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# A. Introduction

The development of this report was a result of many strategic planning sessions within the Publishing Department. We felt that it was imperative to provide Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) staff, the community, our numerous funding agents, partners and provincial departments of education with an inclusive report of GDI's Publishing Program. To date, no other report of this magnitude has been made available. This document reflects the challenges, growth and accomplishments that we have encountered since our inception during the mid-1980s. As well, this report will encourage us to reflect on what we have accomplished and give us the opportunity to assess where improvements are needed. It is our hope that this process will help us identify areas of potential growth and expansion which fall within our mandate.

I would like to thank Darren Préfontaine and Todd Paquin for their editorial assistance and Cheryl Troupe for this document's research, layout, design, and editing. I would also like to thank Calvin Racette for valuable information on the Publishing Department's formative years.

Please feel free to respond to this report. Your input, as always, helps to strengthen our Publishing Program.

Leah Dorion-Paquin, Coordinator, Publishing Department



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# B. MANDATE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

### MANDATE OF THE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Publishing Department has the following multi-faceted mandate:

- To provide the public with a balanced analysis of Métis history and culture by producing audio, audio-visual and multimedia resources, books and posters from a Métis perspective;
- To promote and publish the works of emerging Métis writers and artists;
- To put all sales revenue back into our non-profit publishing program;
- To build partnerships with like-minded educators, community groups, non-profit agencies and government departments and to ensure a strong Métis presence in decision-making bodies affecting book publishing, education and heritage issues; and,
- To inform the public about Métis history and culture in the most accessible manner possible.

### OBJECTIVES/GOALS OF THE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

The Publishing Department strives to develop high-quality, Métis-specific resources in order to instil pride amongst the Métis and to inform the larger community about the Métis' role in building Canada. Our resources are specifically designed to fill a void in the available curricula relating to the Métis experience.

Eleven of the Institute's publications have been placed on Saskatchewan Education's "Recommended Resource List"

# C. HISTORY OF THE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

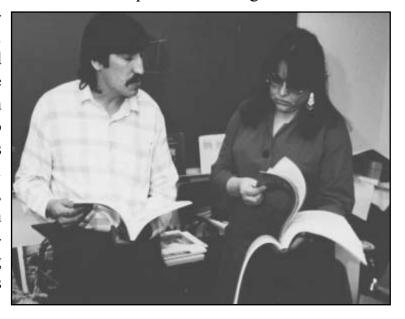
### 1. 1985 to 1990: The Early Years

In the early 1980s, very few Métis were writing about Métis history. GDI's founders recognized that there was a clear need for educational, literary and general information titles from a Métis perspective since most contemporary literature perpetuated negative stereotypes about the Métis. It was hoped, through the establishment of the Curriculum and Publishing Department in 1980, that the Métis would gain more respect for their heritage when provided with a history written from their own perspective. Publishing was, and still is, seen as the best means to instil a healthy respect for Métis peoples' contribution to Canada's development. By 1985, the Curriculum and Publishing Department began producing literary and educational materials to fill in this large void in the historical record.

GDI's Mission Statement: To promote the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and the distribution of those materials and the development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.

From 1980-1985, GDI worked diligently to produce quality Métis-specific resources. Much of the Native Studies materials produced during this time was for

internal use or for crosscultural educational programs. Often, the Department relied on Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) graduates develop curriculum resources or projects were contracted out. Two **SUNTEP** graduates, Joanne Pelletier and Calvin Racette, produced groundbreaking publications during the Curriculum Department's early years.



Calvin Racette and Joanne Pelletier in the early 1980s

Joanne Pelletier's Métis Historical Booklet Series (1985) offered the first attempt by a Métis Curriculum Developer to analyze aspects of Canada's past from a Métis perspective. In *The Skirmish at Seven* Oaks, Joanne deconstructed the historical biases surrounding the 1816 Battle of Seven Oaks, which both popular and academic historians have long maintained was a 'savage' massacre of 'helpless' Selkirk Settlers by the bois brûlés (the Métis). In The Buffalo Hunt, Joanne provides young readers with insights into the socioeconomic lifestyle of Plains Métis during the nineteenth century, including excerpts from the famous 'Law of the Prairie'. In The Red River Insurgence 1869-70, Joanne examines the events leading up to the

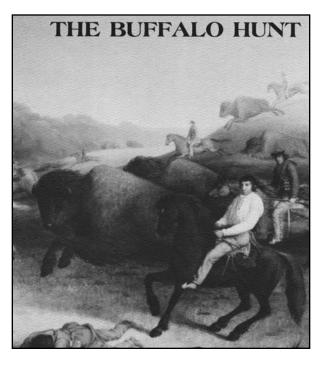
Originally from Indian Head, Saskatchewan, Joanne Pelletier is currently the Coordinator of the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) in Regina. Joanne was one of SUNTEP's first graduates in 1984. Upon completing her education, she became a Curriculum Development Officer with the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI). While with GDI's Curriculum Department, she wrote the groundbreaking Métis Historical Booklet Series – the first time that a Métis curriculum developer analyzed the Métis spirit of resistance in the nineteenth century. After her original tenure with GDI, Joanne taught elementary school with the Regina Public School Division, then became its Indian and Métis Education Consultant and was finally a Native Studies Consultant with the Saskatchewan Department of Education, where

she helped develop the Native Studies 30 Course. After obtaining her M.Ed. from the University of Regina (U of R), She became a U of R associate faculty member and a lecturer for the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College. In 1998, she was hired as the Coordinator for SUNTEP Regina.



resistance, the sequence of events during the turmoil, and the end results and aftermath for the Métis. In *The Northwest Resistance of* 

1885, Joanne outlines the factors which forced the Métis to take up arms and defend their rights in the Saskatchewan District.



The last two booklets in the six part series are biographies of Métis leaders Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont. Her biography of Riel does not examine his involvement in the events of 1869 or 1885, but, rather lets the reader develop an understanding of the forces which shaped his life. Finally, her biography of Gabriel Dumont was only the second time in which the life of this great leader was portrayed in biography format. Joanne greatly contributed to our knowledge about this legendary man and about Métis history in general.

Calvin Racette's achievements as a Curriculum Developer included researching and writing the *Métis Development in the Canadian* West Series (1985) and the Flags of the Métis (1987). The five part series, complete with glossary, user's guide, maps, illustrations and historical documents was benchmark for the Institute. This series was the first GDI resource to recommended be on many provincial educational department's reading lists, which has contributed

Calvin attended the Gabriel Dumont Institute's, Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP) in the early 1980s. After graduating with his Bachelor of Education, Calvin worked in GDI's Curriculum Department and is the author of several booklets and other educational materials relating to Métis history and culture. Calvin later became vice-principal at Bert Fox High School in Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. He spent five years there as a Native Studies and Math teacher. Calvin returned to GDI as the Assistant Executive Director in 1998. In 2000, he was made Executive Director. He has gone full circle at GDI: he has been a

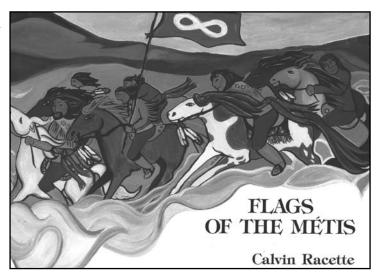
student, a staff member, a board member and is now a director. He has finished his post-graduate diploma in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Regina and is planning to complete his Master of Education thesis in the near future.



to its popularity. In this series, Calvin demonstrates that the Métis sought reconciliation with Canada for a decade after the 1869-70

insurgence. However, it was only after numerous pleas for support and recognition fell on Ottawa's deaf ears that the Métis began their resistance that led to the events of 1885. At the time of publication, no Canadian historian had made this claim and only foreign academics, such as Auguste de Trémaudan and Joseph Howard, articulated this historical fact.

Like the *Métis Development* Series, Calvin's Flags of the Métis is approved by Saskatchewan Education. This book is richly illustrated by Sherry Farrellis the Racette. and only monograph that explains the historical development of Métis flags. No other monograph has provided such an in-depth analysis of Métis patriotic symbols.



Wherever we look in this world, we can see that flags of all colours emerge to express the nationalist sentiments of the groups flying those flags. The Metis are no exception. Significant milestones in the history of Metis nationalism were earmarked with a flying banner.

Calvin Racette Flags of the Metis

During this period of the great deal of between various GDI departliterary titles. three books with the Institute: Home From the Hill: A History

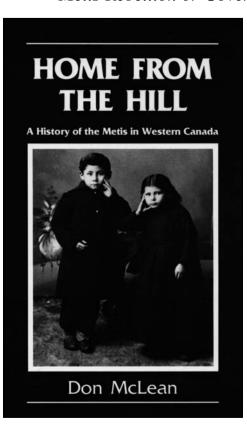
Institute's history there was a cooperation ments to produce curriculum and Out of this cooperation emerged the work of GDI Research Officer Don McLean. Don left a legacy of Although not Aboriginal, Don McLean has always been sympathetic to the concerns of Canada's Indigenous peoples. A sociologist by training, he became interested in how the Métis became a surplus population following the 1821 merger of the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) and the North West Company (NWC). Don's MA thesis maintains that after most Métis fur trade employees were let go by the newly expanded HBC, they could only make an adequate living through direct competition with the fur trade giant. As a result of fierce competition between the HBC and the Métis fur traders, the Company orchestrated a racist campaign against the gens du libre (Métis). This thesis of freedom loving Métis democrats in conflict with coercive European authority was woven throughout his three

books; the HBC was merely replaced by the Canadian State in the 1869-1885 period, and afterwards.



of the Metis in Western Canada (Editions I and II) (1987), Fifty Historical Vignettes: Views of the Common People (1987), and 1885: Metis Rebellion or Government Conspiracy? (1985).

Throughout the three books, Don presents the idea that the Métis were a freedom loving, democratic people in conflict with coercive European authority. For instance, in Metis Rebellion or Government Conspiracy?, Don critically examines the causes of the



1885 Resistance and presents documented evidence that the Canadian government may have conspired to force the Métis into a state of armed rebellion. Don argues that the federal government, through the actions of conspirators such as Lawrence Clarke, instigated the 1885 Resistance in order to assist the Prince Albert Colonization Company's ongoing speculation of Métis lands and to build the Canadian Pacific Railway. In *Home From the Hill*, he examines the historical growth of the Métis in Western Canada from their beginnings in the fur trade to the present time. Finally, Don wrote Fifty Historical Vignettes, a popular history of the Prairie Métis. This book contains 50 human-interest vignettes from various aspects of the Métis past. Fifty Historical Vignettes has maintained a consistent popularity with the general public.

