoe Lake
Flying Dust
Waterhen
Witcheakan Lake

British Columbia:

Fort Nelson
Musqueam
Semiahmoo
Cape Mudge
Comox
Nazko

First Nation election on or after January 8, 2001:

1. You must register no later than 79 days before the election.
2. Nomination meetings will be held six weeks before the election.
3. The Electoral Officer will send mail-in ballots and voting information to registered off-reserve voters five weeks before the election.

For more information on these first stage changes to the regulations, or the plans for the next stage of consultations on *Corbiere* contact:

1-888-543-0004

Website: www.inac.gc.ca



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Canada

Two Worlds Collide: Métis Hunting and Fishing Rights and Saskatchewan Environment Resource Management Policy

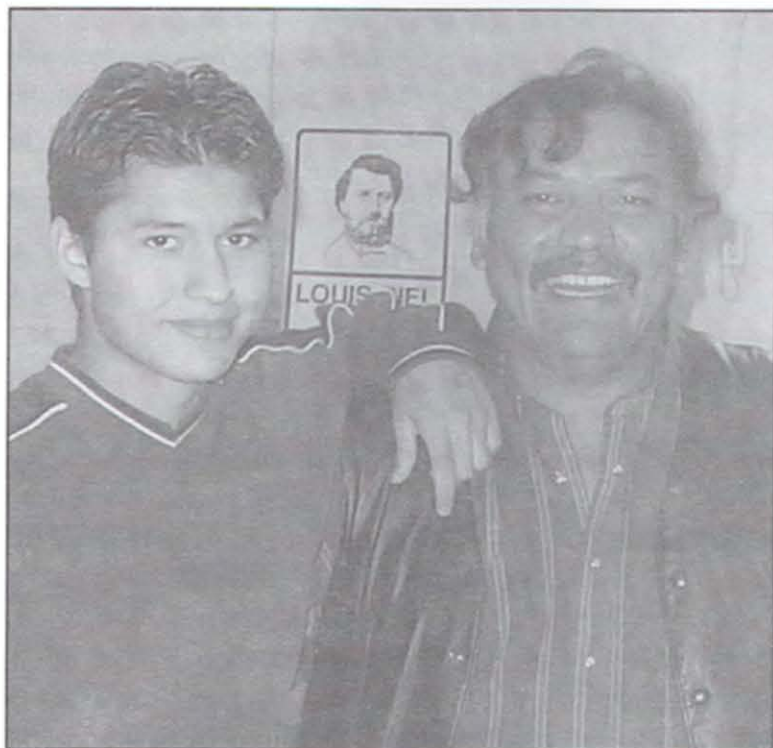
BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

Métis Nation of Saskatchewan leaders and community members met today, September 25th, on the Métis farm at Lebret with Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management (SERM) officials to discuss a number of serious issues regarding hunting and fishing rights for Métis in Saskatchewan. Participants expressed their frustration at what they believe to be discriminatory practices of SERM regarding resource management policy and the rights of Métis traditional resource users. The Métis were seeking a clarification of SERM policy and brought forward their concerns and issues to the officials to take back to their Minister for consideration. This



Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Leaders Discuss Their Options at the Lebret Meeting. Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

While some participants tried to educate the government officials on the negative impact of their policy interpretations for families and youth in their region, other tried to bring clarification as to the history of Métis people living off of the land. A Métis man sat with his son, who identifies himself as a Métis person with a treaty card, born to a Treaty Indian woman, and spoke to the distorted fact that because of SERM policy, his son could hunt and fish and feed the family but he could not. SERM officials responded to the very personal situations of the participants with an interpretation of the law, as they saw it and as provided to them by the Saskatchewan Department of Justice.



Barry Pelletier & Barry Pelletier - The father cannot exercise his Aboriginal rights as a Métis. The son, however, can as he has a mother with Treaty Rights.

Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

is the third meeting this year that was held in Lebret to consider this matter and the first time to speak to SERM specifically. While some participants tried to educate the government officials on the negative impact of their policy interpretations for families and youth in their region, other tried to bring clarification as to the history of Métis people living off of the land. A Métis man sat with his son, who identifies himself as a Métis person with a treaty card, born to a Treaty Indian woman, and spoke to the distorted fact that because of SERM policy, his son could hunt and fish and feed the family but he could not. SERM officials responded to the very personal situations of the participants with an interpretation of the law, as they saw it and as provided to them by the Saskatchewan Department of Justice.

Although Métis case law is complex and built upon the outcomes of specific court cases, it is important to recognize the rights that have been upheld to date in order to contextualize the grievances brought forward to the government. In a court decision in 1996 in Northwest Saskatchewan, two Métis charged with several violations under the Saskatchewan Fishery Regulations, were found not

guilty. The courts found, through a review of evidence that they had an Aboriginal right to fish for food. The court held that the Dominion Lands Act and scrip did not extinguish Métis harvesting rights of those Metis because it is silent on the issue of hunting, fishing and trapping. The Crown appealed this to the Court of Queen's Bench where the trial judgment was upheld. The decision of the QB judge in *Morin & Daigneault* is not restricted in any way according to defense lawyer, Clem Chartier, and remains as the highest Saskatchewan court level judgment which affirms s.35 of the Canadian Constitution Act, 1982, identifying the Métis as one of Canada's three Aboriginal people .



Senator Joe Perreault attends meeting.

Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

It was the position of the Métis participants that the resultant SERM policy on the matter of hunting and fishing for Métis in Saskatchewan is a narrow and discriminatory interpretation on the judgement of the Queen's Bench judge. Metis Nation of Saskatchewan President, Clem Chartier, stated that "there are many tiers to the interpretation of SERM on this judgment. There is one tier for those that SERM will recognize the rights of and a second tier for those that SERM will not recognize the right of. For example, according to SERM policy, only traditional resource users are allowed to exercise the right set out in *Morin & Daigneault*. Any Métis person who is employed is not considered a traditional resource user. Therefore, SERM discriminates against Métis who are in the work force". Further, SERM has set that the right is recognized only for those Métis who live above the Northern Administration District line, a theoretical line drawn in the sand to separate the north from the south on provincial government maps. In this interpretation, if you are a traditional resource user and you live in Green Lake, you have the right to hunt and fish for food. However, if you live in Meadow Lake, the right does not extend to you. The *Morin & Daigneault* judgment was actually based as being a recognized existing right for all Métis whose ancestors received scrip in 1906 and 1907. SERM has extended and restricted Métis rights unilaterally, without legal justification.

It remains the position of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan that regulation of Métis rights was an absolute necessity and in this regard a Métis Wildlife and Conservation Act, 1994, was drafted, setting out conservation and safety regulations and ratified by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly in July 1994. With the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between MNS and SERM in 1995, the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan suspended the implementation of the Wildlife and Conservation Act, and entered into negotiations with the provincial government to establish policy on the matter. The Government of Saskatchewan Ministers came to the Métis leadership to negotiate these resource matters. However, the negotiations of the joint SERM / MNS Bilateral Task Force on Resource Management could come to a complete standstill. While the MNS is interested in negotiating resource management policy for all Métis in Saskatchewan, SERM officials are only mandated to discuss management in the areas of Saskatchewan they recognize in their policy and for those Métis who meet their unilaterally-determined eligibility criteria.

For the Métis citizens of the Lebret area, and elsewhere across the province, these policies are not honouring their Métis rights as affirmed in the Queens Bench court. For the Metis Nation of

Continued on Page 14

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the Local President for Local 11. Mr. Cummings continues his involvement with SNEDCO and MACSI.

- **Karen Laroque – Regina LMMB** - Lumsden. Miss Laroque has been a recent addition to the METSI Board. She works as the Vice President for Local 29 while continuing full time employment with Saskatchewan Gaming.
- **April McPherson – Buffalo Narrows LMMB** - Buffalo Narrows. Miss McPherson is a recent addition to the Board. Her involvement in the Metis community is Miss McPherson is the provincial youth rep.
- **Dennis Shatilla – Northern Region II** - Buffalo Narrows. Mr. Shatilla has been a Board rep over the past few years. He has a Bachelor of Social Work Degree and has been a long time advocate for Metis rights.

The Board continues to evolve and develop into an organization the Nation can admire. The Board continually reevaluates its' goals and objectives, overseeing operations and providing services to the regions. The Board continues to resource efficient staff to meet the demands and competence levels the METSI offices require.

METSI is continually progressing to meet the training and employment needs for the Metis Nation. The Board has adopted a systematic self-evaluation process where a proactive approach to policy development continues to develop the organization. The efforts of the Board will continue to drive this process. METSI relies on the governance

and authority of their Board. The Board will continue to shape this organization and assist their regions meet the increasing demands.

Assiniboia Métis Local #86: Métis Days

BY ROSALIE CROOKS

Assiniboia Metis Local #86 chose the weekend of August 11th to host the third annual Metis Days celebration at the historic Regional Park of St. Victor. Local members and their families attended. Invitations were also distributed to Locals within the southwest and outlying areas. All who participated agreed that a good time of fun and fellowship accompanied the weekend.

Some of the activities that took place included a Horseshoe tournament, a chicken scramble for the kids, swimming, and a Saturday night old fashioned dance. We were pleased to be able to receive the Wagon Train as it made its destination at St. Victor coincide with our event.

We are planning for next year's event already and hope that we will attract more members to attend this celebration of our heritage. The motivation for this weekend away has been pride in our ancestry, a desire to pass on tradition to our young people and an opportunity to network with other locals.

We invite you to come and see for yourself next year.

NRIII Métis Employment & Training: Beauval

BY VALERIE DUROCHER

As of September, 2000 we have sponsored 73 students in different fields of study. We had a successful Heavy Equipment Program in Beauval, some of these graduates have found full-time work. We had 2 RCMP summer students and 9 summer students through Metis Locals. We also have a Stay In School Program, this program started on April 1, 2000 and will continue until March 31, 2000.

We'd like to congratulate our 3 LPN students they are: Maxine Morine, Shelly Morin & Priscilla Regan these ladies completed their studies September 29, 2000.

NRIII will continue to help communities with employment opportunities & training programs. We're here to help you.

Red River West: Métis Cultural Association

BY RICHARD LARSON

The Red River West Metis Rendezvous/ Rendezvous de Metis Riviere Rouge

This third annual event was conceived by 4 Metis sitting around a campfire 4 years ago, Bruce Dumont, Earl Belcourt, Al and Richard Larson, all Red River Breeds. Our Idea was to restore the customs and culture which was fast disappearing. Other cultures and Nations are not ashamed to proclaim their heritage, so why not us. For how can we call ourselves a Nation if we have lost our culture.

We started with nothing!! Donations of start up money and labour came from a small group we call the planning committee, receiving no outside help. With a lot of resourcefulness and all volunteer labour, the first Red River West was held at Bright Angel Park, Cowichan Station B.C. We approached the Black Powder Buckskinner Group, invited them in, many of whom came at their own expense. They helped to provide us with an historic styled Metis hunting camp designed with the 1880's in mind. The Buckskinners, most of whom are of Metis ancestry, re-create the past, with a specific focus on the fur trade era.

As plans develop for the Red River West Rendezvous, we were expecting about 150 people to attend as guests. To our surprise, we got somewhere about 4000. The budget for that first event was \$2200, all raised by camping fees, donations, auctions of donated crafts, and profit from food sales. We broke even and had a good time.

The second year was better with again no outside assistance.

This year 2000 we received a grant from the Aboriginal Achievement Foundation for \$3000 and with our _a-buffalo raffle. Through our concession revenues we are now in a position to acquire articles such as tents, teepees, Red River carts and actually pay the performers.

Highlights of Red River West 2000:

The Metis genealogy tent with Gail Morin and other years Geoff Burtonshaw.

Competitions with archery, knife and tomahawk throwing, black powder shooting, Indian traditional games, Voyager games, evening entertainment with fiddles, guitars and dancing performed after-

noon and evening.

This year we had the Edmonton Metis Dance Troop coordinated by cousin Lyle Donald, who very graciously gave us two performances for expenses only. We always have opening ceremonies starting with the Elders prayer, followed by short speeches by honoured guests. And then there is the announcements.

On Saturdays, we had the Grand Entrance with visiting dignitaries, flag bearers, and an honour guard of the well armed "Gabriel Dumont Scouts" This is always outside and ends at our council fire in the teepee circle. The family events consist of, camping at \$8.00 per night per family or unit, tents and R.V.s. Entrance to the event is by donation and although it is open to the public there has always been a strong Metis contingent. Elders are given preferential treatment for access and services.

This year is the first time any Metis political leader has attended other than local presidents. Gerald Morin, President of the Metis National Council, attended and was welcomed. He respected our wishes and did not discuss politics at the site and we thank him for that.

Ed Swain, A.K.A. Red River Ed, also attended and we put him to work as 50/50 draw, Master of Ceremonies and t-shirt interpreter.