In January 1988, participants in the Native Studies workshop at the GDI's Cultural Conference recommended shifting the focus of the Curriculum Department's Native Studies section. Up to that time, the majority of the materials developed had been of a historical nature. The Institute's new focus became the contemporary classroom. The views expressed in the workshop about the needs of Métis children enabled us to move in this



Anne Dorion at a GDI cultural conference

direction. The priorities identified were: the development of Native languages; K-12 Native Studies Curriculum; children's books; books about Métis role models and identity; workshops on Métis traditions; and, a book on Métis war veterans.

As a Métis veteran, from the Second World War, I must indicate my great pleasure with this excellent Gabriel Dumont Institute book. Finally, the Métis have a book to document their experiences in twentieth century war. This book, which was nominated for a Saskatchewan Book Award in 1997, pays tribute to Canada's truly forgotten warriors, the Métis.

Frank Tomkins, Past President National Aboriginal Veterans' Association ,Saskatchewan Charter

Since Métis history is largely derived from the oral tradition, the Curriculum Department felt it was imperative to preserve our stories. It was then that the Curriculum Department conducted numerous interviews with Métis Elders in an attempt to create a collection of Métis primary sources. For instance, GDI launched

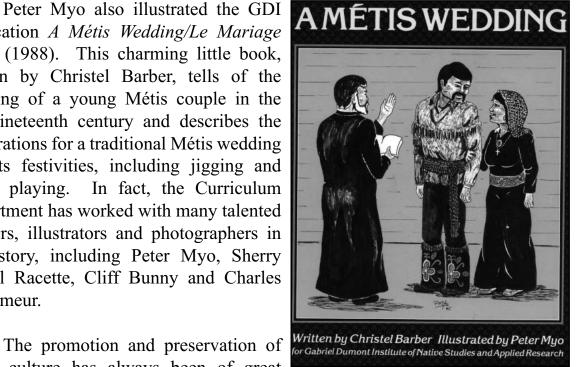


its 'Centenary Project' in 1985, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Batoche. This project consisted of conducting numerous interviews with Elders regarding their life experiences. Another major initiative during this time involved GDI employees interviewing Métis veterans about thier wartime experiences. In 1995, the Institute used these interviews to publish *Remembrances: Interviews With Métis Veterans*. This is the only monograph that deals exclusively with the Métis' experiences in three of Canada's 20th century wars. *Remembrances* was nominated for a Saskatchewan Book Award in 1997.

In the early 1980s, the Curriculum Department greatly contributing to the Institute's internal programming. Originally, the Curriculum Department was part of the GDI's Native Studies and Research Department and by 1981-82, had completed a Métis Awareness Materials package, a Non-Status, Indian and Métis information source book, and a few slide presentations.

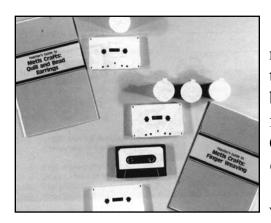
One of GDI's first multi-media projects was 'Gabriel Dumont: Metis Legend' (1985). In this filmstrip, which was later released as a video, Gabriel Dumont's life is depicted from the time of his birth in 1837 to his retirement in the late nineteenth century. We see Dumont's development as a youth learning the ways of his people and his leadership as an adult helping his people make the transition from buffalo hunting to agriculture. It is in this context that his role in the 1885 Resistance is presented. Peter Myo, an illustrator and Curriculum Developer, painted a series of watercolours depicting various events in Dumont's life, which formed the basis of the filmstrip/video project.

Peter Myo also illustrated the GDI publication A Métis Wedding/Le Mariage Métis (1988). This charming little book, written by Christel Barber, tells of the wedding of a young Métis couple in the mid-nineteenth century and describes the preparations for a traditional Métis wedding and its festivities, including jigging and fiddle playing. In fact, the Curriculum Department has worked with many talented painters, illustrators and photographers in its history, including Peter Myo, Sherry Farrell Racette, Cliff Bunny and Charles Belhumeur.



Métis culture has always been of great

importance to the Curriculum Department. In the 1980s, staff undertook an enormous image collection project to this end. They examined archives across Canada and purchased any and all photographs relating to the Métis. Some of these archives included the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, the Montana Historical Society, the National Archives of Canada, Glenbow Archives and numerous provincial archives. Throughout the years, this collection of photos has proven itself invaluable, as many have been reproduced numerous times for GDI projectsOne of the most durable attempts to explain Métis material culture for both the primary and secondary educational systems has been *The Metis: Two Worlds Meet* (1985). This is a compilation of 36 study prints written by Sherry Farrell-Racette, Calvin Racette and Joanne Pelletier. Complete with a teacher's guide, photographic images and written text, these study prints have remained one of the Institute's most popular resources. The study prints are presented in seven themes: Home and Lifestyle, Clothing, Transportation, Work, Métis Men, Métis Women and Political Events. Many of the photographs depict aspects of Métis material culture such as the sash, beaded moccasins and an example of a Red River coat. These study prints continue to adorn classroom walls today.



In order to better demonstrate the rich material culture of the Métis and to preserve traditional skills, the Curriculum Department began producing audio and visual resources. Two film strip kits developed by Lorna Payne and Calvin Racette to meet this need include 'Metis Crafts: Quill and Bead Earrings' (1985) and 'Metis Crafts: Finger Weaving' (1985). These widely-used filmstrip kits contained three

filmstrips, audiotapes and a teacher's guide with step-by-step instructions. There was a real need for these types of resources since they demonstrated the Métis' traditional craft-making techniques.

In 1989, GDI began publishing the *Journal of Indigenous Studies* to provide an open forum for the dissemination of scholarly research, discussion, and ideas. It was a refereed, semi-annual journal that sought to better elucidate issues of importance to the world's Indigenous peoples. The content included articles pertaining to Indigenous administration, anthropology, arts, ecology, education, ethnography, health, language, law, linguistics, literature, political science and sociology. Unfortunately, the Journal is now out of publication.

### 2. 1990 TO 1995: Publishing Activities

The period from 1990-1995 saw a shift in focus of GDI's publishing activities. While writing informational titles for adults has been an important focus of the Curriculum Department, there was also a real need for more culturally affirming literature for Métis children and youth. To meet this need, the Curriculum

Department began publishing vibrantly illustrated literary materials for younger readers. Even today, one of our main priorities remains the promotion and development of Métis-specific children's books.

The first children's book published at the Institute was Sherry Farrell-Racette's *The Flower Beadwork People* (1991). To date, this book remains Sherry's most notable artistic and literary contribution to the Institute. As a talented artist, her watercolour paintings were included in the *Flags of* 

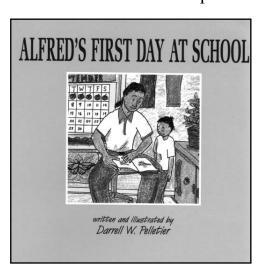
A member of the Timiskaming First Nation of Québec, Sherry was one of the early builders of the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI). During her tenure with GDI – as an educator, author and illustrator – she has provided an endurable legacy of highly praised, and highly artistic work such as The Flower Beadwork People, Flags of the Métis, Keep Your Spirit Free and A Nation

is Not Conquered. She has also illustrated for Maria Campbell's Stories of the Road Allowance People and Freda Ahenakew's Wisahkecahk Flies to the Moon. Sherry is currently pursuing her doctorate in Traditional Métis clothing and adornment at the University of Manitoba. From January 24 to April 21, 2002, an exhibition of Sherry's artwork will be on display at the MacKenzie Art Gallery in Regina, Saskatchewan.



the Métis, have been used for two popular posters, 'Keep Your Spirit Free' and 'A Nation is Not Conquered' and have adorned numerous GDI reports.

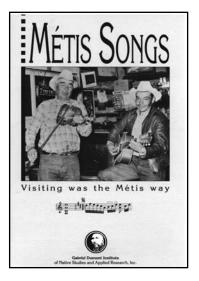
Carrying on a tradition of employing GDI graduates to produce literary titles, the Curriculum Department hired talented SUNTEP graduate, writer and artist, Darrell Pelletier to produce the five books of *The Alfred Reading Series* (1992):



Alfred's First Day at School, Alfred's Summer, The Pow Wow, The Big Storm and Lisa and Sam. These books, written for primary school-aged children, tell the story of a young Aboriginal boy, Alfred, and his sister, Lisa. Through these books, young readers gain an appreciation of contemporary First Nations and Métis culture. This series is available in Cree, French, English and Michif. Also available is the Alfred Reading Series Come and Read with Us narration component in all four languages on compact disc and cassette.

The Métis have always been fond of visiting, story telling, singing, jigging and fiddle playing. The Curriculum Department has taken a lead role in producing resources that help to promote and preserve traditional Métis folk culture. For instance, 'Steps in Time: Métis Dance' is an instructional video which demonstrates basic steps for such Métis dances as the 'Red River Jig', the 'Duck Dance' and the 'Rabbit Chase Dance'.

The Department also produced a songbook entitled *Métis Songs: Visiting was the Métis Way* (1993) in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association and Dr. Lynne Whidden. Officially released in mid-February at Showcase '93, this interesting book contains over 80 songs researched by Dr. Whidden. It includes: love songs; fun songs; contemporary songs; instrumental fiddle tunes; spoken tales; First Nations songs; songs in Michif; French-Canadian and French songs; and songs written by Louis Riel including'*La métisse*' and '*Sur le champ de bataille*'.



Providing educational resources and material for teachers from 1990 to 1995 continued to be an integral activity for the Department. One of these projects was *The Canadian Atlas of Aboriginal Settlement* (1989) and an updated version in 1993. This useful and popular resource contains maps relating to the linguistic and tribal distribution of First Peoples in Canada, the Métis dispersals in 1869-70 and 1885, First Nations' Treaty Areas, reserves in Saskatchewan and the structure of Métis political structures throughout Canada.