On behalf of the Red River West Metis planning committee we extend an invitation to next years event. This is a family event. No Drugs. No Booze. No Politics. Strictly enforced by dog soldiers. When the committee planned for the Red River West celebration, we decided never to conflict the dates and times with the Back to Batoche celebrations in Saskatchewan. , We all acknowledge that Batoche is the spiritual center of the Metis Nation, and hopefully will soon be the Capital of the Metis Nation, as well. Red River West is an event, Batoche is Batoche.

Surtout Liberte'



Richard Larson
Spokesman for the

RED RIVER WEST METIS CULTURAL ASSOC.

130 Park Drive, Salt Spring Island

B.C. V8K-2R7

Phone 250-537-5755

E-Mail larsen@saltspring.com

Government of Canada
Proudly Presents...

Regina Metis Women's
**2nd Annual Metis Recognition
Awards & Banquet**

Ramada Hotel — Canadian Ballroom
Friday, November 24, 2000

- Cocktails
- Awards Presentation
- Banquet
- Metis Entertainment
Featuring Maria Campbell
and John Arcand
and other Metis Artists

Award Categories:

Arts & Entertainment,
Metis Culture, Education,
Health & Medicine, Elder,
Business & Commerce,
Science & Technology,
Law & Justice, Youth,
Sports & Recreation,
Community Service,
and Social Work

Eligibility:

- Recipient must be of Metis ancestry
- Must be 19 years or older
(except youth recipients who are between 12-18)
- Must be resident of the City of Regina

DOOR PRIZE:

1 night accommodation - Jacuzzi suite, Sunday Brunch,
2 Tickets to YukYuks - Donated by Ramada Hotel
Dinner for two - Donated by The Keg
Some restrictions may apply

Everyone is welcomed to attend!
To request a nomination form or to purchase
corporate tables, or to become an awards
sponsor contact,

Rhoda Fisher, Coordinator
RMW's Metis Recognition Awards
tel: 306-543-3296



Deadline for submissions of completed
nomination forms is
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10.
Incomplete or late submissions will not
be accepted. Please deliver, mail, courier
nomination forms
(if mailing must be received by
NOVEMBER 10) to:

Selection Committee
Regina Metis Women's
Recognition Awards
c/o 95 Brockelbank Crescent
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4R 6J5

Presenting Sponsor:

Canada
Government of Canada
Minister Ralph Goodale,
Federal Interlocutor for
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Bronze Sponsors:

Continued from Page 10

Saskatchewan representatives on the Task Force, overseen by Dale McAuley, Métis Minister for Lands and Resources and President Chartier, the willingness is still there to negotiate, but not on these narrow terms. While there have been a number of other charges laid by SERM officials on Métis hunters and fishers, the Saskatchewan Justice Department has been staying charges that could bring a final clarification on these rights matters. "It is a strategy of discrimination", Vince Folk, Area Director for the region stated. Folk is currently facing two charges from SERM for hunting and fishing without a license. "The province is playing games with Métis people and SERM is harassing us with their discriminatory policies", stated Mr. Folk. Métis lawyer, Dwayne Roth, urged government officials to tell their Minister that their policy is putting Métis people in a difficult situation. He said that Métis people in Saskatchewan are going to stand together as one Métis Nation. SERM policies are trying to drive a wedge between the Métis of the north and the Métis of the south. It is a divide-and-conquer tactic that will not succeed. Clem Chartier stated that the next court victory could be close at hand and that the success of these negotiations is crucial to preventing the post-Grumbo situation from happening again. "We have a second chance to do the right thing. Let's jointly move forward on a conservation and management regime taking into account our respective legislation, stated President Chartier.

The judgment of Morin & Daigneault sets out that, whatever Metis scrip did to land, it did not extinguish the Aboriginal right to hunt, fish and gather for food. Metis lawyers Dwayne Roth and Clem Chartier will be defending Mr. Folk whose fishing case is currently set for January 2001. More information can be made available to interested people on Metis Rights by contacting the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Head Office in Saskatoon.

¹ Teillet, Jean. Métis National Council: Summary of Métis Case Law, March 26, 1999. (Excerpt and paraphrase) For a full understanding of Métis Case Law, a copy of this document in its entirety can be obtained from the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Head Office in Saskatoon.

Research & Development

BY MARTIN BEMBRIDGE

The Métis Employment and Training of Saskatchewan, Inc. (METSU) research and development department has recently undertaken a number of exciting, new initiatives in order to better meet the needs of Métis citizens in Saskatchewan. Specifically, METSU has established initiatives in the areas of: partnership development; communications; multimedia promotional materials; and policy refinement and development.

Partnership initiatives will enable METSU to leverage additional funds, and as a result, increase the amount of funding that will be available to Métis students. Currently, METSU's partnership development efforts are occurring in 3 key areas: 1) industry partnerships; 2) governmental partnerships; and 3) partnerships with other MNS affiliate organizations.

METSU has recently formed a Communications Team to oversee the development of a communications strategy for both METSU and the regional Local Métis Management Board (LMMB) offices. This team will be examining communications issues within the METSU organizational structure, as well as the organization's external communication practices.

As a part of METSU's promotional strategy, METSU has developed a new website, located at www.metsu.sk.ca. In the near future, METSU will be releasing a brochure that will provide a summary of all of the programs and services that are available to Métis people. METSU is also in the planning stages of the development of two video productions. The first video will be a celebration of the employment and training successes that METSU has accomplished to date, and the second video will document the development of the Aboriginal Human Resources Development Strategy agreement.

Over the past year, METSU has been reviewing and refining all of the organization's policies and procedures manuals, and this process is nearly complete. In addition, a student handbook is currently being developed, and this handbook will outline the rights and obligations that students have with regards to accessing METSU program funds. This entire process has been, and will continue to be, a consultative process between METSU and the regional LMMB offices. It is through the continuance of this collaboration that the entire organization will continue to improve the way that services are provided to Métis individuals and communities.



Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc.

BY VALERIE DUROCHER

September 29, 2000

METIS LAUNCH "SPEAKING OUT – LISTENING FOR HEALING PROJECT"

Residential School/ Boarding School - Provincial Wide Program The Metis Addictions Council of

Saskatchewan is proud to announce its Speaking Out - Listening for Healing Project. On September 1, 2000, after obtaining an Aboriginal Healing Foundation grant, the Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (MACSI) launched this innovative healing project for Metis and their descendants in Saskatchewan.

The purpose of this three-year, community-based project is to build safe communities for Metis survivors of Residential Schools and later generations in which they will assist one other in recovering from the legacy of abuse in their childhood.

The Metis people were doubly hit within the Residential Schools as they were not 'treaty' nor 'white'. Metis oral history in Saskatchewan included stories of forced relocation of Metis families and communities, forced to attend the Boarding, Residential, Convent and day schools run by various

religious groups and churches. Other Metis were physically removed from their families and culture to orphanages run by the churches. This project will focus on teaching skills to heal from the effects of chronic patterns of abuse installed in Residential Schools.

The Project will provide training and community supports to Metis Residential School Survivors.



Métis Addictions Council Staff - Darren Tait, Terra Andrews, James Froh, & Dean Fetch.

Photo By: Lori Nixon

Survivors will learn the healing skills of exchanging listening, peer counseling, and supportive caring to face the past and to reclaim their physical, emotional and spiritual humanity.

GOALS:

1. To organize Metis Healing Gatherings for Metis Survivors and family members.
2. To train Metis Residential School Survivors to peer counsel each other on their healing journey.
3. To build community support networks within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.
4. To train other groups to be allies to Metis Residential School Survivors.

Speaking Out - Listening for Healing Project is overseen by a committee of Metis survivors from the MACSI Board of Directors. On September 25, 2000; Speaking Out - Listening for Healing Project welcomed Mr. Darren Tait as the Project Team Leader.

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New Voting Rights For First Nation Members

On **November 20, 2000** the rules for voting will change.

As of this date, if you are a First Nation member regardless of whether you live on or off reserve, 18 years of age or older, you will have the right to vote in *Indian Act* elections and referendums held by your First Nation.

Why the Change?

The voting regulations will be changed because the Supreme Court of Canada, in the *Corbiere* decision, has struck down the existing *Indian Act* wording which restricts voting rights to members residing on reserve. The Supreme Court provided the Government of Canada with 18 months to complete the required changes by November 20, 2000.

What are the Changes?

Amendments to the regulations on the voting process in elections and referendums held under the *Indian Act* are available. The regulations are in the process of being finalized and will become effective on October 20, 2000, but will only apply to votes held on or after November 20, 2000.

How to Register to Vote?

To participate in the major decisions affecting your community, your First Nation or Band office needs to know how to contact you. To register to vote, it is important to provide your name and address to your Band office so that they may contact you prior to your Band's next election or referendum.

How Can I Find Out More?

For a copy of the draft regulations or more information, contact Indian and Northern Affairs Canada at:

- the nearest Regional office or
- Call 1 888 543-0004

Further information is available on the following website:

www.inac.gc.ca



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Canada

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

BY RHODA FISHER

Regina Metis Women will be hosting the 2nd Annual Metis Recognition Fundraising Awards & Banquet in the Fall 2000. The goal of the awards is 1) honor and recognize the individual academic and career achievements and contributions that Metis people have made to our community 2) to raise money for much needed social programming for Metis women and children.

Regina residents, both male and female, of Metis ancestry will be recognized for their accomplishments in twelve (12) different category areas. Arts & Entertainment, Business & Commerce; Community Service; Culture; Education; Elder (age 60+years); Health & Medicine; Law & Justice; Science & Technology; Social Work; Sports and Recreation and Youth (ages 12 - 18 years) are included in the twelve categories.

This evening's program will consist of greetings and speeches from dignitaries, the awards presentation, a banquet and segments of Metis cultural arts entertainment. The awards celebration will be just

as inspiring and entertaining as last year's awards but it will be carried out on a larger scale this year. Great company! Great food! Great cultural entertainment!

Financial support is greatly needed in order for this unique, exciting and beneficial Metis role model event to come to fruition this year. Public and private corporations and individuals can become event or award sponsors. Individuals / organizations can also purchase corporate tables.

Interested award/event sponsors requiring further information should contact:

Rhoda Fisher (306) 543-3296
RMW's Metis Recognition Awards Planning Committee
C/O 95 Brockelbank Crescent
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4R 6J5

*organizations / individuals interested in purchasing individual tickets or corporate tables can also call at this time to be put on the reservation list. Limited tickets sold.

Continued on Page 15

Executive Director James Froh commented, "I am confident that Mr. Tait's considerable experience and commitment for healing will serve him well in reclaiming and assisting other Survivors to heal". Darren will carry out the various activities outlined in the project's work plan. Darren is a Metis Nation citizen from the MacDowall / St. Louis area where many of his family still reside.

In 2000, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation contributed \$550,227 towards this Metis project. Speaking Out - Listening for Healing Project is a co-operative effort between MACSI, the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and Re-evaluation Counseling International. Metis Addictions Council is honored to manage the project.

For additional information, contact:

Darren Tait
Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc.
Phone: (306) 651-3021

or

James Froh
Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc.
Phone: (306) 651-3021

Senator Lawrence Martell

BY SENATOR NORA RITCHIE -
CHAIR MNSS

I would like to start out by saying that it was an honor for me to have worked together with Senator Lawrence Martell on the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Senate.

Senator Martell was a dedicated representative for the Senate. Lawrence told me how honored he had been when Ralph Kennedy appointed him as a Senator for their region. He told me, "that man treats me good and I respect him", and true to his word, he did have a lot of respect for Mr. Kennedy.

Senator Martell served his Metis people well. He was a fair person and would show it by not making any decisions without hearing all the information. Our senate will miss his honesty and the wisdom that he shared with he fellow Senators.

His dedication and respect for the position he held was obvious to all that knew him. Even when Senator Martell wasn't feeling well, I would call him and he would be happy to be kept informed on the activities of the Senate. At the end of my call, Lawrence would tell me "Well Ritchie, be sure and phone again", but before hanging up he would have to tell me a joke. It seemed like I would usually have a smile or a laugh as we finished speaking on the phone.



Photo By: Unknown

At senate meetings there would be a lot of talk around the table. We would all talk about ourselves when the meetings were completed.

Senator Martell would tell us about his experiences in the army along with the other veteran Senators. From these talks, I gathered that he enjoyed some of the army life. However, we also knew that he had lived through many hardships in his life as well.

All of these experiences in the army along with the other veteran Senators. From these talks, I gathered that he enjoyed some of the army life. However, we also

knew he had lived through many hardships in his life as well.

All of these experiences turned him into the person we all came to know and respect. The Metis people have lost a dedicated and well-loved member of their community; we shall miss him greatly.

Our thoughts are with the family and their loss of a great man, but I ask you to remember that his spirit will always be with you.

On behalf of myself, and my fellow Senators of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Senate, we give our sincerest sympathies and condolences to Senator Martell's family.