During the early 1990s, the Curriculum Department developed three posters. One, with artwork by Sherry Farrell-Racette, is entitled 'A Nation is Not Conquered' and celebrates the strength and diversity of Aboriginal women. It was originally purchased, in quantity, by the Saskatchewan Indian and Métis Secretariat for general distribution. The second poster released honours Métis war veterans. In 1993, the Curriculum Department saw the opportunity to develop a third poster to give hope and inspiration to the entire Métis Nation as we strive towards our



ultimate goal of self-government. This poster reunites the spirits of our past leaders, Gabriel Dumont and Louis Riel at Dumont's gravesite. An appropriate quote from Riel's diary dated April 29, 1885 is contained on the poster: "Oh my Métis Nation! Take Courage...I see your change: It is great...the more you lend your support to truth, [the more it] will make you great, strong and powerful."

Many educators and community people comment on how valuable GDI posters have been towards instilling an appreciation of Aboriginal culture in young people. These posters have long been popular not only because they are beautifully illustrated but, also, because they have positive messages.

#### 3. 1995 TO 2001: PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

The period of 1996-2001 saw the Curriculum Department maintaining its committeent to producing culturally affirming children's books, but included a shift towards developing multimedia and virtual/digital resources. As well, the Department became heavily involved in producing cultural programming and

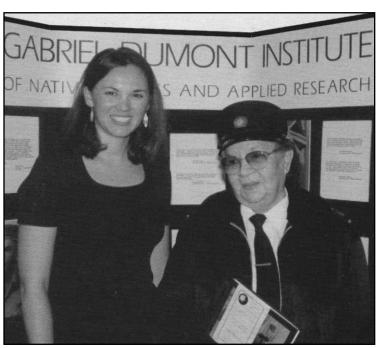
language preservation initiatives.

In 1996, the Department worked with Saskatoon-based recording studio 'Right **Tracks** Sound' the on audiocassette and compact disc. 'Singing to Keep Time – A Collection of Métis Songs'. This compilation of songs was the Institute's first audio collection of traditional and contemporary Métis songs, and includes the ever-popular Michif song 'Kispin Kisakihin'.



L to R; Ross: Staff Right Tracks Studio, Lyndon Smith, Right tracks Studio and Kenny Marco, Musician

One of the most rewarding activities during these six years has been the successful printing and marketing of the Métis veterans book *Remembrances: Interviews with Métis Veterans*. The Department managed to get financial support

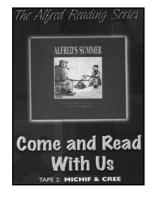


Leah Dorion-Paquin and Edith Merrifield at Veterans' book launch

from the Canada Council of the Arts, Saskatchewan Heritage, and Saskatchewan Education for its printing. We held four very successful book launches in Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Regina and in Cumberland House. Since its launch. Remembrances has been very well received by Métis veterans, the Métis community and the general public. In acknowledgement of this popularity, Remembrances was nominated for our first-ever Saskatchewan Book Award on November 21, 1997.

In 1998, the Curriculum and Publishing Department produced a read-along companion to the *Alfred Reading Series* to help improve literacy among young children. Entitled *Come Read With Us* the stories of the *Alfred Reading Series* can now be listened to are in Cree, Michif, English or French.

The narrators on 'Come Read With Us' include Chris Blondeau-Perry, Tyrone Tootoosis, Valerie O'Reilly and Karon Shmon. Chris Blondeau-Perry was born near the Souris River and her Métis upbringing included speaking the Michif language. Chris has made a commitment to preserving her language. She currently resides in Yellow Quill where she writes, draws and rides horses. Tyrone Tootoosis is a Cree from Poundmaker First Nation. He is an actor, translator and writer. Valerie O'Reilly is a Fransaskoise from Saskatoon. Valerie has a teaching degree , which specializes in French Immersion She is a mother of three and enjoys singing in her spare time. Karon Shmon was the Executive Director of GDI in 1999-2000. She has extensive experience in K-12 education as a teacher and consultant.

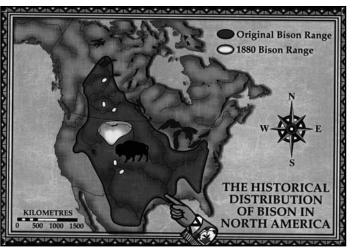


In 1999, Leah Dorion-Paquin and Darren Préfontaine, in partnership with Lawrence Barkwell of the Manitoba Métis Federation, wrote a bibliographical essay entitled "Deconstructing Métis Historiography" to accompany a bibliography of all known Métis resources. This timely resource entitled *Resources for Métis Researchers*, includes over 2000 listings of literary, audio, audiovisual and multimedia resources and proves to be an invaluable resource for Métis researchers.

This impressive work is the most comprehensive listing of written material about and by the Métis people. It is an invaluable tool for any researcher or student of Native Studies.

Paul L.A.H. Chartrand, Former Commissioner Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples

1999-2000 witnessed our largest and most diverse resource development since 1985. Part of this major growth and productivity can be attributed to the Michif Language and Métis Cultural Centre Initiatives. Our biggest milestone for this year was the completion of *The Metis: Our People: Our Story* CD-ROM, which was officially launched at the Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival on September 1,

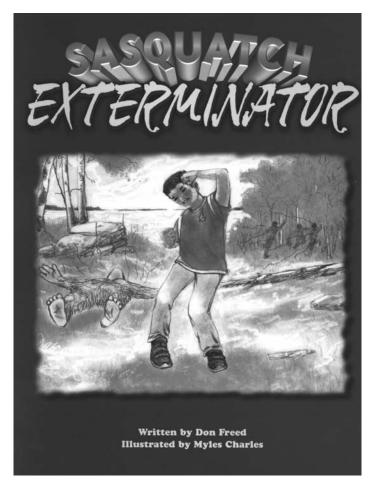


2000. The Metis: Our People, Our Story provides a holistic view of Métis history and culture, and is divided into community, social, economic and political life sections. With hundreds of screens of information and thousands of images, biographies, video clips, music bites, maps and charts, this CD-ROM is the most comprehensive multimedia analysis of Métis culture available.

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

Christie Belcourt, Communications Director Metis National Council

In the summer of 1999, the Publishing Department launched the *Sasquatch Exterminator*, a book and sing-a-long compact disc, at Cumberland House with teachers, community members, parents and students present. This book was in response to a strong demand for children's literature at the grade four level. What made this project unique is that the book was written by children for children. It was created from a song written by Don Freed and primary school-aged children from Cumberland House.





Don Freed and children at Cumberland House

In 2000, GDI published Changes by author and illustrator Penny Condon. Written and illustrated by Penny, the response to this book has been excellant. We are currently striving to publish Changes in Michif. Months after its release, Changes was nominated for a Saskatchewan Book Award in the First People's Publishing Category. To further develop this project, the

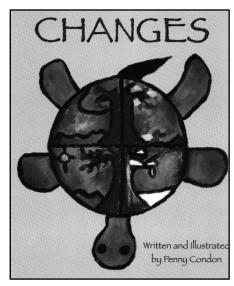
Penny Condon is an emerging Métis artist and author from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Besides possessing a B.Ed. from the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teachers' Education Program, Penny took three years of Fine Arts classes at the University of Saskatchewan. Having just written and illustrated two books, My Family and Changes, Penny has begun teaching. Her hobbies include spending time with her daughter Sydney and husband Verne, working with children, drawing, painting and photography. For her children's books, Penny employs a modified version of the 'Woodland' art style in the tradition of Daphne Odjig and Norval Morrisseau. She feels that this style is ideal for children's

books since it "is a nice refreshing change... This idea alone lets you get as creative as you want, (and) it takes me back to being a child..." Penny's first book, Changes, was nominated for a Saskatchewan Book Award in 2000.



Department was able to access funds from the Canada Council for the Arts to narrate *Changes* in both Michif and English. This resource, entitled *The Turtle's Teachings*, is now available on both cassette and compact disc.





In May 2001, the Department published Penny's second book entitled My Family, with assistance from the Saskatchewan Arts Board. As a result of these activities, we have become the most active Canadian publisher of Métisspecific children's books.

During the past five years, we have done a great deal towards accomplishing our goal of creating a diverse body of multi-media and visual resources for the K-12 system and for the Métis community. One of the Department's priorities has been to continue to develop Michif language resources, as very few educational resources exist in Michif. To fill this void, the Department completed the first known Michif video entitled, *Li Michif: Kakee-Payshee-Peekishkwaywuk-Oma*. Future plans for this project include developing a teacher's guide, glossary, and a subtitled edition. To accompany the video, a poster was printed to raise awareness about the Michif language.



Making Bannock - Crescent Lake video shoot - June 2000



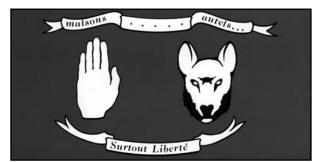
Snaring Rabbits - Crescent Lake video shoot - June 2000

The Department also developed a new poster series called 'Learning for Generations to Come', which pays tribute to GDI's role in supporting and developing Métis education during the past twenty years. In addition, we now distribute replicas of the 1885 Resistance Standard, which the Métis so proudly and bravely carried during the Battle of Batoche in 1885.

The flag contains the following caption, "maisons...autles...surtout liberté," which literally means "In our homes, at the alter, above freedom." The hand and wolf emblazoned on the standard means, "We lift our hand in prayer to the Lord that he may grant us the courage of the wolf to defend our homes."

Calvin Racette Flags of the Métis

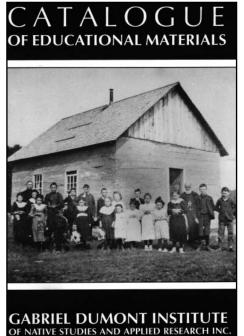




1885 Métis Resistance Battle Standard

# 4. 1995 TO 2001: REBUILDING AND RESTRUCTURING THE PUBLISHING/ CURRICULUM DEPARTMENT

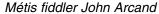
### a) CHANGING ROLE OF THE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT



The original vision of the Department was to develop Métis curricula for the K-12 system. However, this focus has shifted somewhat to allow for the production of Métis-specific resources for post-secondary courses and for a general audience. In addition, the Department has made great strides towards strengthening its publishing program, specifically by supporting the works of emerging Métis authors and artists. The Department works closely with Métis musicians and film producers in order to promote Métis artistic achievement and to provide our customers with further audio and audio-visual resources.

With the downsizing of the Institute in the early 1990s, the Publishing Department assumed some of the responsibilities of the former Research and Development Department. For instance, a major function of the Department today is to collect, document and analyze historical and contemporary information







Métis fiddler Richard Lafferty

relevant to Saskatchewan's Métis, as well as to assist Métis communities in preserving their cultural, educational, social and economic circumstances. To this end, the Department also liases with government departments, agencies and other authorities concerned with creating educational strategies, programs and services responsive to the needs of the Métis.

### b) STRENGTHS OF THE PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

The Publishing Department is a small but efficient unit and has proven able to adapt itself to the needs of the community. The Department fulfils its mandate through implementing unique strategies and by approaching obstacles in a flexible, versatile, and open-minded manner. Because of its small size, any success the Publishing Department can claim must be attributed to its core of knowledgeable and well-trained employees, who are dedicated to working collaboratively in order to meet its many deadlines. Currently, the Publishing Department's staff includes Leah Dorion-Paquin, (Coordinator); Darren Préfontaine, (Curriculum Developer); Cheryl Troupe, (Curriculum Developer) and Blanche Gehriger, (Clerk-Steno). Some of the Publishing Department's Staff many duties include:

- Fundraising for the book publishing program;
- Developing Métis-specific curriculum;
- Liasing with the public at cultural events and workshops;
- Working in partnership with like-minded cultural and educational agencies to ensure the presence of a strong Métis voice;
- Providing historical and genealogical information to the public;
- Researching and writing reports relating to the Métis' educational experience in Saskatchewan;
- Lecturing to primary, secondary and post-secondary students;
- Writing critical academic reviews of Native Studies and Canadian History books; and,
- Reviewing existing primary and secondary resources for Eurocentric or other historical biases.



Leah Dorion-Paquin, Program Coordinator

Leah Dorion-Paquin is a Métis from Prince Albert. She completed her B. Ed. and B. A. in Native Studies at the University of Saskatchewan. Leah specializes in curriculum development and educational book publishing, lectures in the post-secondary system and conducts cross-cultural training. Since 1995, she has worked as GDI's Publishing Coordinator. Leah is an experienced writer and researcher in Métis history and has instructed courses through the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Regina and the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College. She plans to obtain her M.A or M.Ed. in the near future.



Darren Préfontaine, Curriculum Developer

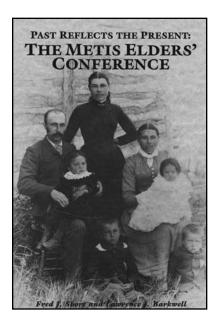
Darren Préfontaine, originally from Rockglen, Saskatchewan, majored in History at the University of Regina (B.A.), the University of Saskatchewan (B.A. Honours Courses) and York University (M.A.). After finishing his academic studies in 1996, Darren became employed with GDI, where he is currently a lecturer, writer, researcher, publishing support officer, curriculum developer and community resource person. His fields of knowledge are in French-Canadian, Prairie, Canadian Political and Métis History. Darren has helped deliver Native Studies courses for GDI, the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan.



Cheryl Troupe, Curriculum Developer

Cheryl Troupe, originally from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, recently completed a B.A. (Honours) degree in Native Studies at the University of Saskatchewan where she received the Arts and Science Convocation Award for the Most Distinguished Graduate of Native Studies for 2001. Upon completing her studies, she began work with GDI's Publishing Department where she is presently a curriculum developer, writer and researcher.

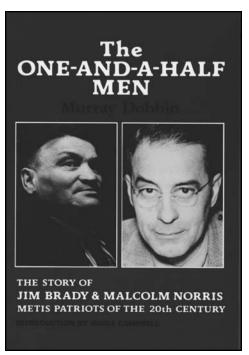
### c) CHALLENGES FOR THE DEPARTMENT



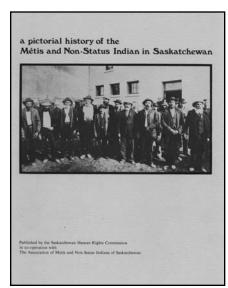
As a non-profit publisher, GDI has often had difficulty in obtaining funding for project development; therefore, the Institute often needed to secure additional funding in order to expand the Publishing Department's capacity and infrastructure. In the past few years, we have had great success in accessing grants to improve the Institute's publishing program. In fact, creative fundraising has allowed many of our projects to come to fruition.

We have experienced major growth and productivity in the last number of years. However, an increase in the Publishing Department's internal budget allocation is necessary for future project development, marketing and promotions. Funding increases will help meet the Department's need for more staff with Aboriginal language,

technical and fund-raising expertise. Currently, the Department contracts out many services including external reviewers, editors, researchers and translators. In the future, it would be beneficial to have these services available in-house rather than on a contract basis.



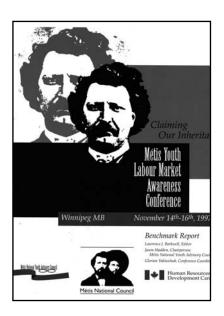
As a result of funding constraints, the Publishing Department often obtains printing or distribution rights



to relevant educational and cultural materials produced by independent authors, filmmakers and musicians rather than publishing these works in-house. For instance, GDI obtained printing rights for Murray Dobbin's The One-And-A-Half Men: The Story of Jim Brady and Malcolm Norris, Métis Patriots of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Other cultural and educational resources that GDI has and/or still distributes include:

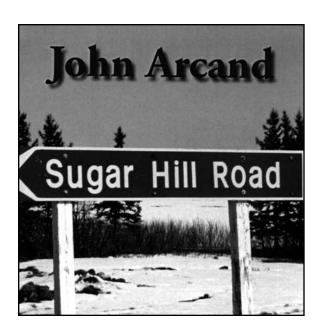
- A Pictorial History of the Métis and Non-Status Indian in Saskatchewan (1976) written by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission and the Association of Métis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan
- The Bushland People (1992) written by Terry Garvin
- Stories of the Road Allowance People (1995) written by Maria Campbell
- Prayers of a Métis Priest (1997) written by Father Guy Lavallée
- Claiming Our Inheritance: Métis Youth Labour Market Awareness Conference (1997) edited by Lawrence Barkwell
- Past Reflects the Present: The Métis Elders Conference (1997) edited by Lawrence Barkwell and Fred Shore
- *Fiddle About* Bird Song Communications
- Batoche: One More Time Marjorie Beaucage
- *Metis Summer* Lorraine Freeman for the Metis Resource Centre
- The Road Allowance People and Métis Scrip System (1997) Ken Shaffer METCOM Productions



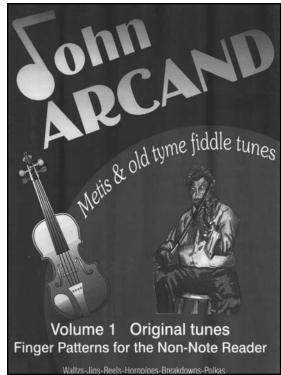


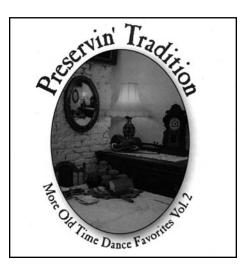
'Fiddle About' video shoot - Staff Bird Song Communications, John Arcand and Calvin Volrath

- The Edmonton Metis Cultural Dancers Instructional Video Edmonton Metis Cultural Dancers
- Gabriel's Crossing: Aboriginal Fiddling (1998) Turtle Island Music
- Singing About the Metis (1996) Don Freed with Prince Albert Students
- *Metis and Old Tyme Fiddle Tunes* Volumes I-IV (1996) John Arcand
- La Celebration '92 (1992) John Arcand
- Tunes of the Red River (1998) John Arcand
- Traditionally Yours (2001) John Arcand
- Preservin' Tradition Volumes I-II Dean Bernier









### D. CURRENT AND ONGOING PROJECTS

### 1. CURRENT PROJECTS

The Publishing Department continues to develop educational and informative Métis-specific books for youth, adults and the Métis community. One of our on-going projects is the Métis Oral History Book Project, which was started with developmental funds from the Métis Cultural Centre Initiative. The goal of this project is to develop an oral history tentatively entitled, *Stories of Our People*. This book will be an important contribution to Canadian historiography because it will be the first comprehensive oral history of the Saskatchewan Métis. John Leclair was contracted to provide editing and research services for this project.

A major joint initiative between GDI and Manitoba's Louis Riel Institute is *Métis Legacy*, which was produced as a project of the Millennium Bureau of Canada. *Métis Legacy* details the contributions of the Métis to Canada, and is the most comprehensive annotated bibliography of Métis secondary sources available. It contains numerous original research essays delineating key aspects of Métis history not previously investigated in the historiography as well as an extensive photo collection of Métis material culture.

The Department has started work on a second Michif video tentatively entitled *Our Life on the Road Allowance*, which features the Michif-speaking community of Crescent Lake. We continue to work on its post-production,

narration, translation and editing. Gilbert Pelletier and Maria Campbell have played leading roles in developing this project. The Department has also received funding for the final production of this video from the Canada Council for the Arts and SaskCulture. Video footage from this project will form the basis for many future projects such as books, instructional materials and video vignettes.



Playing canny-can at the Crescent Lake video shoot - June 2000



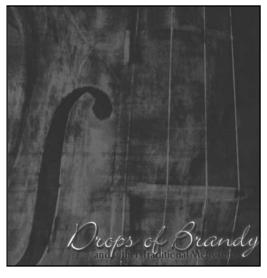


Crescent Lake video shoot - June 2000

Cutting wood at the Crescent Lake video shoot - June 2000

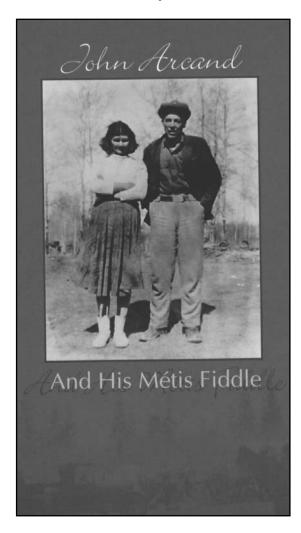
The Department continues to identify and interview Michif speakers. One of the ways in which Michif speakers are identified by the Institute is through our online registration at www.gdins.org. In the future, it would be extremely beneficial to have a Michif language specialist on staff in order to develop Michif resources and to work closely with Michif speakers.