Métis Seek Fair & Equitable Treatment From The Government of Canada: Compensation For Displacement From the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range Lands

By KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

In 1953, Canada signed a twenty-year agreement with the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta to turn 1.5 million acres of traditional hunting and trapping territory of the Metis and First Nations of Northwest Saskatchewan and Northeast Alberta into an air weapons range. Although historical documentation shows that discussions took place as early as 1949 on this matter, the Metis of the region were only informed that the land had been taken by the Department of National Defense when they were turned away from the lakes and their trap lines in 1953. The land transfer agreement sets out that Canada was solely responsible for compensa-

tion had full responsibility to ensure that the compensation was provided and was fair and equitable on behalf of its citizens. Forty-seven years later, the Metis continue to seek fair and equitable treatment from the Government of Canada and to be supported in this effort by the Province of Saskatchewan.

The Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range Negotiating Committee was established in 1994, following in the footsteps of other Metis groups in the past, to bring forward the collective voice of the Metis in what they feel is inequitable and unfair treatment by Canada. While the First Nations of Canoe Lake were compensated fully, and represented by the

Department of Indian Affairs in the negotiation of the range lands and eventually through the Indian Claims Commission process, the Metis claim remains without proper consideration. On behalf of the Metis from Sapwagamik, a community near the Canoe Lake reserve and the air weapons range, Ambrose Maurice has filed a statement of claim against the Government of Canada in hope of finding the support of the legal system in bringing the government to set up a process for consideration of Metis claims. The PLAWR Committee seeks to negotiate with the govern-



Elder George Lariviere Attends Government Meeting On Behalf of the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range Negotiating Committee.

Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

ment for any individual or business that was displaced as a result of the establishment of the range. While this responsibility existed with the Department of National Defense and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, on behalf of Canada, the Province of Saskatchewan

ment in an effort to stay out of the court on this matter, however, negotiations seem to be without adequate outcomes. The Committee met with Federal and Provincial Officials, from the Privy Council Office in Ottawa and the Department of Intergovernmental and Continued on Page 20

Aboriginal Affairs in Regina, to hear the formal response to the proposal presented by them more than a year and a half ago. The presentation did

ties for a rich and productive life. They wish to be able to address the issues they face every day, having enough money to cover health care costs, edu-

educational funding on which to build a future for their children. The province is selling the resources of our traditional territory right out from under our feet. Big companies are making the money from the very land that we live on. The Metis are a very sensitive people. The Elders have been here at the negotiating table from the beginning. How long can you hold the people back", was his departing remark.

Minister of Sask Environment and Resource Management and Athabasca MLA, Buckley Belanger, expressed what he



Elders in attendance of PLAWR meeting.
Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

not address the issue of compensation or access to those range resources which are extracted on a regular basis from the range lands. The offer was in the form of a shopping list of possible programs and services administered through government agencies.

called a deep profound sense of disappointment and anger at the Federal offer on this matter. He feels that the Federal government must recognize

Elder George Lariviere, along with many other Elders from the region, came by the help of canes to hear the offer of government on this long-standing issue of compensation. "Our Elders wish to leave something behind for their children and their communities", Don Favel spoke earnest-



Elders in attendance of PLAWR meeting.
Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

ly. "They wish to know that they can live the remainder of their life in peace and in the comfort of knowing that their children and grandchildren will be able to live on the land and have opportuni-

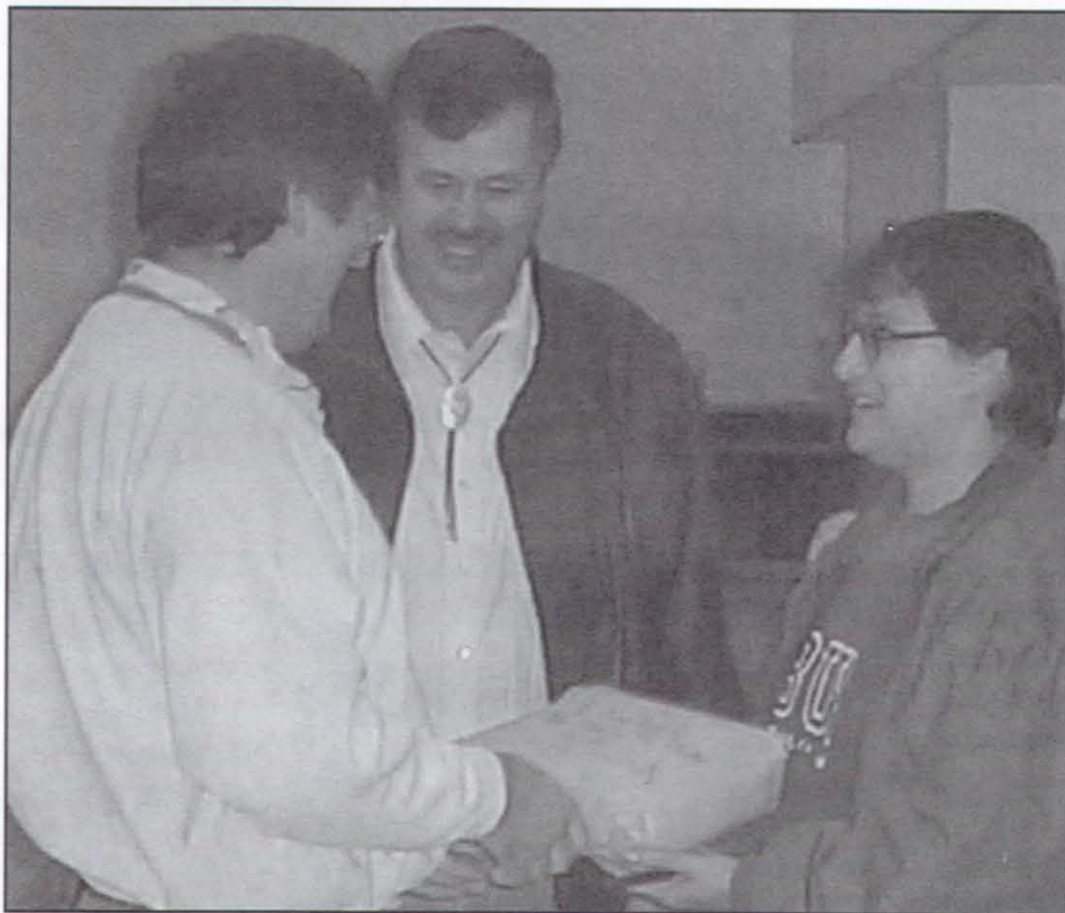
ties that the issue of compensation is a displacement issue and not an Aboriginal issue. The First Nations and non-Aboriginal people who were displaced from the air weapons range lands have been com-

pensated. It is only the Metis claim which remains unsettled. He has suggested that the \$20-30 billion dollar surplus of Canada's budget is available to them to clear up this overdue issue. The Honourable Minister offered a ninety-day challenge to the federal government to bring forward a proposal for a Northern Economic Development Fund for the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range Negotiating Committee and their communities, promising a thirty-day response to follow from the province. His challenge was addressed by many participants at the meeting. One man brought forward a request to the Federal Government to provide immediate loans to the Elders, guaranteed by Canada, as part of an immediate commitment to the old people. Metis Nation of Saskatchewan President Clem Chartier reiterated that the mandate of the Committee has always been to negotiate a final settlement on the claim for compensation. While programs were impor-

tant to the development of the communities, the economic development matters could be addressed and are being addressed through other avenues. The package presented by the government was merely opportunities that are due for the residents of the north anyways, as part of the northern development strategy of Saskatchewan. As well, the communities of northwest Saskatchewan, including the PLAWR communities, have been discussing issues and processes of local governance and have many emerging community government systems in place. It is his hope that the governments will respect these developments and ensure

that any development packages honour the work of the communities to date, and not use self-serving vehicles that only bring benefit to their own government structures. MNS Treasurer Allan Morin articulated also that this meeting was to address specific Metis issues and that any compensation package must respect this.

A contingent of Metis people from northeast



Elder Edward Gardiner from Cole Bay.

Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

Alberta also attended the meeting held in the Beauval Mezzanine on October 12th. While the Committee has worked toward compensation for the Metis in Saskatchewan, the Metis from Alberta have also faced difficulties in their communities and families as a result of the establishment of the range and the lack of adequate compensation provided to them. Spokespersons from the Alberta Metis Settlements and the Metis Nation of Alberta told of the losses of their traditional territories and how the lack of access to the resources on the range have meant great hardships for their citizens.

Summer Camp Placed Emphasis on Native Culture

STORY & PHOTOS BY KERI DALMAN

Reprinted from the Telegraph, North Battleford, Saskatchewan (September 3, 2000), as submitted by the Battle River Development Corporation

How do you give First Nations and Metis kids back their culture? Well, you take them out into the woods. At least, that's the approach being used by the local Metis Nation, which has set up a cultural camp called Echoes of the Little People near Cochin. Lyle Lee, a survivalist with reams of experience and knowledge of First Nations and Metis culture and their connection to nature, took young people who have participated in his cultural program at the Metis Nation family drop in centre during the year out camping this summer.

When the Telegraph went out to the camp to have a look around, it was full of new recruits. Lee does the dishes and cooks the breakfast the first day, but after that, it's up to the kids to take responsibility. After four days, the last group he had knew how to do things as a unit, he noted. Everyone had a job to do and did it. This "taking care of the next guy" as Lee calls it builds a sense of community, something these young people need.

Lee has put a lot of work into teaching his campers. He came out before the camp opened and drew a map of the area, and put up traditional First Nation trail signs for such messages as "don't drink the water" and "quicksand ahead". He also created a medicine walk or teaching path, a Little People's camp, and discovered teepee rings and three medicine wheels down

by the lake. The owners of the land the Metis Nation is leasing for the camp hadn't realized that the medicine wheels were out there, making Lee's discovery pretty exciting.

Lee is a master storyteller, and after watching the kids eat breakfast, he took some time to tell of the



significance of some of the things he constructed and found around the camp, such as the Little People's village.

According to Lee, his people tell stories of a Sky Tribe that was stranded here ages ago. They called them the Little People, because they were so small. These people taught Lee's people how to use dog bones to make casts to heal broken bones, how to make aspirin from willow fungus, and which rocks to use in a sweat lodge.

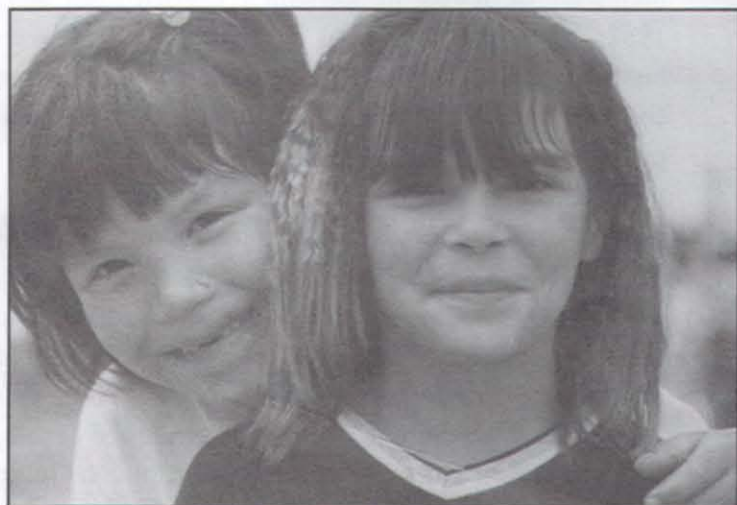
The medicine wheels, made of stones set in a pattern on the ground, are also connected to the legends of the Little People. They were made to be viewed from



above, to let the Sky Tribes know who was living in that particular spot.

Continued on Page 35

Palmbere Days



2000

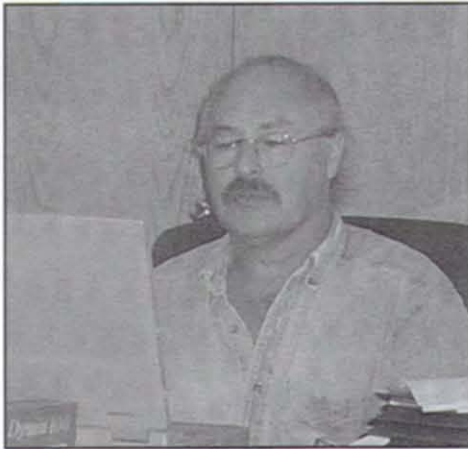


Provincial Métis Council

INTERVIEW & PHOTOS BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

Clem Chartier President

Clem Chartier has served the citizens of the Métis Nation in various capacities for the last thirty plus years, on the Métis Justice Committee, the Indigenous



Bar Association, holding the position as Chairperson of the Métis National Council in 1983-85, member of the Métis Constitutional Commission, President and Vice President of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, Vice President of AMNSIS, and now as President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan.

Clem Chartier speaks to the tremendous growth in the governance structures of the Métis Nation, the cornerstone of which is community involvement and decentralization. The nation has seen the development of the MNS Senate, a one-of-a-kind institution in Canada. The MNS Youth Council has a strong foundation that is working its way into the fabric of the Métis Nation and gives the hope of strong future leaders that recognize the efforts of their Elders in this struggle. The Métis Women of Saskatchewan will once again provide the other voice that is so valuable in our governance discussions. The newly established Métis Urban Councils offer a new dimension to our governance infrastructure. The work on Métis Aboriginal Rights and Title continues, with a significant beginning for us in adopting the 1993 MNS Constitution declaring Métis self-government. The formation of the Métis National Council in 1983 to represent the Métis Nation homeland in Constitutional and political

affairs. The recognition of Aboriginal rights and the inclusion of Métis in Canada's Constitution Act, 1982. Filing the first Métis land claim in 1994, winning Aboriginal rights hunting and fishing cases in the courts. All of these are tremendous accomplishments for us as a people.

He believes in the continuation of our internal governance building process, building upon the legislation established to date: Senate Act, MNLA Act, Election Act, Citizenship Act and Wildlife and Conservation Act. We need to continue to build community involvement within our governance system including expanding the involvement of Elders, Youth and Women. We need to continue to build our Affiliates to ensure the delivery of quality programs and services to our people. Lastly, we need continue nation building around our identity as Métis both provincially and nationally, ensuring we maintain a balanced approach to the rights agenda and the provision of programs and services.



Murray Hamilton Vice President

Murray Hamilton became a member of Métis Local 9 in Regina in the fall of 1972, and records this as the official beginning of his political career with the Métis Nation. He worked as a volunteer



worker with the Local for two years and then moved on to a position with the MNS predecessor, Métis Society of Saskatchewan. He was posted to serve the people of Prince Albert, as part of his responsibilities and ran successfully for the position of Area Director, a term which ran from 1976 to 1982. He then ran for an Executive position, which

he lost and then moved to self-employment and his university studies. He graduated in 1988, taking on the position of Saskatoon SUNTEP Coordinator for the Gabriel Dumont Institute for the nine years leading to his successful candidacy as Vice President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

The major accomplishments he has seen within the nation are the development of the MNS Affiliates, especially the Gabriel Dumont Institute; the acquisition of land and the development of the Batoche Historic Site; and the successful outcome of the 1988 referendum and the recognition of the organization as Metis-specific.

Murray's vision for the Nation is that we continue the struggle that began in 1869-70 to clarify the relationship between the Metis and the Canadian state. This is the most important thing. The struggle is equaled only by our need to find independence from government funding. It is difficult to advocate effectively for the Metis Agenda without this first being addressed.



Allan Morin Treasurer

Allan Morin was born and raised in the northern Metis community of Ile-a-la-Crosse, Sask. He completed his high school in Prince Albert, continuing on to



complete studies in Social Work, Para-Legal, Life Skills Courses and university training in public administration. His working life has brought him to work with all levels of government: federal, provincial, municipal and the with the Metis Nation. Allan has served as Executive of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan since 1985, serving one term as Secretary, and then as Treasurer from 1995, up to

the present time. He has served as a board member of Metis Locals 21 and 31 of Ile-a-la-Crosse and Meadow Lake, respectively. He has represented the Metis as Vice President of the Gabriel Dumont Institute Board, Minister of the SaskNative Economic Development Corporation and the Clarence Campeau Development Fund, as a founding member. He currently holds the position as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and is a member of the Internal Governance Committee which prepares legislation for the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.

Allan is proud of the establishment of the MNS Affiliates and the development of SNEDCO and CCDF. The Tripartite Unit as part of the work of the Intergovernmental Affairs Ministry is working towards the Metis Rights Forum and the passing of the Metis Act in the provincial legislature. As the treasurer, he works hard to ensure the accountability and stabilization of the Nation's finances. He feels the Metis Nation must work toward multi-year funding agreements, transfer payments and the full devolution of programs and services. The future of the Nation, he proposes, should see a balanced approach including both the rights agenda and the continued development of program and service delivery. We need to enhance our Affiliates to include new areas such as health and high technology opportunities. The rights agenda must remain focussed on the acquisition of land and the land claim, as well as settling the jurisdiction question of whether Metis fall within Section 91(24) of the Canadian Constitution.



Robert Doucette Secretary

Robert Doucette reflected upon what he referred to as the genesis of his involvement with the governance of the Metis Nation. He remembers attending large meetings attended by some of our present and past leaders when he was a kid growing up in Prince Albert. His identity began forming with the heightening struggle with governments over Metis

foster care children, a system that he knew all too well by experience. He saw role models in the leadership in the early 80's, with people



like Jim Sinclair speaking out on the issues. He said as a boy he imagined himself as a leader, thinking he might some day find his way to the podium. He recalls the activities of Saskatoon, when he and Murray Hamilton activated Metis Local 126, a Local to which he would become President. As he gained more experience with the organization and worked as well on his training and education, he felt he could advance to large arenas and ran for Area Director for Saskatoon region, losing once and then finding victory. He believes people should learn the ropes, prove themselves before they assume responsibilities as leaders. He has lived this belief and seeks to remain grounded in the issues of the grass roots people, speaking on behalf of the issues that are at the heart of families and communities. He eventually ran for a position on the provincial Executive and is serving his third year as provincial Secretary for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

He says that the Metis Nation has seen a larger involvement of people in the community, people who want to play a role in the governance activities of the nation. This shows to him that there is a genuine concern and interest within the community on these matters. He says he has seen various victories on hunting and fishing cases throughout Canada, with the Powley decision in Ontario, the McPherson and Christie decision in Manitoba, the Ferguson decision in Alberta and the Lafrance decision in BC. The courts are now supporting the Metis in asserting to governments that Metis have always had the right to hunt and fish and trap as their ancestors have done for generations. He is most grateful for the opportunity he has found in his

work for the Nation, for the personal growth he has felt in meeting Metis people all over Canada. He believes that dealing with the daily issues that our people face has made him stronger as an individual as he strives to deal with these issues on behalf of our needs. He has seen the development of the MNS Constitution through the many discussions, debates and amendments. It is part of the evolution and growth. But most importantly he has found the fulfillment of watching his children grow up with the Metis Nation and knowing what their rights are, involved in the making of history as proud Metis. His vision is to see Canada and Canadians realize and respect that Metis people have pre-existing Aboriginal rights, whatever they may be and that Metis people played a significant role in the development of this country. He hopes to see in his lifetime the playing out of these rights through Metis self-government and land agreements with Metis people of Canada.



Peter Rudyck Western Region IIA

Peter Rudyck got involved with the Metis Nation out of concern for student access to post-secondary funding. He recognizes that the needs of the Metis in the Prince



Albert region, as well as other regions, far outnumber the amount of funds available for distribution. Peter is currently the Area Director for Western Region IIA, and serves in this capacity as chairperson of the Regional Council. He is also served in the development of the Batoche Site and the production of the festivities held there each year. He says he is involved with Batoche because it is his home, being raised there by his parents, on the hill above

the St. Laurent ferry. His mother was from St. Laurent and his father was born and raised in Hoey, Saskatchewan. He comes from a long line of farmers, and finds his interest in the land and raising cattle and horses. Peter was also a moving force in building up the Duck Lake rodeo grounds and holding an annual rodeo for the past two years. Peter has served over the past two and half years as a member of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Internal Governance Committee and has helped in the development of the legislation adopted by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.

Peter's vision for the Metis Nation is for us to pull together, supporting the provincial representatives and leaders. Each of the MNS regions should support each other on matters of common interest and need, such as the Metis Rights Agenda. If we are going to win any of the battles that are set out for us as Metis people, we will have to find a way to come together, find unity and common goals.



Wayne Trotchie Western Region IIA – Saskatoon

Wayne's involvement in the Metis Nation was inspired when he was a young boy by the earlier activities of his father, Clarence Trotchie, in the organization. He remembers the many meetings with



government, remembers his father meeting with Roy Romanow and Allan Blakeney. He walks in his father's footsteps now, beginning with his first seat on the board of Metis Local 11 in Saskatoon at the age of sixteen and through to the elected position as Area Director for the Saskatoon Region and Associate Minister Responsible for Urban under the Intergovernmental Affairs Portfolio with the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

Wayne recognizes the activity on the Metis Rights Agenda as the mandate of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and has seen growth in this area. The youth have also begun organizing and show themselves to be capable, cooperative and strong leaders. He is also proud of the work of the MNS Affiliates, speaking to the wonderful things that are accomplished by them on behalf of the Metis people.

His vision for the nation is for everybody to work together to move the nation ahead. He looks forward to a time when we make the decisions for ourselves on important matters and that we help one another out through those decisions to strengthen our families, our communities and our culture.



Al Rivard Northern Region I

Al Rivard has participated in local politics for about ten years, now, generally serving on the executive as secretary, treasurer and president for a while. He has also been



active in the community for fundraising activities for the local and for Aboriginal groups in the north for about twenty years. He has served as the northern affairs representative for Sask Mining Development Corp for six years, as well. He has served as Coordinator and Executive Director for NorSask Native Outreach for a couple of years, Instructor and Registrar at NORTEP for five years. His involvement has always been education related in one form or another and he represented his community for many years on the Jim Brady Development Board. He has also sat on the Mamawetan Churchill River health District Board, the Keewatin Career Development Corporation Board, the Interim Northern Development Board and serves as co-Chairperson for the Northern

Labour Market Committee. In his capacities with the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, he serves as Minister of Northern Affairs and Associate Minister for Metis Employment and Training.

Al Rivard has observed and participated in the development of a strong human resource development team within METSI, seen increased interest and attendance at the Batoche celebration, with the development of the facilities to greater and greater excellence each year. He has seen an increased number of participants at the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly and with the grass roots people within Metis governance and politics generally. As Area Director he holds a seat on the Provincial Metis Council, a position he has enjoyed a great deal. He believes in a vision of Metis people working together. Past differences must be set aside, he believes, if anything of significance will be achieved. There are so many opportunities that we can explore if we work together, so many great things that could be accomplished as a Nation. Although he is working through his third year as Area Director for the La Ronge Region, he looks forward to future opportunities in this capacity. His commitment to the work of building the community and the Nation will live on in whatever capacity he serves.



Philip Chartier Clearwater Clear Lake Region Northern Region II

Philip Chartier feels he has seen a lot of accomplishments by the Metis Nation since he was first involved in the struggles. He is most proud of the North West Metis Statement of Claim for land, filed in 1994, along with the subsequent research under-



taken in alliance between the MNS and the University of Alberta. This research has been followed by the design of the Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Mapping program by METSI that has just begun in the northern regions, involving Elders and youth in uncovering our history and setting precedent for us to continue this activity. The hunting and fishing cases that have come through the courts have allowed our Metis resource users to act within their rights as Aboriginal peoples.

Provincial Metis Housing, to which he holds the portfolio as Minister, in the last three years has come from a deficit budget to a surplus of \$130,000, and is now in the process of negotiating with government for expanded service area for Metis clients. The region played a role in the completion of the Garson Lake Road, an important stepping stone to providing Metis residents access to the new employment opportunities in Fort McMurray on the Oil Sands, forestry and tourism. La Loche Metis Local 39 has begun training of clients in earnest for these positions.

Metis Employment and Training, of which he holds the portfolio as Minister, has signed a five-year agreement, securing the ability to build more solid relationships with the public and private sector. METSI is involved in intergovernment negotiations for employment and training opportunities with the federal and provincial governments through the Common Labour Market Planning Forum and with the Sask. Interim Oil Sands and Forestry Group. The Northern Project is another successful initiative that will bring the MNS local and municipal government leaders together to make decisions of best interest to the region.

The vision for the nation, he believes, started off as working toward self-government with a land base. This vision remains the same today. We need to continue our involvement with programs and services to meet the daily needs of our people, but we can never forget the need for Metis to gain our rightful recognition in Canada as an Aboriginal people and as a distinct nation, the Metis Nation.



Guy Bouvier Western Region I

Guy Bouvier has been involved in the Metis Nation for 35 years, 12 of which were spent as Area Director for the Meadow Lake region. Within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan he has held the



portfolio of Minister of Employment and Training and is currently holding the position as Minister of Economic Development, as well as Minister of Agriculture, Tourism and Game Farming. He is also the Chairman of the Board for SaskNative Economic Development Corporation, the Clarence Campeau Development Fund and the Northwestern Metis Employment & Training Management Board. Guy is a member of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Treasury Board.

In his long-standing involvement with the Metis Nation, Guy has seen the establishment of many social programs, through the various delivery agencies such as MNS Affiliates. The lands and rights movement, however, has not seen the results that he has hoped for. The mandate of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan as set out for the Metis leaders to ensure the acquisition of Metis lands and the rights inherent to the Metis by virtue of being historic nation in Canada remain at the heart of the struggle yet today. He looks forward to the next election, to re-focussing on the rights agenda and reaching the goals that are so clearly set out in this struggle.