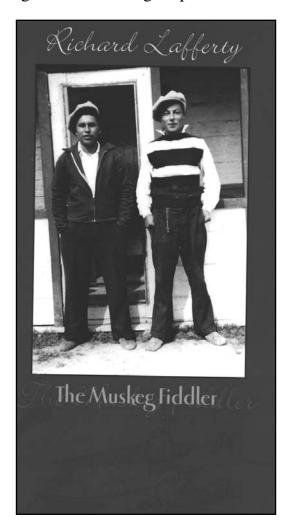
In 2000-2001, the Publishing Department provided a great deal of administrative support for the Métis Cultural Centre's Initiative (MCCI). We have worked closely with other Institute staff to implement the work plan, design the budget, and write reports. This initiative is funded through the Privy Council Office of the federal government under the direction of the Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Natural Resources and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians. This initiative had a major impact on our publishing program, resulting in financial support for several of our projects.



One of the projects that has emerged from this initiative is *Drops of Brandy*, a traditional Métis fiddle music compact disc compilation and accompanying book. The book will include interviews with well-known fiddle players, sheet music, a few stories about the fiddle, and a history of the fiddle tunes used in the anthology. Right Tracks Studio in Saskatoon is responsible for its sound engineering. This exhaustively researched resource will be available early in 2002.

As a spin-off of the fiddle music anthology, two video documentaries have been produced featureing two of the musicians on the compact disc compilation. The first video is entitled *John Arcand and his Métis Fiddle* and the second is entitled *Richard Lafferty: the Muskeg Fiddler*. It is hoped that other video documentaries will follow the success of the project. Additionally, the Department worked with Creerunner Productions to develop a series of Métis vignettes that will be broadcast nationally and distributed through the Publishing Department.

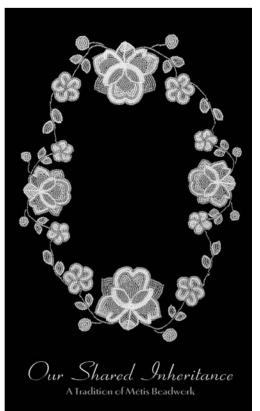




With funds from the MCCI, development of a new set of study prints to replace the now out of print *Where Two Worlds Meet* has begun. Intensive research and development has started for series one of this four part series, including acquiring images and artifacts from various museums and archives. This series will be divided into four thematic sections: Métis Dress and Design; Métis Lifeways; Métis Traditional Culture; and Métis Communities and Community Relations. To assist with the printing of this first series, the

Publishing Department has received funding from Saskatchewan Education's Aboriginal Education Unit. The new series of prints on Métis Dress and Design, entitled *Expressing Our Heritage: Métis Artistic Designs* will be released in early 2002, and will consist of fifty gallery quality prints and a corresponding resource manual.

Following the success of the first set of study prints, we are now developing a video documentary on



Métis beadwork designs from the community of Cumberland House. Featured in *Our Shared Inheritance: A Tradition of Métis Beadwork*,



Isabelle Impey and community members share their thoughts on the preservation of this traditional artform. The video will be released in early 2002.

The Métis Culture Centre Initiative has also encouraged the Institute to find matching funds for culturally based programs. The Department assisted the Métis Cultural Centre Coordinator, John Arcand, in developing funding proposals for fiddle and dance programs which were sent to various organizations. Funds were obtained from the City of Saskatoon/SaskLottery to begin a jigging and fiddling program in the fall of 2001.

Forthcoming Department projects include a virtual museum of Métis history and culture. This unique resource will allow our community to access our many valuable collections through the Internet. The Department has received funding for this timely initiative through the Canada Council for the Arts and SaskCulture. Another project that is being developed is entitled, *The Bulrush Helps the Pond*, by Ken Carriere, which synthesizes Métis traditional knowledge and western science. It will be in both Swampy Cree and English.

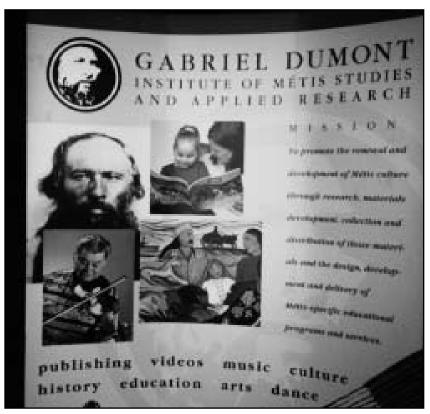
### 2. COMMUNITY DISPLAY PROGRAM

The Publishing Department prides itself on its active community involvement. We continue to participate in committees that support our publishing program and GDI's These committees include the mandate. **Publishers** Saskatchewan Group, the Saskatchewan Arts Board, the Museums Association Saskatchewan of and Saskatchewan Education's Aboriginal Education Provincial Advisory Committee.

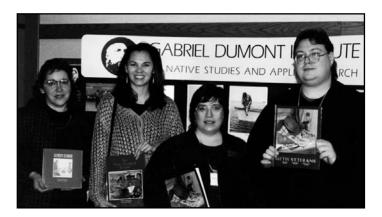
The Publishing Department believes that its success is due to being a community-based publisher. This has led us to increase the amount of time and energy that we spend within Métis communities and at community events. We sincerely believe,

through the support we receive, that we often serve as a liaison for the Métis community. To date, the **Publishing** Department has had a presence at over seventy Métis cultural and educational events across Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba. The following is a chronology of the educational and cultural events that the Publishing Department has attended to both promote our resources and represent GDI.





		GDI Display Program (1997-1999)
1997 1997 1997 1997 1997 1997	June 5-7 August 2-9 August 25 September 2 September 5-7 September 19 October 6-7	Mosaic - Regina, Saskatchewan Indigenous Games - Victoria, British Columbia Humboldt Collegiate Teacher's In-service - Humboldt, SK Métis Veterans Book Launch - Prince Albert, SK Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival Aboriginal Awareness Day- City of Saskatoon Women and Wellness Conference - Saskatoon
	November 5 November 4 November 14 November 15 November 20-21 November 27	Education Equity Forum - Saskatoon Métis Veterans Book Launch - St.Peter's College-Muenster Métis Nation Legislative Assembly - Saskatoon Métis Veterans Book Launch - Saskatoon Native Studies Teachers Conference - Regina Veterans for Justice and Fairness- Indian/Métis Friendship Centre



Marilyn Belhumeur, Leah Dorion-Paquin, Karon Shmon and Darren Préfontaine at Native Studies Teacher's Conference



Todd Paquin at Native Studies Teacher's Conference



Edward King and Frank Tomkins at the Remembrances book launch - Prince Albert



Remembrances book launch -Prince Albert

1998	February 2	University of Saskatchewan Open House
1998	February 24	Saskatoon Public School Teacher's In-service
1998	March 5	Métis Veterans Book Launch - Regina
1998	March 14	Saskatchewan Multicultural Council - Wanuskewin
1998	March 19-21	Northern Education Conference - Prince Albert
1998	March 25-27	Aboriginal Headstart Conference - Edmonton
1998	April 1-3	AWASIS conference - Saskatoon
1998	April 15-17	Youth for Human Rights Conference - Saskatoon
1998	April 23	Canada Book Fair Day - Regina
1998	May 25	SUNTEP AIDS Awareness Conference - Regina
1998	June 21	National Aboriginal Day - City of Saskatoon
1998	July 24-26	Back to Batoche Days
1998	July 1	Métis Veterans Book Launch - Cumberland House
1998	August 1-2	Palmbere Days - Buffalo Narrows
1998	August 7-9	Lebret Métis Days
1998	September 4-6	Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival
1998	September 14	E.D. Feehan High School - Saskatoon
1998	November 16	Louis Riel Day Celebrations
1998	November 24	Carpenter High School Career Day - Meadow Lake
1998	December 14-15	Fort Qu'Appelle Economic Development Conference



Remembrances book launch - Regina Frank Tomkins, Armand Fisher, Harold Ross, Peter Pellietier, Edith Merrifield, Charlie Fosseneave, Maurice Blondeau



Lebret Métis Days



Students Murray Bird and Marquita Neufeld at Remembrances book launch in Regina



1999 Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival -Leah Dorion-Paquin and jigging winner



Cumberland House Dancers - 2nd Place Junior Category - Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival

1999	January 28-29	NW Métis Land Claim Launch - Buffalo Narrows
1999	February 15-17	Honouring Diversity in the Classroom - Saskatoon
1999	February 23	Saskatoon Public School Division Teacher's Conference
1999	March 2	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly - Saskatoon
1999	March 10	Walter Murray Collegiate Career Fair - Saskatoon
1999	March 17	Nutana School Multicultural Heritage Day - Saskatoon
1999	March 25-26	AWASIS Conference - Saskatoon
1999	April 16-8	Saskatchewan Heritage Languages Conference
1999	April 23	Canada Book Day - Regina



Grand Entry of Veterans at 2000 Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival



GDI table at Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival 2000

2000	February 3-4	University of Saskatchewan Open House
2000	February 24-25	University of Regina West Cast
2000	March 2-4	METSI Conference – Saskatoon
2000	July 9-10	Buffalo Métis Settlement Youth Conference
2000	July 20-22	MNC Annual General Meeting
2000	July 24-29	Batoche 2000
2000	August 11-13	John Arcand Fiddlefest
2000	September 1-3	Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival
2000	October 17-18	Agen Conference – Saskatoon
2000	October 26-27	SUNTEP Recruitment
2000	December 1-2	METSI Conference



Children's events Back to Batoche Days 2000



Children's events Back to Batoche Days 2000



Fiddlefest 2000



Damas Arcand at John Arcand Fiddlefest 2000

2001	March 24-25	Prince Albert Youth Conference
2001	April 13-14	AWASIS Conference
2001	May 3	Saskatchewan Voices Conference – Saskatoon
2001	May 8	CUMFI Healing Project Workshop – Saskatoon
2001	May 31 – June 2	CINSA conference – Saskatoon
2001	June 5	Northern Voices conference – Prince Albert
2001	June 21	National Aboriginal Day – Saskatoon
2001	June 30	Métis Days – Willow Bunch
2001	June 30 – July 8	Ile-a-la crosse Celebrates 225 years – Ile-a-la crosse
2001	July 21 – 24	Lac Ste. Anne Pilgrimage – Lac Ste. Anne, Alberta
2001	July 27 – 29	Back to Batoche Days - Batoche
2001	August 10-12	Lebret Métis Days - Lebret
2001	August 10-12	John Arcand Fiddlefest – Saskatoon
2001	August 16-18	FolkFest - Saskatoon
2001	September 1-4	Lewiston Métis Celebration - Lewistown, Montana
2001	September 14-16	P.A. Métis Fall Festival - Prince Albert
2001	November 13-14	AGEN Conference - Saskatoon
2001	November 16	Louis Riel Day Celebration - Saskatoon
2001	November 15-18	Métisfest - Edmonton



Willow Bunch - June 2001



National Aboriginal Day, Friendship Park Saskatoon - June 21, 2001



Leah making bannock in Willow Bunch June 2001



Lac Ste. Anne Pilgramage - July 2001

# 3. Marketing Strategy and Publishing Department Sales

In May 1986, GDI prepared and launched our first catalogue of educational materials. This was the first step in our marketing strategy. Catalogues were distributed to schools across the prairie provinces and resulted in sales of We continued with the catalogue the over \$16,000. following year, sending them to schools and organizations west of Québec. The impact of the catalogue can be seen in the 43% increase in sales in 1988 over 1987. From the catalogues we saw not only increased sales, but Calvin Racette's Métis Development Series was placed on the recommended book list for Ontario high schools. However, in 1991, sales of curriculum materials only totalled \$15,000. The imposition of the GST and then the imposition and subsequent cancellation of the PST on books and educational materials made book marketing difficult.