Miles Pelletier Eastern Region III

Miles was born in Crescent Lake, Saskatchewan, and was delivered at home by his grandmother, Mary St. Pierre. He says that he has been involved

with the Metis Nation ever since that time, being raised as a Metis and going to meetings of Metis people as a young boy with his parents in Crescent Lake. His first political term started as president



of the Metis Local in Yorkton, a term which he held until he nominated his brother for the position in 1971. He has been a Metis Local board member off and on ever since then until he successfully ran for Area Director, Yorkton region, in 1998.

Miles lives for the day that Metis people are treated fairly. He believes we have achieved many good things as a nation and it only takes one mistake for the media to turn their negative attention our way. We cannot be disheartened by their actions. We cannot tolerate dishonesty internally, but we must deal with these matters internally also. He wants to see our Aboriginal rights recognized by both Canada and Saskatchewan. Currently, both governments have brought action against us, he continues, because we exercise our rights as Metis people, the rights that were given to us by our birthright. Our people have to carry on the traditions and teachings of our Elders and show respect to others in the process. We need to be soul-searching, think back to our childhood, remember the riches of the past - the respect and the love that we had within our families and our nation. We did not have much but we always had that. Our children need to remember that respect and carry it into the future generations. That is his hope for our Metis Nation.



Vince Folk Eastern Region III

Vince Folk has been involved in the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan since 1990, moving back to Saskatchewan from a life in Quebec. The current

Metis Nation of Saskatchewan leadership has brought the activities of the nation to new levels of accountability and professionalism and he is proud to be part of



this collective of elected leaders. His first elected position with the MNS was as vice president of the Balcarres Local and then as President of the Ituna Local formed in 1993. The Local has brought many citizens of the Metis Nation into active participation and they now hold 63 members on their registry. Vince Folk has held board positions on the Kapachee Board and the Local Metis Management Board of Fort Qu'Appelle. He serves currently as the interim Area Director for Eastern Region III, having received a unanimous nomination from the Regional Council members.

Vince has seen the region develop locally and regionally by ratifying at both levels constitutions that have been proved dependable and sound by legal opinion. He has seen the Metis of the province accomplish amazing educational success, as our students focus and win on their studies through our program and service delivery agencies. He believes education is the most important aspect of our development as a people and that education is about preparing future leadership. Education is equaled in importance only in the need to remain focussed on the rights issues, he continues. He dreams of a day when the Metis are recognized as Aboriginal peoples in this country and receive the same benefits of resource use, taxation, land, education and medical that is protected for the other two Aboriginal peoples mentioned in Canada's Constitution: Indians and Inuit. He believes that Metis people have always recognized our inherent rights and that the education process has to begin with non-Metis to understand the history and the basis for these Metis rights. He says the struggle of the 17th century is carried forward into the 21st and the end can only be hastened by education for

all. His local and regional involvement, along with the work of the Mid Lake Coalition, in the naming of highway #11 as the Louis Riel Trail is but a beginning of the recognition of the contribution of the Metis to the well-being of all.



Gary Blondeau Western Region III

Gary Blondeau first became involved in the early 70's as a member of the Moose Jaw Metis Local where he currently sits as the President of the Local. He serves also as the Interim



Area Director for the Regina Region. His earliest awareness of the struggle of the Metis came about through the work undertaken by the Local to address the housing and general social issues facing the people. He feels that we are moving closer towards our main objectives as a governing body, objectives that address self-government for the Metis, a land base, language rights, and employment and training opportunities, generally the right to have our needs met as Canadians. He thinks back to the past, when times were tough, when being a Metis in a Roman Catholic school meant many hardships. He celebrates, at the same time, the graduation of his son this year. He feels we are able to speak to our culture and history now, able to show who we are as a people. Other people can know us now, as a people; a Metis Nation.

His vision is for the people of the nation to work together as one nation, with the same goals, for the same ends. He says that the Metis Nation is the first place he has ever volunteered for and it is an experience from which he has enjoyed helping our people, especially the students to improve the quality of life.

Helen Johnson Eastern Region II

Helen was born and raised at Smooth Stone Lake in Northern Saskatchewan. She received her education at Ile-a-la-Crosse and Timber Bay. She left school after



receiving her grade eight. As an adult she moved to the Melfort area, got married and raised five children. It was at this time of her life that she made a decision to go back to school and finish her grade twelve and go on for further education. In 1990, Helen received her Bachelor of Education degree through the SUNTEP program.

After receiving her degree, she taught for a short period of time at James Smith Cree Nation. Upon leaving her teaching position, she worked for NewSask Community

Futures as an Aboriginal Economic Development worker. In 1992, Helen left Community Futures to take an interim position as the Outreach Employment Counselor for Eastern Region II. Upon completion of this contract, she moved on to become the Stay in School coordinator for Eastern Region II. Upon completion of this contract, Helen returned as the Outreach Employment Counselor for the region. When a vacancy came open for the Aboriginal Court Worker for the region, she took on this challenge and worked in the court system helping Aboriginals that were having challenges with the law.

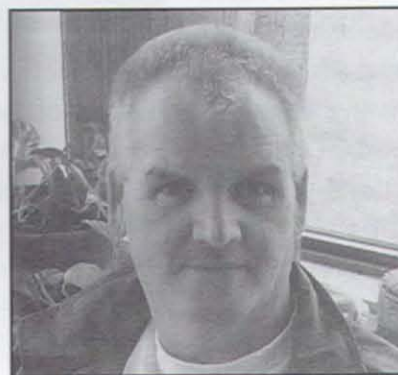
In the summer of 1997, the region lost their long term Area Director, Clarence Campeau. It was at this time, at the request of the Regional Council, that Helen took on the challenge of being the interim Area Director until the general election was held eight months later. Helen ran for and was elected as the Area Director for Eastern Region II in the 1998 election. In addition to being the Area

Director for the region, she also holds the portfolio of Minister of Metis Family and Community Justice Services and the Associate Minister of the Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan and the Associate Minister of Metis Health. Helen is committed to working towards Metis self-government and to developing programs that will assist in the healing of Metis citizens.



Don Favel Northern Region I

Don Favel is currently the Area Director for the Ile-a-la-Crosse Region of northwest Saskatchewan, a position held by two of his older brothers in the past. He holds the



portfolio as the Minister responsible for health and the Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan. His involvement includes also the position of co-Chairperson of the Provincial Metis Holdco and the Northern Project. Don Favel's involvement with the Metis Nation goes back many years, to the twelve years he worked for Metis Addictions as a field worker, to work in construction and carpentry.

His biggest involvement is with youth, educating the youth and working on addiction prevention. This is the accomplishment that he holds closest to him, while he carries on the struggle as part of his political responsibilities. Don Favel has resided in Ile-a-la-Crosse for the majority of his life, attending boarding school and working in his home community. His aspiration has always been to show the youth that there was a larger world than what could be seen from home. He recalls the many years of coaching youth in both minor and senior sports, travelling with the youth across the province. He is an avid hockey fan, a true-blue Maple Leaf fan, he says, and this is how he learned to be so patient.

Dale McAuley Northern Region I

Dale McAuley is presently the Area Director for the Cumberland House Region, holding the appointed authorities as Minister of Lands and Resources and Associate Minister of



Education for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. His involvement on behalf of Metis provincially has brought him to discussions with governments, both federal and provincial, towards the recognition of Metis hunting and fishing rights. As Metis people are very linked to the natural resources of this province, he finds himself speaking to many areas of the resource sector, from forestry to mining to matters pertaining to the harvesting of wildlife. He is involved as well in his community by serving as Mayor of Cumberland House and returning Board Member to the Northern Lights School Division.

Dale sees that the Metis Nation has made progress in moving the rights agenda forward and recognizes that there is much work yet to be done. He looks forward to the day when we are independent as a nation, free from the binds of government funds. He works for the recognition of the Metis as an independent and unique Nation of people in Canada, because we are a nation, he says proudly, the Metis Nation.



MaryAnn Gagnon Metis Women of Saskatchewan

MaryAnn Gagnon has been working for the North Battleford Region for the last eight years in various capacities: school liaison worker, career development officer and social development coordinator. She has been involved specifically with employment

and training for the last five years, focussing now on social service issues, involving a review of the foster care system in an effort to return Metis children to their families or other Metis families. She has



been involved with the Metis Women of Saskatchewan since 1997, attending the Annual General Meeting in Prince Albert and being elected to the position of provincial Secretary. At the end of the two year term, she was elected to the position of provincial President.

MaryAnn has come to have a greater understanding of the MNS tripartite process and the role women could play in the governance development of the Metis Nation. In the short time that she has been directly involved on such matters, she has been primarily focused on re-building the credibility of the provincial women's organization amongst funding partners. The greater challenge is to re-build amongst ourselves as Metis women in Saskatchewan. The MWS has put forward proposals to conduct community consultations with each region to determine the future direction of the group, providing information to the local women on the governance initiatives under the tripartite unit and to establish a web site to promote communication and information dissemination. She desires meaningful discussions and looks to the future for specific programming targeted primarily to the needs of women, based upon stand-alone agreements. As a wife and mother of two teenage boys, she has made the commitment to work toward the strengthening of the Metis Women of Saskatchewan, to the best of her ability.



Ralph Kennedy Western Region IA

Ralph Kennedy has been involved with the Metis

Nation since he came here with Noah on the Ark, he says, jokingly. He has been involved since 1979, where he first became associated with the Local Urban Native Housing Program in North



Battleford. He served in the years that followed as a Local President and became involved with the area and successfully was elected to sit as Area Director for the Region in 1989. He spent one term as Pathways Manager and then returned to the position of Area Director, which he currently holds. As part of the duties on the Provincial Metis Council, Ralph is the Minister responsible for Youth, Culture, Sports and Recreation.

Ralph has seen great things happen in his region for Metis people, with the securing of our own Metis Nation building in North Battleford, the signing of partnership agreements with Sask Tel and Saskatchewan Department of Social Services, amongst others. There has been a dramatic increase in the involvement of the community in matters of concern to Metis families, including the establishment of the Youth Empowerment Centre. The crime rates amongst Aboriginal youth have decreased significantly since the establishment of the programs offered by the region.

Provincially, the youth movement has made great strides with the formal establishment of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council, with representatives from across the province. As part of the Youth portfolio, youth centres have been set up in La Loche, La Ronge, Yorkton, Meadow Lake and North Battleford. Ralph's vision for the Metis Nation is for us to work closer together with a common vision and direction. So much can be achieved with unity, he goes on to say. He is happy for the experience he has gained as Area Director, happy for what has been accomplished and is looking for-

ward to another term to finish the many things that are in development stages now. The future looks very bright.



Louis Riel Day November 16th

Each November 16th, we remember the death of Louis Riel. Louis Riel remains as a reminder of the rights for which he and others gave their lives to defend. Today, we continue to battle for the same. To Remember The Past.



Palmbere Days



Past

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Surrounded by tangible reminders of how First Nation's people once lived, the camp is a powerful place, especially for those kids who are reconnecting with their Metis and First Nations roots. But it isn't all atmosphere. Lee gives the kids a working knowledge of nature, like their ancestors had, so they have the means to survive in the wilderness. Along the teaching path, Lee has the campers identify plants by their names in his language of Ojibway, and by their medicinal properties or practical uses.



He's already given these campers textbook instruction. Now, they have to identify the plants in their natural state, which can be a bit trickier than answering questions on a test paper. Lee and Lance Larose of the Metis Nation explained what they're trying to do at the camp. "We're trying to give them hands a hands on nature experience.... [of] how their grandparents might have lived," Lee said.

What their ancestors used in their everyday life on the land is still growing in the area, Lee stated. Rose petals for tea to help vision, raspberry leaves used to ease the pangs of childbirth, wild mint used to help digestive problems and dandelion leaves for good coffee that also helps sore kidneys. Other plants Lee found on the walk have non-medicinal uses: cattails for flour, sweetgrass for blessings, and wild ginger for spice.

"It's all here," Lee said. People just stopped using it. On the medicine walk, Larose, Lee and four boys attending the camp took turns explaining some of the plants on the way to the Little People's village. There, in addition to tiny tepees, are many items students in Lee's culture classed made and learned about during the year: a dog travois and prayer

stones, medicine pouches and willow fungus.

Before long, the boys were explaining the first of the trail signs, which meant badge holes ahead. This means, they said, that a rider would get off his horse and walk it around the area, for if the horse stepped in one of the holes, it could break its leg. It was clear from the enthusiasm pride and knowledge shown by the boys on the trail that the cultural camp is accomplishing its objective.

It's giving these kids a piece of their character that they've been missing in not knowing they came from a culture that was wise and good, Lee said. These kids now have pride in who they are and where they came from. Since the camp is working so well, the Metis Nation is now looking in a new direction in



order to keep it running. The campers were to be charged a fee for their participation in the camp, but many of their families didn't have

the money to spare, and they did not want to deny the kids the experience of the camp just because of a lack of funds, Larose noted.

So, plan B is to get some adults who want to come to the camp and charge them a fee. The European market is what the Metis Nation here really wants to tap into. Already planning the construction of an authentic Indian Village. When it's done, visitors will get to stay in it, leaving all the trappings of modern society behind and learning how to survive on the land the way the First Nations people did for centuries.

In addition to the village, the Metis Nation is planning on putting in shower and winter sleeping facilities. For Lee, it's all about incorporating the past in to the present. Technology is a good thing but in learning these new skills, it's important not to forget the old ones, like how to snare a rabbit.

All the knowledge of computers in the world won't help if you're hungry in the woods.

"Shadowing" Sheds Light on Health Jobs

BY CARMEN PAULS

Reprinted from the Northerner, La Ronge, Saskatchewan (August 29, 2000), as submitted by Cheryl Jeffries & Jim Brady-Employment & Training

The shadows no longer lurk in the halls of the La Ronge Health Centre - and the staff are already missing them. For six weeks this summer, three young northern women with aspirations for a career in health services spent their days "shadowing" La Ronge's health professionals in their day-

to-day work. In that time, the girls learned all sides of the health profession - not only the work itself, but the in-and-outs of being on the job, including that most important skill: how to rib your colleagues.

At a farewell tea at the health centre last Wednesday, the talk had turned to the girls' future plans when health inspector Lorne Willits walked in. Upon

hearing that all three had ambitions to be nurses, Willits said, in mock indignation, "I thought you guys were all going to be health inspectors after that day with me."

"That was good," piped up Dinah (Turner) Shott, a grin spreading across her face. "But I can't spend my whole life drinking coffee." Shot back Willits, "I hope you never plan on opening a restau-

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CUMFI Healing Project

BY LOUISE OELKE

CUMFI LOCAL 165 LAUNCH "LATERAL VIOLENCE-CUMFI HEALING PROJECT".

The Cumfi Local 165 of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan is proud to announce it's

"*Lateral Violence- Cumfi Healing Project*". On September 1, 2000 after obtaining an Aboriginal Healing Foundation grant, the Cumfi Local 165 launched it's healing project for the Metis and their descendants in Saskatoon

Urban Centre. The purpose of this one year, community based project is to rebuild our community for the Metis survivors of Residential Schools and inter-generational abuse, in which they will participate and assist each other in recovering from the legacy of abuse, in-fighting, blame, disputes, divisions and organizational fighting.

This project will focus on the Metis community, individuals and the culturally relevant healing and community development processes needed to restore Metis people and the community to health and balance.

The Goals of the project :

"TO PROMOTE PRIDE ,CULTURAL AWARENESS, HISTORIC/TRADITIONAL VALUES AND HEALING. A TRUE METIS COMMUNITY SPIRIT & METIS UNITY"

Lateral Violence- Cumfi Healing Project is overseen by the Cumfi Executive Board of Directors. They welcomed Louise Oelke as the Project Coordinator.

Louise will carry out the various activities outlined in the Project's workplan.

Louise is a Metis from Ile-a-La Crosse, a northern community.

Cumfi Local 165 Executive is honored to manage this project.

For further information:

Contact: Louise Oelke

Phone: 975-9151

Fax : 975-9156

E-mail: loelke.cumfi@messagez.com

Drop in: 315 Ave F.South, Saskatoon, Sask.

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rant!" All kidding aside, "it's a real privilege" to have been able to spend this time watching professionals at work, said Kelly Wolkosky, an aspiring nurse from La Ronge. "A lot of people don't get to do that."

Over the course of the six weeks, the students were exposed to almost every aspect of northern health care - from serving food in the hospital cafeteria to riding out in an ambulance. Wolkosky, Shott and fellow "shadow" Sherry LaVallee of Timber Bay spent time working the emergency room, the x-ray and lab department, detox, and long term care.

They also spent time talking with people such as dietitian Doris Listoe, problem gambling program coordinator Barry Giles, dental therapist Janet Gray, district CEO Norm Hatlevik, public health nurse Janine Arnold and diabetes educator Pam Molnar. There was even a drive out to Weyakwin for a youth camp, and Wolkosky, at least, recalls being on an airplane eight times.

Every Friday, the girls reported to Rae Anne Cameron of Jim Brady Development Corporation, to debrief about how each one's week had gone. Jim Brady, the La Ronge Metis local's economic development arm, was the program's sponsor, paying the students' salaries out of provincial funding, handling the paperwork and monitoring the students' progress.

Jim Brady director Michelle Fraser-CrowShoe, who has run summer employment programs for three years, sees this program as the most successful yet. Not only did each student perform impressively - so much so that the corporation decided to use leftover funding to award each a \$1,500 scholarship - the health district proved an excellent "industry partner", co-operating with Jim Brady and giving the students all the support they could.

Having students come from remote communities for a short stretch of time, in a supportive environment, will help them adapt more quickly once they start school, Fraser-CrowShoe said. Plus, it gives them first-hand experience in their chosen profession, which will be a major plus once they enter the workforce, she said. "When you can match your summer employment with your career, you're a

much more saleable package."

For Wolkosky, being part of the program means she'll be going into her RN studies this fall with her eyes wide open. "I have a huge advantage", she said. "We got exposed to a lot of new things that I probably wouldn't have had this happen to me if I didn't have this job."

For example, Wolkosky said, "I came into this thinking I wanted to be a acute (care) nurse, but I saw blood dripping and I got light-headed." She's now thinking of becoming a public health nurse - a field she knew almost nothing about before this summer. LaVallee's worldview has changed too. "I see the elderly different now...how they need our help now and before it was them who helped us," she said, noting that her time in long-term care has convinced her that her time in long-term care has convinced her that that's where she wants to be.

This job has also helped here become more confident, both in her ambitions and in being away from home. "I was kind of scared at first," she said. "I just had to get to know everybody and that way I won't be so timid."

Shott, too, had fear to cope with - even as she exulted in the opportunity to get away from her tiny community. "I thought 'someone's going to get me out of here,'" she said. Yet in the long-term, she's not using health care as a ticket out, but as a ticket back.

A lot of those people (in Uranium City) could use a lot of help, and I thought, 'if I can do this...I can contribute back,' she said. "I want to raise my family up there." In the meantime, however, she's got big dreams - and the "shadowing" experience gave her a chance to live some out: watching a baby being born, watching ambulance staff save someone's life, you can't wait for the next person," she said.

She thinks she'd like to be an emergency medical technician first, and then pursue a career in nursing later on. "I want to get a little bit of everything in there (her career)....I'll get my excitement while I'm young."

Biography of Jacob LaVallee

MNS Senator for Northern Region 1

STORY & PHOTO BY AL RIVARD

Northern Region 1 is proud to announce the appointment of Jacob LaVallee of Timber Bay, to the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Senate.



Jacob was born to Flossie Nelson LaVallee and Moise LaVallee of Montreal Lake. He went to school at Molanosa in the late '40's. He trapped with his family in the Montreal Lake area, and still continues to enjoy a traditional lifestyle to this day.

In his younger days, Jacob worked for the sawmills operating in the area, starting wages at that time were 50 to 65 cents per hour! In later years, Jacob was involved in building construction, and continues to be the maintenance man for the Hamlet to this day.

Jacob is married to Caroline Ross of Montreal Lake, and their family consists of 9 children, 4 boys and 5 girls, along with 8 grandchildren, and numerous extended family members.

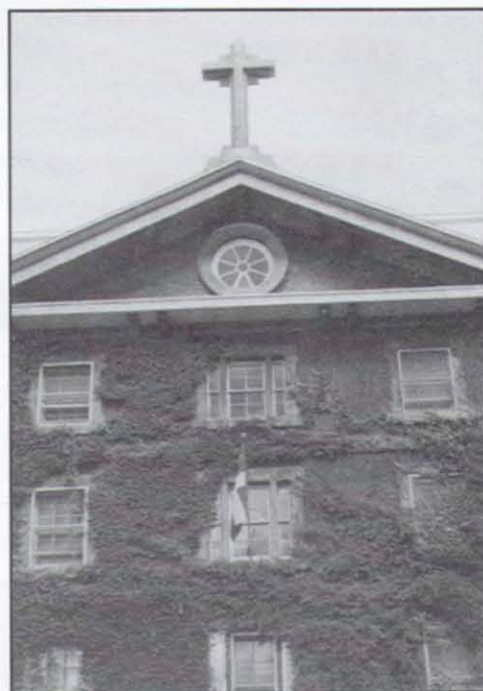
Jacob served as Mayor for Timber Bay for 13 years, as well as several years as President for the Metis Local. He has been community representative to the Local Metis Management Board, Jim Brady Training and Employment, for the past four years, and since his appointment to the MNS Senate has agreed to continue on as Elder/Advisor to the Board.

To Remember the Past:

Louis Riel studied at the College of Montreal when he was just 15 years of age. National Metis Leaders met to make a formal press release to speak out against the exoneration of Louis Riel, voicing that the government should acknowledge not just Louis Riel the person but also Louis Riel, the leader of the Metis Nation and the rights for which Louis Riel died trying to protect.



Pictured here is the Metis National Council Board of Governors: l to r: Tony Belcourt (MNO); Jody Pierce (MPCBC); Gerald Morin (MNC); Yvon Dumont (MNC); David Chartrand (MMF); Clem Chartier (MNS)



College of Montreal

Saskatoon Gabriel Dumont Métis Local #11 Historic Site Restoration Project

BY JUDY ELLIOT

The historical landmarks of the Metis Nation are being recognized for their historical and cultural significance. Landmarks of historical significance are being restored to ensure that future generations will be able to appreciate the rich heritage of the Metis Nation.

Difficulty in accessing the site and deteriorating structure/landscape conditions have been a detriment to many of these landmarks that have fallen into states of disrepair and have been neglected in regards to their historical significance in their respective communities.

The Saskatoon Gabriel Dumont Metis Local #11 Inc. pursued the restoration of a historical landmark located near their community with the Historical Site Restoration Project whose duration was 16 weeks, from May to August 2000.

The Round Prairie Cemetery, located south of Saskatoon, near the Whitecap Reserve, has an important historic and cultural significance to the community. This location was a Metis settlement in the early 1900s and was the first settlement of the Metis ancestors of many Metis in the community of Saskatoon. This cemetery is significant to the Metis community as many early Metis settlers are buried there.

There have been attempts to restore this landmark in the past, and some restoration work was completed, a monument being placed there during this time as well. The lack of continuous upkeep and upgrading had again resulted in the deterioration of this historic site.

The goal of this project was to establish a cultural and historical link with the community. The project has succeeded in promoting the historic significance of the Round Prairie Cemetery to the Saskatoon community.

Under the supervision of the Gabriel Dumont Metis Local #11 President, Henry Cummings, the Round Prairie Cemetery grounds were restored and repaired.

This included the repair of graves, cutting of grass and weed removal, removal of

garbage/debris, and the painting and replacement of the fences. Signs that recorded the names of those buried and the name of the cemetery were also installed.

A blessing and rededication ceremony was held on August 29, 2000 and was attended by many dignitaries including Clem Chartier, President of the MNS, City of Saskatoon Councilors Anita Langford and Jim Maddin, Deputy

Chief Dan Wiks (Saskatoon Police Service), Father Guy Lavallee, Ron Lamabe (Reeve, RM of Dundurn),

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Photo By: Clem Chartier



Photo By: Clem Chartier

North Battleford Western Region IA: Métis Social Work II Graduation 2000

STORY & PHOTO BY LAURA RUBY STADE

On August 18, 2000, Western Region A1 Metis Social Work Program II held their graduation at the Battleford Friendship Centre. The event began with a supper, special thanks to Battleford Metis Local 106 President Jackie Kennedy and North Battleford Metis Local 30 President Billy Kennedy for the yummy meal they served at supper.

Masters of Ceremonies were Doug Bartake, Social Work II Coordinator and Dwayne Docken, Manager for Battle River Metis Development Corporation began the exercises with messages from Regional Director, Ralph Kennedy, Program Coordinator, Doug Bartake and Student President, Pam Ruda. Their messages were sent out to the graduation class for their commitment to the two year program and to family and friends for their support and encouragement for the last two years.

Ralph Kennedy and Doug Bartake presented the graduates with their certificates and a braid of sweet grass. Student awards were then given to the Highest Average in their Social Work classes -



Photo By: Laura Ruby Stade

Phyllis Lennie; Highest Average in non-Social Work classes - Carmen Rose; Highest Overall Average in both social Work and non-Social Work - Phyllis Lennie. The Most Improved Student went to Pam Ruda and the Practicum Placement Award was presented to Penny Foulds. This award was presented by the President of the Metis Women of Saskatchewan, MaryAnn Gagnon. The Battle River Metis Development Corporation Overall Student Achievement Award went to Leisa Arnault.

The evenings celebration ended with a dance.

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and Carolyn Jones representing the Honorable Jack Hillson and Chris Axworthy, SGDML#11 President Henry Cummings and Senator Nora Ritchie, and Metis Elders that were born at Round Prairie.

The ceremony included speeches, the blessing of the graves, a solemn bell ringing ceremony as the names of those buried there were read aloud, presentations and a luncheon.