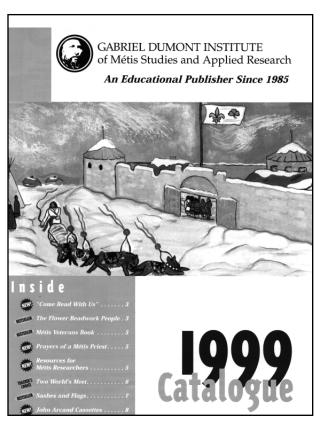




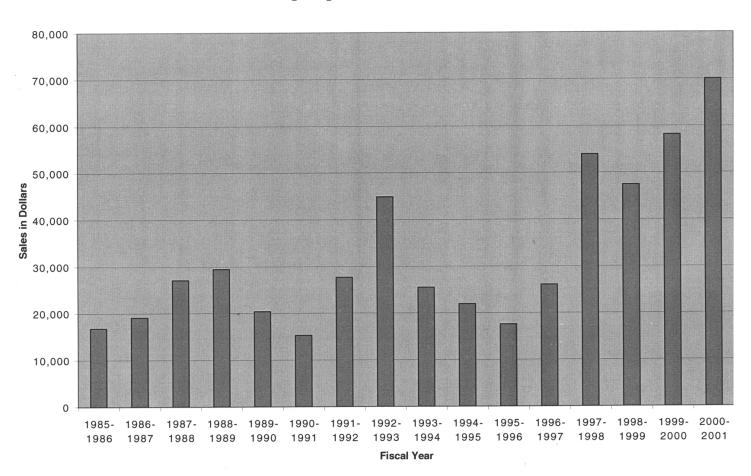
From the early to mid-1990s, sales of our resources consistently increased. To increase the promotion of GDI's resources, our curriculum catalogue was put on School Net free of charge in December 1995. This is an Internet web site for teachers and students in Canada. Upon request from schools and libraries, the Curriculum Department prepared to reprint our educational materials catalogue.

To generate increased sales, build our customer base and generate interest in GDI, a Publications Order Form was completed in 1995-96. This fax-able order form proved to be a convenient way to accomplish these goals. A mass mail-out of these order forms proved effective in reviving interest in and sales to our book publishing program.

The Department has made major inroads in marketing and promoting our resources. This is, in part, due to the development of a database to track our customers' purchases, the development of a mail-out database, and using QuickBooks to print professional invoices. The Department has also increased our catalogue mail-outs to Canadian schools and libraries and to our long-term customers. In 1999, the Publishing Department obtained a permit number for doing bulk mail-outs through Canada Post. As a reult of the bulk mailout, we have witnessed a significant increase in sales.

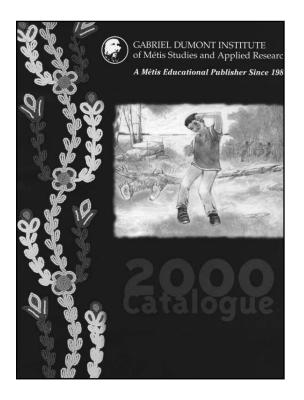


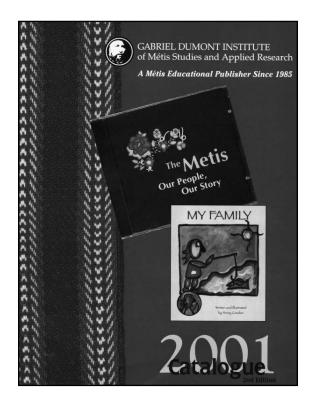
**Publishing Department Sales 1985-2001** 



The Department is largely dependent on obtaining outside funding for resource development and for the majority of our marketing activities. As a result, a large portion of our time is spent writing grant proposals and filling applications.

Since 1999, the Department raised several hundred thousand dollars from grants awarded by provincial and federal agencies for producing and promoting GDI resources. These agencies include: the Saskatchewan Publishers Group, Canadian Heritage, SaskCulture, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Hudson's Bay Foundation, the Métis Cultural Centre Initiative, and the City of Saskatoon/SaskLotteries in order to produce and market our resources.





Currently, we market our resources in four ways: (1) through a full-colour catalogue; (2) a community display program; (3) an e-commerce site; and, (4) advertising. In 1998, our first full colour catalogue was mailed to bookstores, Métis organizations, schools, universities and libraries west of Québec. In return, we saw a definite correlation between the release of our attractive catalogues and increased sales. For instance, in that first year, we brought in \$54,000 in sales. Customers were clearly attracted to a well-designed and colourful catalogue, which included pictures and brief biographies of our authors, artists and musicians. In 2000, GDI's Publishing Department purchased a new trade-show display, which has greatly enhanced our profile at book fairs and community events. Our display

includes photographs of Métis fiddle player John Arcand and Métis artist and author, Penny Condon, as well as artwork by Sherry Farrell-Racette.

Since 2000, we have maintained an e-commerce site at <a href="http://www.gdins.org/ecom">http://www.gdins.org/ecom</a>. By developing a secure Métis-specific e-commerce site, GDI has allowed customers to place resource orders through the Internet. It was imperative to develop an e-commerce site as our Métis-specific resources could be made available to a much wider range of interested individuals and educational organizations than previously. It has greatly enhanced our presence as a Métis book publisher. Sales for this past fiscal year (2000-2001) were at an unprecedented all-time high of \$70,000. This can largely be attributed to our many new products, the full colour catalogue and the e-commerce website which has had over 100,000 hits during the past twelve months.



GDI's advertising budget is relatively small in comparison to other book publishers; however, we purchase advertising whenever we publish a new book. Therefore, it is vital that, as a non-profit organization, we expand this budget to further promote our authors, artists and publishing program.

The 2000-2001 fiscal year has been an extremely busy time for our Department. We constantly struggled to keep our inventory adequately stocked due to high demand for resources. More importantly, the Department changed its name from the Curriculum Department to the Publishing Department in order to better reflect our activities as a professional book publisher dedicated to ensuring a strong Métis voice in the book publishing industry. This name change was also necessary because our label as a curriculum development unit precluded our Department from accessing funds from a diverse body of funding agents.

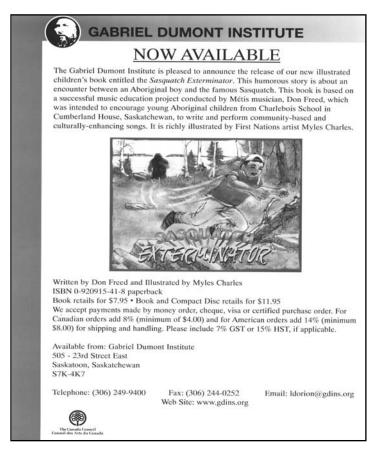
Since we began our current marketing strategy in 1998, our sales have averaged \$57,342 annually. In the twelve years previous, from 1985 to 1997, our average sales were only \$24,280. Our sales therefore more than doubled in this period. Since 1998, our sales have been moving in a steady upward trajectory.

For the future, the Publishing Department is in the process of developing an innovative and multi-faceted marketing campaign for our publishing program. The campaign will involve expanded advertising, updated catalogues, extensive community displays, and increased e-commerce opportunities. It is hoped that these proposed strategies, it is hoped, will make our publishing program more self-reliant and will:

- Expand our customer base, particularly in Western Canada, Ontario and the United States;
- Increase e-commerce and community event sales;
- Increase awareness about the publishing program;
- Increase the public profile of our artists and authors; and,
- Lead to increased sales for our publications, which will in turn prove to our funding agents the viability of our publishing program.

These marketing strategies will also include a postcard mail out campaign for our e-commerce site, an out-of-province promotional display campaign, purchasing advertisements for our publishing program, expanding our catalogue, developing a virtual/printable on-line catalogue, bringing in outside marketing consultants to develop a viable marketing strategy, and expanding our advertising to promote our book launches.

By expanding our Community Display Program, GDI will be able to connect with our out-of-province readership, while ensuring the survival of the only exclusively Métis book publisher. By expanding our advertisements and catalogue, we will reach a larger market and will be better able to inform our readership about our resources, artists and authors. The more the community connects with our artists and authors, the better our sales, which in turn will ensure our long-term self-reliance. In addition, we feel that a printable/virtual catalogue would provide customers with another convenient means to order our books, especially for those fearful of e-commerce ordering. It will also save on printing costs.



Catalogue insert of recent merchandise

## E. FIVE YEAR PLAN: 2001 TO 2006

The Publishing Department has devised a five-year plan to further develop our mandate, improve upon already completed work and to expand our published resources. This plan includes, but is not limited to:

- Accessing grants to improve the Publishing Program
- Developing Métis-specific children's books
- Publishing educational and informative Métis-specific books for youth, adults and the Métis community
- Developing Michif language resources for the K-12 system and the Métis community
- Providing administrative support for the Métis Cultural Centre Initiative
- Creating a diverse body of multimedia and visual resources for the K-12 system and the Métis community.
- Participating in local, regional, provincial and national Métis events and activities
- Being actively involved in committees that support the Publishing Program's and GDI's Mandate
- Developing resources for future GDI course offerings
- Liasing with the Métis community and educators about future projects
- Continuing to improve how we conduct our departmental business



Children at the Crescent Lake video shoot - June 2000



Calvin and Leah at the opening of the Louis Riel Trail - July 2001

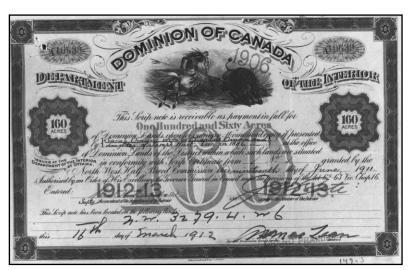


Author Penny Condon and her daughter Sydney reading a GDI publication

## F. FUTURE PROJECTS

Ideas for future publishing projects are as diverse as they are numerous. One continuing goal of the Department is to publish educational and informative Métis specific books for youth, adults and the Métis community. One such potential project, targeted at both the general public and academics, is a book tentatively titled *The Road Allowance People: A Story of the Dispossession of Saskatchewan's Métis*. This resource will examine the experiences of those Saskatchewan Métis who were dispossessed of their land and identity following the 1885 Resistance. This book would fill a large void in the available literature, as very few publications analyse the aftermath of the 1885 Resistance upon the Métis.

A second project targeted at this same audience is a book on the Métis Scrip System identifying how scrip was used to extinguish the Métis' Aboriginal title to the land. Currently, there are no books published about the Métis Scrip System for secondary students.



Scrip Document courtesy of National Archives of Canada

A third potential project is a book of Elder interviews, profiles and stories. One of the most important elements of this resource will be the discussion of what is meant by the term 'Elder'. By highlighting the stories and teachings of Elders, this project will acknowledge their importance in the transmission of Métis history, languages and culture.

A book profiling historic Métis communities in Saskatchewan is a fourth potential project. This project will also profile members of these communities.

The Publishing Department would also like to develop a book for Native Studies students and grades 7-12 about the Michif people and Michif speaking communities in Canada. Through interviews, biographies and profiles, this book would elucidate the hidden past and stories of Michif speaking Elders and communities in Canada.

For primary students and the general public, we would also like to produce a series of Métis history booklets. These easy to read booklets would cover many topics on Métis history, languages and culture. These booklets will expand on themes not covered by our other two booklet series.



Children at Green Lake
Photo courtesy of the Saskatchewan Archives Board



Stony Rapids School 1949
Photo courtesy of the Saskatchewan Archives Board
R-A3087

We would also like to develop a Métis atlas. The rationale of this project will provide be to comprehensive cartographic resource that highlights Métis land use, settlement, demographics, and trade routes through time and space. This atlas will include ful1 colour maps and background text to accompany each series of maps, and will be targeted towards grades 7-12 and the general public.



To follow up up on our other multimedia project successes, the Publishing Department would like to see additional CD-ROM's, support materials and videos produced. One CD-ROM project will be a Michif language CD-ROM and talking dictionary targeted towards language programs in the K-12 system. This will be the first of its kind since it will provide interactive instructional materials and a talking dictionary in various Michif dialects.

Another of these projects is a teacher's guide to supplement the interactive Métis CD-ROM *The Metis: Our People, Our Story*. This guide, for grades 7-12, will provide teachers with thematic units, lessons, and activities that can be integrated into existing courses and curricula.



On the trapline near Cumberland House Photo courtesy of Louis Dorion

Other multimedia projects we would like to develop include a high-quality documentary video about the historical significance of the Métis Scrip System in Canada. This video, targeted at the general public and Native Studies teachers, will complement the Scrip System book project.

We would also like to develop an instructional video on how to finger-weave Métis sashes and how to make pointed-toe moccasins. These projects will be targeted towards Arts Education K-12.

One idea that the Publishing Department believes would contribute significantly to both GDI and the academic community would be a Métis academic conference. It is hoped that these proceedings would then be published. This forum would be similar to that of the New Peoples Conference held in the mid-1980s. This proposed project would serve as an excellent replacement and update for *The New Peoples: Being and Becoming Métis in North America* as an academic text for undergraduate and graduate level Métis Studies and Native Studies courses.

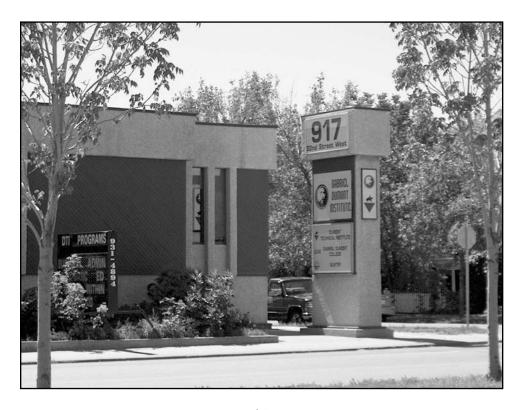


Moccasins by Christine Misponas - Ile a la crosse

#### G. Conclusion

The Publishing Department is committed to producing high-quality and inclusive Métis-specific literature and educational resources for communities, educators, and the general public. We strive to develop and support Métis artistic and literary achievement throughout Canada. We presently have seventeen years experience and success in the development of a variety of literary and educational materials. Our main objective is to provide interested readers with Métis specific materials. The bulk of our customers are Canadian teachers, educators, school divisions, school boards and book stores. GDI resources include posters, music compilations, CD-ROMs, videos, filmstrips, educational materials, general interest and children's books. Since 1985, the Department has created and distributed over fifty publications.

Since our inception in 1985, the Department has experienced exceptional growth. New resources have been developed, a significant amount of funds have been raised, new partnerships continue to be built and our resources continue to be well received by the community. As we move towards the future, our focus remains on strengthening the Publishing Department as we build upon our past successes. We strive to evolve into a respected and renowned publisher of Métis specific literature, and continue to act as a distributor for Métis writers, musicians and artists.



#### APPENDIX 1

## PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT CHRONOLOGY

- The Gabriel Dumont Institute came into existence in a formal signing ceremony with the Saskatchewan Department of Continuing Education.
- The Rebirth of Western Canada: A Dangerous Concept by Don McLean was to be tentatively developed. This book was undoubtedly a response to George F. Stanley's The Birth of Western Canada. However, this book was never produced. It later became 1885: Métis Rebellion or government Conspiracy?, which was published by Pemmican Publishers and promoted jointly by Pemmican and GDI.
- For internal purposes, an oral history guidebook was completed.
- GDI was represented on the Indian and Métis Curriculum Advisory Committee.
  - Saskatchewan's Core Curriculum Advisory Committee held its first meeting. This meeting had a great impact on the development of curriculum writing, particularly at GDI.
  - The Department completed a project on the History of Métis and Non-Status Indians in Saskatchewan, and Cree language tapes, and work was started on a Native Studies resource book.
  - The Department was involved in cataloguing and compiling historical photographs, primary documents and *The Beaver* magazine articles for a database.
  - A gathering was held at Batoche to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Northwest Resistance.

- Our first catalogue was created and widely distributed.
- The Publishing program was consolidated and was placed on more stable ground, becoming a major vehicle for providing information about Aboriginal People to Canadians.
  - Michif language programs were implemented.
- The Curriculum Department worked on the identification of contemporary Métis artifacts and crafts with Métis women from northern Saskatchewan. Two research trips were made to Cumberland House and approximately 200 slides were taken of contemporary artifacts. As well, interviews with the artisans were recorded.
  - The Curriculum Department took the lead role in sponsoring the GDI Cultural Conference. Curriculum material was to now emphasise modern Métis culture and not historical Native culture as it did in the past.
  - Learning about our Past, a picture book of basic Aboriginal concepts was completed. An anthology of Horses, a book about William Henry Jackson, and book IV of the Cree Literacy Project were some of the products that were to be produced.
  - A Curriculum Advisory Board of Métis educators and community members was named to help generate ideas, identify needs and provide feedback to the Institute's Curriculum development process. The Board members were: Phyllis Bellegarde, Ann Dorion, Monica Goulet-Couture, Maureen Johns, Joanne Pelletier, Win Sebelius and Agnes Stanley.
- The Curriculum Department began to be develop *With Beads, Silk & Quills: The Traditional Arts of the Métis,* a collection of over 2,000 slides of Métis artifacts from across North America and Europe.
  - Steps in Time: Métis Dances, a twenty-minute instructional video, was developed and placed on both Saskatchewan Education and Ontario Education's recommended lists.

- Collaboration between GDI and the Saskatchewan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (SADAC) resulted in the creation of a teaching poster entitled *Keep Your Spirit Free*, which remains one of our most popular selling items.
- Work continued on numerous projects including: the Métis Veterans' book, a classroom kit and book on the significance of the horse to the survival of the Métis and First Nations Peoples and a visualization of Louis Riel's life.
- Six titles were recommended by Saskatchewan Education including, the Métis Development Series, Flags of the Métis, Métis Crafts: Quill and Bead Earrings, Gabriel Dumont: Métis Legend, The Métis: Two Worlds Meet and The Atlas of Aboriginal Settlement
- The Metis Development Series remained on Ontario Education's recommended book list.
- The Department developed or worked on the following projects: a promotional calendar, a Louis Riel video, and an oral history of Elders and veterans.
- The Curriculum unit added 'Keep Your Spirit Free' posters and tshirts to the catalogue. This theme was used by the Saskatchewan Alcohol and Drug Awareness Committee (SADAC) to launch their province-wide Drug Awareness Week in November.
  - Work continued on the Métis veterans project, an anthology of Métis Writers, a Métis land simulation game, a songbook and cassette of traditional Métis songs, a literacy poster and a new edition of *A Métis Wedding*, which included character dialogue.
- There was a complete halt of publishing activities and a downsizing of Department staff.
- The Curriculum Department was once again active and started work on many projects. The largest undertaking was the development of a CD-ROM that became *The Metis: Our People, Our Story.* This

multimedia project was funded by Heritage Canada and Saskatchewan Education and was produced by Arnold Publishing in Edmonton. The project discusses the historical and contemporary contributions that the Métis have made in the development of Canada. It also discusses many aspects of Métis lifestyle, culture and identity.