Photo By: Clem Chartier

The Metis community now has access to a significant historical landmark that will convey the pride of the Metis community, and the Metis Nation, to all who participate in its' historical beauty.

Western Inland Fisheries Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba

By GEORGE MORIN

Approximately 30 commercial fishermen from northern Saskatchewan attended a three day conference in Winnipeg dealing with the commercial fishing industry in Western Canada. Of the 30 or so commercial fishermen, seven Metis fishermen were sponsored by the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan through the Clarence Campeau Development Fund. Over 400 delegates attended from the North West Territories, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario, with the vast majority being from Manitoba.

The conference was co-hosted by the Manitoba Metis Federation and the Norway House First Nation. Funding was provided by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, Western Economic Diversification Canada, Manitoba Conservation, Gardwine North, and Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management.

The theme for the conference was "Moving Together Into The New Millennium". From the theme of the conference it appears that the "moving together" has not been evident. On the first day of the conference the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation (FFMC) presented their reports including their financial statements and long term strategic plan. This information was not well received by the fishermen and they so stated.

The situation for northern Manitoba fishermen is almost a mirror image of the Saskatchewan situation. Their overall production has dropped, processing has shifted from small northern communities to Winnipeg thus putting northern people out of work. The price of fish has basically remained constant for the past 20 years while at the same time, the cost of operating a fishing business is up by at least 500% since 1969.

The fishing industry in northern Saskatchewan has declined since the creation of the Freshwater Fish

Continued on Page 47

Historic Site Restoration Project *Speech By Henry Cummings*

I would like to thank all of you for attending this ceremony. I believe that it is important that we remember our past because from it we shape our future.

This historical site embraces the strength, the will and the heart of our people. It is on this land that the Metis settled to begin a new life, facing the hardships of daily life along with the politics and the battles of a new nation.

They lived daily with the strength, courage and pride that we, as a nation, admire to this day.

It is important to renew the history of our people by instilling into our younger generations the pride in our nation's history. We have done that here

today.

I would like to acknowledge the assistance of funding agencies such as METSI and HRDC, who were able to assist us in so many ways in achieving the goal of restoring this site.

I would also like to thank all of the staff of the Local #11 Historic Site Restoration Project for undertaking this task with such pride and dedication. They have done a remarkable job.

I would like to thank the speakers, the Elders, and the Metis community for being here today in recognition of this historic site.

Once again, thank you all for coming.

METSI Programming Initiatives

Métis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan Inc.

BY KEITH HENRY

Trends in programming are always changing to meet the needs of the time and communities served. METSI plays a vital role in this process as the programs and services delivered allow for individuals and communities to develop. For many individuals this means the long process of University or technical training through institutes such as Dumont Technical Institute or SIAST. For others the process might begin at the literacy or ABE (5-10) level. What's common is the goals of METSI to develop unique and innovative ways to provide programming that meets the needs of all clients.

METSI has the ability to deliver programs that provide the following services:

- **Employment Based Training**
 1. **Wage Subsidy**
 2. **Self Employment Strategy**
 3. **Summer Work Experience**
 4. **Community Service Program**
 5. **Employment Internship Program**

- **Skills Development**
 1. **Individual Seat Purchases**
 2. **Short Skills Training**
 3. **Project Based Training**

- **Special Incentives**
 1. **Stay in School**

Each program mentioned has a specific requirement and description. METSI, invites all Metis individuals to discuss their goals in either Training or Employment with a Counselor. Each year several individuals are sponsored to attend institutes like the University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, SIAST, Dumont Technical Institute, GDI, other accredited organizations, or employment opportunities.

Currently METSI offers a variety of programs in the province. For example, the following programs illustrate this service:

- **Traditional Land Use – North West Saskatchewan – Northern Region II and Region III**

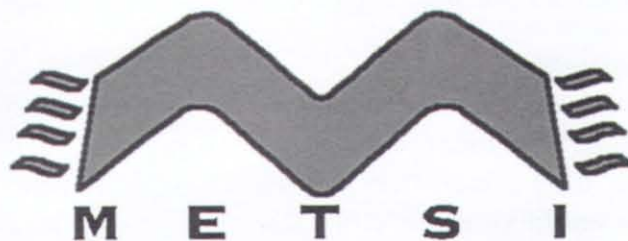
- **Elders Care – Prince Albert – P.A. Urban**

- **Elders Assistance Program - Regina – Regina Urban**

- **Pre-Carpentry – Yorkton – Eastern Region IIA**

- **Employment Internship – Saskatoon – Western Region IIA**

METSI sets goals and objectives to provide opportunities in Training and Employment. The organization will continue to work diligently as METSI plans for the new year. Please feel free to contact METSI if you have questions or concerns. METSI is here to serve the Metis communities and together the organization will be strengthened.



Métis Hunting: A Tradition and a Legal Matter

BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

There are certain cycles or seasons when Métis traditionally go hunting. This time of year is when moose, elk and deer are harvested to ensure a supply of meat and hides for the winter and spring.

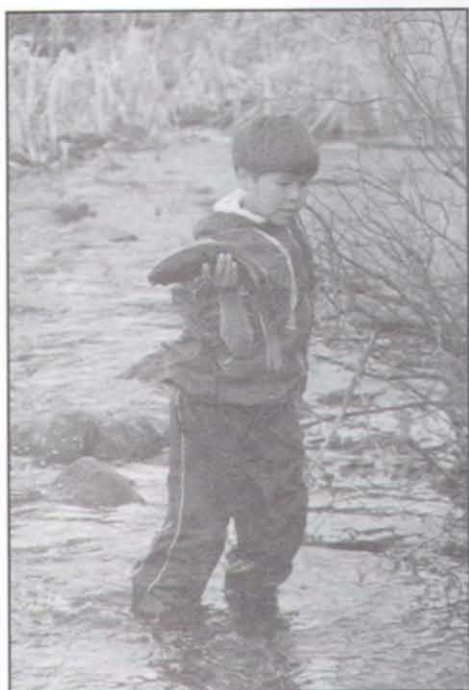


Photo By: Clem Chartier

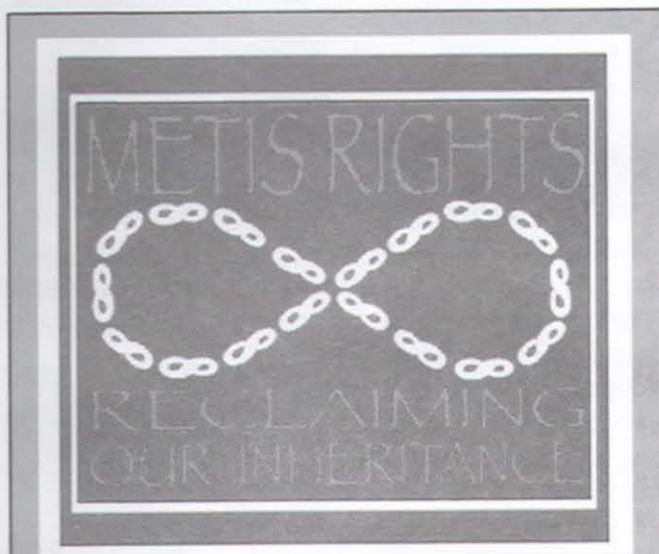
While this practice or tradition continues, some of our people can exercise their hunting rights, while the majority of our people can not. Since the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal sent the Grumbo case back for a new trial in May 1998, Saskatchewan Environment

and Resource Management (SERM) has taken the position that the right of the Métis to hunt and fish (which was in place between August 1996 and May 1998 under paragraph 12 of the Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (NRTA) 1930), is no longer in place. However, prior to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal decision in Grumbo, the Court of Queen's Bench in Battleford, in September 1997 upheld the Morin & Daigneault Provincial Court decision which confirmed a Métis Aboriginal right to fish and hunt under s.35(1) of the Constitution Act 1982. This Aboriginal right was upheld because the judge ruled that the scrip distribution at Ile a la Crosse and La Loche in 1906 did not expressly extinguish or take away the Métis Aboriginal right to hunt and fish. After the Sask Court of Appeal Grumbo decision SERM was forced by law to recognize that right in northern Saskatchewan.

In order for Métis in other parts of the province to exercise a similar Aboriginal right to hunt and fish under s.35(1) of the Canadian Constitution, it will be necessary to have a court confirm that the scrip

process involved in those parts of the province did not extinguish the Métis Aboriginal right to hunt and fish. In this connection, Mr. Vince Folk of Ituna has two separate charges, one of fishing illegally and one of hunting illegally stemming from two separate incidents. Mr. Folk's trial is scheduled to take place in 2001 and may serve as a test case which could confirm the Métis Aboriginal right to hunt and fish in southern Saskatchewan.

The state of uncertainty as to which Métis within Saskatchewan have the right to hunt and fish is not just between Métis living in the south and those Métis living in the north. Although the Court of Queen's Bench in Morin and Daigneault confirmed that the 1906 scrip distribution did not extinguish the harvesting rights of those Métis scrip recipients, SERM



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

**Contributions can be made to
the Metis Rights Defence Fund**

**By mailing cheque or money
order to:**

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

upon the advice of Saskatchewan Justice has been applying a narrow interpretation to that case in northern Saskatchewan based on the following four criteria:

- Must be able to demonstrate Métis ancestry
- Must be a permanent resident of a community within the Northern Administration District (NAD).



Photo By: Clem Chartier

- Must be able to prove that his/her family has a long standing connection to the northern community in which he or she resides.
- Must be "living off the land" as his/her ancestors have done for centuries or, he/she must be living a "traditional lifestyle".

This interpretation of the Morin & Daigneault case is subject to criticism as being overly narrow and not accurately reflecting the rulings of the trial and appeal judges. These criteria are currently being challenged in Provincial Court in the Maurice & Gardiner case. This case was heard in Provincial Court in Meadow Lake over a 51/2 day trial in October 2000. Mr. Clem Chartier, through the Métis Rights Defence Fund is the defence lawyer. Mr. Mitch McAdam of the

Department of Justice Constitutional Law Branch is the prosecutor. The case was adjourned to February 6 & 7, 2001 for closing arguments. Both sides have until December 15, 2000 to file their written legal arguments with the judge.

Mr. Maurice and Mr. Gardiner were charged with hunting at night with a searchlight based on a regulation passed by the provincial government in February 1998, after a joint provincial consultation undertaken by the MNS and SERM in January 1998. Maurice and Gardiner were out moose hunting in October 1999, in the Keeley Lake area, and upon returning home saw a deer and shot it while it was in their headlights. They were later stopped in Meadow Lake and were subsequently charged.

Their case will address the four criteria set out above. In particular, the requirement to be resident within the NAD will be challenged. Mr. Gardiner had moved from Jans Bay/Sapwagamik four years earlier so his children could attend school in Meadow Lake. Mr. Maurice, for the same purpose, had moved from Sapwagamik to



Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

Meadow Lake a month prior to the charge. They were hunting on unoccupied Crown land near their

home community within the NAD. Further, during the trial, a SERM officer testified that in his opinion only 5 - 10% of the Métis in the north would meet the fourth criteria, and only 1% if the right was recognized province-wide.



Photo By: Clem Chartier

This case may also determine whether the Métis fall within the protection of paragraph 12 of the 1930 NRTA and thereby reestablish the hunting and fishing right which was addressed in Grumbo. If the judge finds there is a s.35(1) Aboriginal right and a paragraph 12 NRTA 1930 right, he will then determine if the government has justifiably infringed that right. The province will argue that the regulation banning night hunting with a searchlight is a valid infringement (or cutting down of the right) based on safety. They will also argue that they fulfilled their obligation to consult based on the joint meetings on night-hunting held in January 1998. It is therefore possible that the court could find both an Aboriginal right to hunt under s.35 based on rejecting part of SERM's four point criteria and a paragraph 12 NRTA protected right to hunt, and then nevertheless enter a conviction on the offence charged, as being a valid infringement of the right.

There are also two major cases taking place outside Saskatchewan which could have a serious impact on establishing Métis harvesting (hunting & fishing) rights within Saskatchewan. In Manitoba, the Blais case is being heard by the Manitoba Court of Appeal. In that case, both the Provincial Court and the Court of Queen's Bench have stated that the Métis do not have a 1930 NRTA right. While Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba entered into separate

NRTA with Canada, the hunting and fishing rights clauses are identical and an adverse ruling in Blais, particularly by the Supreme Court of Canada (if it gets there) would seriously affect the Métis in Saskatchewan. The Métis National Council has intervened in this case. Arguments were heard on October 18th, and have been adjourned to December 1, 2000 for the conclusion of arguments. The judges will then consider the case and give a written judgement sometime in 2001.

In Ontario, the Powley case is scheduled to be heard in the Ontario Court of Appeal on January 10 - 12, 2001. That case does not deal with scrip, as scrip was not given out in Ontario. The argument is that the Métis of Sault Ste. Marie had an Aboriginal right to hunt, and that that Aboriginal right was never extinguished. Both the Provincial Court and the Superior Court (equivalent to our Queen's Bench)

have ruled in favor of an existing Métis Aboriginal right to hunt based on s.35(1) of the Constitution Act, 1982. The case is important as it will be the highest court to date to address the criteria the Métis must use to prove an Aboriginal hunting and/or fishing right. It is also important as the Superior Court judge also gave a definition of Métis which is being contested by the Ontario government, as well as the Métis National Council. This case has a good chance of going to the Supreme Court of Canada on appeal, and is therefore extremely important, as the Supreme Court will establish the criteria which the Métis must meet in order to establish an Aboriginal harvesting right under s. 35. This criteria has already been established for Indian peoples, with the Supreme Court saying they will wait for a Métis case before dealing with the criteria for establishing a Métis Aboriginal right. The MNC has also successfully achieved intervener status in Powley.

As can be seen from this brief overview, there are critical legal issues being decided in the courts. In Saskatchewan, we have our own Métis cases going forward. It is important that our citizens, communities and institutions make financial contributions to established funds so that a proper defence can be made for those of our people charged when exercising their Aboriginal harvesting rights.

Saskatchewan Métis Sports, Culture, Recreation & Youth, Inc.

BY DWAYNE DOCKEN

Aboriginal Sports Circle

Recently, I was asked and appointed by Mr. Ralph Kennedy, Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Metis Sports, Culture, Recreation and Youth, to sit on the Aboriginal Sports Circle Board of Directors. I write today to provide an overview of what is happening nationally for sports for Aboriginal peoples of Canada, as well as opportunities for us in the province of Saskatchewan.

Most recently, I attended the National Board of Directors meetings held in Victoria, BC on September 22-25th, 2000. This forum was to deal with national business on sport for Canada and also to have Roundtable Discussions with the Federal Minister responsible for sport, Mr. Denis Coderre. We reviewed our views on sport policy today and put forth a national policy on Aboriginal sport. We considered things like the importance of having a holistic way of life in sports, racism in sports, cultural programming and so on. These policies will become the National Guiding Principles on sport policies that all organizations must now consider, whether they are Aboriginal organizations or not. When you negotiate sporting ventures in each of your areas, the sport policies may assist you in your endeavors on at least minimum standards that must be

upheld by city councils, recreation boards and so on. Your provincial Minister for Municipal Affairs, Mr. Jack Hillson, is very aware of the sporting policy and fully endorses the role developed for the Aboriginal Sports Circle.

Saskatchewan Roundtable on Sports

The discussions on the Aboriginal Sports Circle was followed up by a three-day roundtable discussion held in Regina on September 28th to 30th, 2000. At this meeting, both the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan supported the new policies. Once again, Honourable Minister for Saskatchewan, Jack Hillson and Federal Minister Honourable Denis Coderre accepted Saskatchewan's Aboriginal peoples' position on sport. The issues for the Metis at this discussion session were the lack of funds from both levels of government to support our initiatives at the local and regional levels, for both young and old. The need for local areas within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan to access funds and build infrastructure, through the portfolio of Mr. Ralph Kennedy, was stressed to all participants.

Access dollars will be required from both levels of government in order that we can develop the capacity and infrastructure required to meet the needs of the Metis within our communi-

ties. Sports Canada is targeting high performance athletes so that we as a country can better compete on a national and international level in all aspects of sport. This includes coaches who may not have had access to higher levels of training in coaching excellence. However, how do I as a parent, coach or recreational coordinator in my area, tell the Metis youth that have no skates or stick for hockey that someday he or she may be a high performance athlete? For most of our Metis youth, who may be of low income families, the right of access for sports is still the state of our need. As part of the work of the MNS Ministry of Sport, we are putting a provincial strategic plan together for review, hoping to bring infrastructure dollars to the Metis of this province so that we can compete like our brothers from the Indian Nations.

Tommy Longboat Award & 2000 Royal Bank Charitable Foundation National Coaching Awards

The Tommy Longboat Award is presented to a national Aboriginal athlete who is selected from all other nominations throughout Canada. The winner is presented the award at the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards held in Ottawa. The National Coaching Award is presented to a coach whom has made a significant impact on ath-

lete and sport development at the community level.

2001 National Aboriginal High Performance Volleyball Camp

Aboriginal Sports Circle is running a volleyball camp from March 24-30th in Winnipeg, Manitoba. If you have any volleyball players in your community who are between the ages of 15-18 years of age, they have a chance to qualify for the camp and train with Canada's top Aboriginal volleyball players. Also, if you are an NCCP certified Aboriginal volleyball coach, then you too can have the chance to participate in this camp. Applications can be sent to myself through the Saskatchewan Metis Sports, Culture, Recreation and Youth organization in North Battleford or by phoning me at 306-445-6822. The camp mentioned above is what Sports Canada classifies as high performance. So, in your selection or recommendation, make sure the individual is of

exceptional caliber. If they are not they may be intimidated at this level. We do not want an athlete going to Winnipeg to be humiliated or not fit in because of their athletic ability. Please keep this in mind.

North American Indigenous Games

The North American Indigenous Games will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba on July 13-24, 2002. The event will host approximately 8000 athletes and 3000 cultural performers. The Saskatchewan try-out camps for the events that will be held in Winnipeg will be forwarded to each MNS Region soon. We are hoping that each Metis Region can produce as many athletes as possible for the games. I will be giving constant updates through the New Breed magazine and in packages to your areas. You can contact your MNS Area Director for more information. If you have further questions for me, I can be contacted any time at the office.

Continued from Page 41

Marketing Corporation, in 1969. Generally speaking, fishing for commercial fishermen that are distant from the processing plant in Winnipeg have experienced similar declines. In 1965, the production level of commercial fishermen from northern Saskatchewan was 15 million pounds. Last year, 1999, production was at about 4 million pounds. This decline in the economy of the fishermen and the communities has caused serious social problems.

During the open discussion of the conference between the fishermen and Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, frustration and dissatisfaction was expressed by the fishermen on issues such as lack of accountability, lack of communication, poor price for fish, high input costs, the FFMC Act, provincial policies and regulations that seem to go against commercial fishermen, and the list goes on. Fundamental changes are being demanded by the fishermen, one of which is control of how the FFMC is managed and operated.

Several important resolutions were passed that would be of interest to Saskatchewan commercial fishermen. One resolution relates to the fact that trout is

a fish specie that is not actively marketed by FFMC. At the same time, there are millions of pounds of trout in several water bodies in northern Saskatchewan, namely, Lake Athabasca, Wollaston Lake, Reindeer Lake, and Lac la Ronge. The resolution calls for an exemption for trout and underutilized fish species in Saskatchewan for a period of five years. The resolution was passed unanimously.

The other resolution which was also passed unanimously dealt with the establishment of an Inland Fish Producers organization. At this point there are no linkages between the fishermen's organizations from province to province. With this resolution there would be an independent body to speak on behalf of the fishermen from a national perspective. An interim steering committee was set up to organize a founding convention which is to happen within six months.

A report of the findings and recommendations of the proceedings of the conference is being prepared and should be ready in 30 days. In talking with organizers of the conference, all registered participants will receive a copy.

MNS Intergovernmental Affairs Unit

BY ART DUROCHER

Welcome to the Intergovernmental Affairs Unit at the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. The Unit is



Métis Women of Saskatchewan Discuss Provincial Matters at the MNS Leaders Summit.

Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

overseen by Allan Morin who is the MNS Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs. The Unit consists of a Director who is Art (Butch) Durocher and two Developmental Officers who are Roger Parent and Tristan Zachow. Intergovernmental Affairs, with the guidance of the Minister, is responsible for all government to government relations on behalf of the MNS. Through this Unit, The MNS is engaged in two separate formal Processes with the Governments. The first Process is referred to as the Tripartite Process which involves the MNS, the province of Saskatchewan and the Federal government. The second process is the Bilateral Process which involves the MNS and the province of Saskatchewan.

1. Tripartite Process

This is a process where self governance issues are discussed and negotiated. Within this process the MNS is engaged in three Governance initiatives.

The first is the Northern Project which is exploring

and developing a Metis Governance Model for the northwest portion of the province. The second initiative is Urban Governance, which is attempting to develop an Urban Governance Model for urban Metis. The third is Provincial Governance, which is looking at a Governance Model for Metis on a provincial or Nationhood scale.

2. Bilateral Process

It is within this process that the relationship between the MNS and the province of Saskatchewan is played out. The Process is conducted in Tier system where officials from both sides meet at the Tier II level and Ministers from either side meet at the Tier I level. There is also a Leaders Forum where the President of the MNS and the Premier of Saskatchewan can meet. The two parties are engaged in discussions and negotiations in different sectors. One product of this Process is the anticipated Metis Act which is almost finalized.



Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council Execs Attend Leaders Summit in September 2000. From left to right: Trevor Kennedy, April M'Pherson, Deanna Obleman, Maomi Atkinson and Jennifer Brown.

Photo By: Kathy Hodgson-Smith

This is a brief description of the Unit. Look for a more detailed explanation of the Unit in upcoming issues of Newbreed. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us at the Unit at 244-7441 or toll free at 1-888-343-6667.

Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Mapping Program

BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

The two regions of northwest Saskatchewan have combined their employment & training program funds to offer a community-based research initiative that will provide technical training to sixteen candidates from the regions. The program was developed by Metis Employment & Training, along with the Dumont Technical Institute and the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology of Prince Albert. Students who successfully complete the program will receive a certificate and will gain credits through SIAST in various areas, allowing them to continue on to enroll in such courses as forestry and resource management.

The Traditional Land Use and Occupancy Mapping Program will allow the communities, among other things, to uncover the historic uses of the lands in the regions under study through a series of interviews with resident Metis Elders. The interviews will place a specific emphasis on the economic activity of the past in an effort to determine how traditional land use practices can bring greater clarity to planning for contemporary and future land use practices and economic development. The students will learn and employ research skills such as interviewing, mapping, technical writing and computer skills. The information gained from the Elders will be transcribed and translated into technical mapping language through Global Positioning Systems and Geographical Information Systems programming. The Dumont Technical Institute will offer, as part of this program, an introduction into Metis history and a mathematics and communications review. SIAST will provide modules including an Introduction to Statistics, Computer Literacy, Photography, Physical Geography and the Flora and Fauna of North West

Saskatchewan. SIAST has also prepared a History of Resource Use/Community Based Natural Resource Use Management module for this program. The program ends with a two-week practicum, where students will put into practice all the skills that have been gained through the program.

The Mapping Program is only one phase of a two-year initiative to undertake the interviews and provide a regional overview of the rich cultural knowledge and information of the Metis in these two regions. Plans have begun to prepare for the development of educational curriculum, reader series publications and various other audio-visual and photographic materials as a result of the data collected.

This exciting initiative is made possible by Methy Pathways Board of Buffalo Narrows, North West Region III Employment & Training of Beauval, Dumont Technical Institute in Saskatoon, Northlands College of Buffalo Narrows, Metis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon and the Clarence Campeau Development Fund. These organizations are working together with SIAST to ensure quality programming that meets the needs of our citizens, our communities, future employers and our Metis Nation. Applicants to the program must be of Metis ancestry, be a resident of northwest Saskatchewan and have a Grade 12 or GED. Interested individuals may contact either of the two northern Metis employment & training offices for more information. Any Metis regions or other organizations who wish to undertake a similar program can contact the Research Department at the Metis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan head office in Saskatoon.

Thank-you to those who have supported Batoche 2000:



Gabriel Dumont Institute
of Native Studies and Applied Research



METIS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OF SASKATCHEWAN INC.



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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.

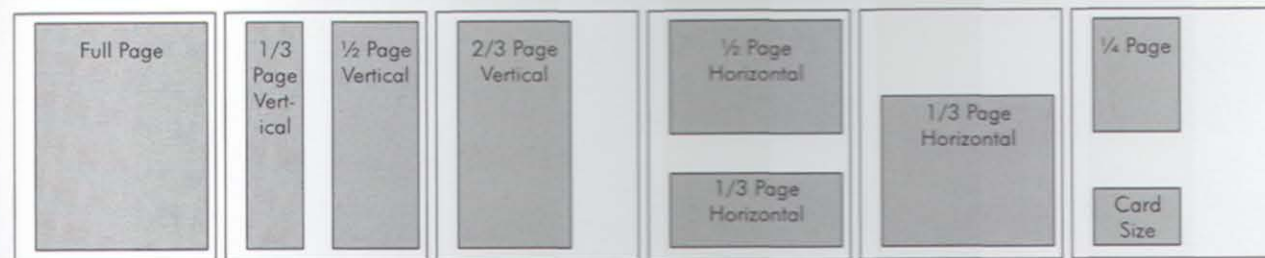
We publish and distribute 1500 copies bi-monthly and reach in excess of 130 communities across Saskatchewan through the Métis Local and Affiliate offices. There are also numerous subscription holders across the province and nation.

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@metsi.sk.ca.

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