- As part of the development of the CD-ROM, the Department's research team visited museums such as Glenbow in Calgary and the Museum of Man and Nature in Winnipeg, searching for audio-visuals to make this project highly effective and interactive.
- We translated the *Alfred Reading Series* into Cree, Michif, English and French.
- Two Curriculum Development Officers, Leah Dorion-Paquin and Todd Paquin, worked to increase GDI's community involvement, conducted more public relations and implemented several large publication order form mail-outs. As a result, this doubled our sales from the 1995-1996 fiscal year.
- Todd and Leah made a research trip to Alberta to gather information and resources for the CD-ROM. They visited the St. Albert Museum and Archives, the Provincial Archives of Alberta, as well as Lac La Biche, Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement, and Kikino Métis Settlement.
- Métis Lawyer Larry Chartrand from the University of Ottawa was contracted to write some material for the CD-ROM.
- The Department's milestone for the year was the completion of our first Métis cassette/compact disc entitled, "Singing to Keep Time," which was completed in June 1996.
- We expanded our publications order form by making distribution agreements with Don Freed, Canadian Heritage Marketing (flags and sashes) and the "Native Booklist".
- We conducted extensive fundraiding activities for the final printing of *Remembrances: Interviews with Métis Veterans*.

- One of our major research projects was the Aboriginal Headstart literature review for Health Canada, which was completed in January 1997.
- The Department consisted of Leah Dorion-Paquin (Coordinator) and Darren Préfontaine (Curriculum Developer).
  - The Department was accepted as an active member of the Saskatchewan Publishers Group.
- Métis historian Olive Dickason, from the University of Ottawa, validated and approved the text content of the CD-ROM.
  - The Métis veterans book, *Remembrances: Interviews with Métis Veterans*, was launched at Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Regina and Cumberland House.
  - We strengthened our relationship with Saskatchewan Education Indian and Métis Educational Advisory Committee, the Heritage Languages Network, granting agencies, the publishing sector, and the Métis community.
  - At that time, we had over 25 projects awaiting funding and support due to a great demand for high quality educational materials.
  - The Department's staff taught Métis History 221.3 in the North Battleford Métis Social Work Program during the '97 fall semester.
  - The Department's staff revived the GDI newsletter and ongoing display program.
- The Department played a key role in organizing a GDI History Committee. A part of our web page (<a href="http://www.gdins.org">http://www.gdins.org</a>) has been dedicated to this project. The website was designed to encourage past staff and students to contribute on-line. The Department wrote a rough draft for a GDI history project.

1998 • We began the mailing campaign for our full colour catalogues.

- Another Department milestone was the completion and release of the Alfred Series: Come and Read With Us compact discs and cassettes in November 1998. Children were now able to read along with the Alfred Reading Series in English, French, Cree and Michif.
- The Department participated in the Michif Language Initative, which was sponsored by the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the Department of Canadian Heritage. Additionally, the Department received funding from Saskatchewan Education's Aboriginal Education Unit in order to translate and videotape a Michif language conference held in Yorkton in April 1999. This broadcast-quality footage will be used for the development of future literary, video and multimedia resources, and it will be an integral component to the Institute's planned Métis Cultural Centre and Archives, and a virtual Métis museum on the World Wide Web.
- As a result of our work preserving the Michif language, we forged an important and necessary relationship with the Michif Language Speakers Association (MLSA) in April 1999. The MLSA provides our Department with direction and advice concerning the preservation and promotion of the Michif language. Leah Dorion-Paquin was appointed as GDI's MLSA representative.

• This year saw the establishment of a Métis veterans database available on our website (www.gdins.org). Rob Innes, a graduate student at the University of Saskatchewan, was contracted to conduct interviews with Métis veterans to form this database. Individuals are encouraged to register any veterans and their families on-line at the GDI website.

> • We released Resources for Métis Researchers, a joint project between GDI and the Louis Riel Institute of the Manitoba Métis Federation. It was our first co-publishing venture and historiographical work. The bibliography has been extremely beneficial for the general public, students and instructors.

1999

- The Department worked with Don Freed to publish *Sasquatch Exterminator*, a children's book and song project, which was launched in Cumberland House.
- The Department worked with the Saskatchewan School Trustees Association (SSTA) to survey teachers about effective teaching practices in Aboriginal Education. From this, Todd Paquin completed work on a major research paper compiled by himself, Darren Préfontaine and Leah Dorion-Paquin, entitled *Effective Practices in Aboriginal Education*. This paper was funded by the SSTA and was released at the AWASIS Conference in Saskatoon.
- The Department received a Canada Council Infrastructure Grant Program under the First Peoples category.
- Work continued into the next fiscal year towards developing a fiveyear plan and reviewing Department policy and procedure. We had great success in developing an extensive customer database on Microsoft Access. Our goal remains to continue to improve our customer service and marketing.
- We officially launched our e-commerce website at www.gdins.org/ecom
- We received a contract to host the National Aboriginal Headstart Conference in Saskatoon from Sept 19-22, 1999. The Department played a prominent role in organizing and working at the conference. Overall, the conference was a great success.
- 2000
- We experienced major growth and productivity due, in part, to the Michif Language and Métis Cultural Centre Initiatives. We also had success accessing grants from the Saskatchewan Publisher's Group, Cultural Industries Development Fund, Western Cultural Fund and block funding from the Canada Council for the Arts.
- In June, Leah Dorion-Paquin and Maria Campbell travelled to Crescent Lake to work on a second Michif video.

- Leah and Maria Campbell travelled to Regina to conduct Michif interviews for the Métis Oral History project and the Michif video.
- In September, we released the CD-ROM *The Metis: Our People, Our Story* at the Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival.
- Penny Condon's book *Changes* was nominated for a Saskatchewan Book Award in the First People's Publishing Category. We also received a Canada Council for the Arts grant for a narration component to *Changes* entitled the "The Turtle's Teachings".

2001

- The Publishing Department hired three summer students as a part of the Centennial Summer Student Employment Program, which is designed to help students gain experience and skills that will be valuable in securing full-time careers upon graduation. On June 11, the Honourable Glenn Hagel, Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Skills Training, visited the Institute to meet with the staff and students who are participating in the pilot program.
- We began work on a new set of study prints, a virtual museum and a Métis fiddling anthology. Interviews for the Métis Oral History Project continued and we expanded our community display program with out-of-province community display events.
- In June, the Publishing Department moved to our new location at 917 22nd Street West, Saskatoon.
- In July, GDI staff took part in Ile-a la Crosse's 225th Birthday Celebration. For over a week,we conducted interviews with community Elders and promoted our resources through our community display program.
- Work began on a video documentary on John Arcand with inter views and video footage from Fiddlefest and Back to Batoche in 1999,2000, and 2001.

- Leah Dorion-Paquin and summer student, Herb Lafferty travelled to the Northwest Territories to conduct research for the Fiddle project. They conducted numerous interviews with Métis fiddlers and Elders in Fort Simpson, Hay River, Fort Resolution and Fort Providence to be used for the Fiddle project and future GDI projects..
- Curriculum Developer, Cheryl Troupe and Sherry Farrell-Racette traveled to Lewistown, Montana to represent GDI at Lewistown's Métis Celebration. Darren Préfontaine and Herb Lafferty also conducted a research trip to Edmonton and to set up a display at Métisfest 2001.
  - The video documentary, *John Arcand and his Métis Fiddle*, was released and production on *Richard Lafferty: the Muskeg Fiddler* was started with video footage and interviews done during the summer.
  - In November, we held a Metis Beadwork and Michif Preservation workshop with women from the community of Cumberland House. From this workshop, interviews were conducted in Michif-Cree and filmed to be used in upcoming projects. One such project is the video entitled, *Our Shared Inheritance: A Tradition of Métis Beadwork*.
  - Métis Legacy, a co-publication with the Louis Riel Institute was released, as was 'Drops of Brandy: and Other Traditional Métis Tunes,' a two volume, four compact disc compilation of Métis fiddle music.
- 2002 Released *Richard Lafferty: The Muskeg Fiddler.*

# **Appendix 2 Chronology of Publications**

- 1985 Gabriel Dumont. Joanne Pelletier
- 1985 Louis Riel. Joanne Pelletier
- 1985 Red River Insurgence, 1869-70. Joanne Pelletier
- 1985 *The Buffalo Hunt*. Joanne Pelletier
- 1985 The North West Resistance of 1885. Joanne Pelletier
- 1985 The Skirmish at Seven Oaks. Joanne Pelletier
- 1985 Métis Development and the Canadian West: Contrasting Worlds. Calvin Racette
- 1985 Métis Development and the Canadian West: Changing Times. Calvin Racette
- 1985 Métis Development and the Canadian West: Petitioning for Rights. Calvin Racette
- 1985 Métis Development and the Canadian West: Conflicting Plans. Calvin Racette
- 1985 Métis Development and the Canadian West: Ending An Era. Calvin Racette
- 1985 A Métis Wedding/Le mariage métis. Christel Barber
- 1985 1885: Metis Rebellion or Government Conspiracy? Don McLean
- 1985 Metis Crafts: Finger Weaving. Lorna Payne
- 1985 Metis Crafts: Quill Work. Lorna Payne
- 1986 Comparison of Two Cultures. Lynn Kupchanko
- 1986 Where Two Worlds Meet. Sherry Farrell-Racette, Calvin Racette and Joanne Pelletier
- 1987 Learning to Speak Cree: Volumes I-IV-Syllabics.
- 1987 Fifty Vignettes: Views of the Common People. Don McLean
- 1987 Home From The Hill: A History Of The Metis in Western Canada. Vol. I. Don McLean
- 1988 Home From The Hill: A History Of The Metis in Western Canada. Vol. II. Don McLean
- 1988 Gabriel Dumont: Métis Legend. Martin Shulman, Calvin Racette and Lorna Payne
- 1988 Come and Read With Us.
- 1988 Steps in Time: Métis Dances

- 1989 Journal of Indigenous Studies. Volume 1, no. 1Winter.
- 1989 Journal of Indigenous Studies. Volume 1, no. 2 Summer.
- 1989 *Literacy Manual*. M. Buckley
- 1991 The Flower Beadwork People. Sherry Farrell-Racette
- 1991 Journal of Indigenous Studies. Volume 2, no. 1 Winter.
- 1991 Journal of Indigenous Studies. Volume 2, no. 2 Summer.
- 1992 Alfred's First Day at School. Darrell Pelletier
- 1992 Alfred's Summer. Darrell Pelletier
- 1992 Lisa and Sam. Darrell Pelletier
- 1992 The Pow Wow. Darrell Pelletier
- 1992 The Big Storm. Darrell Pelletier
- 1992 Journal of Indigenous Studies. Volume 3, no.1
- 1992 Fiddle About.
- 1993 The Canadian Atlas of Aboriginal Settlement
- 1993 La Mishow Wayayshhaywuk: The Big Rip Off, Loss of a Land Base Métis Disentitlement, a Teacher's Resource Guide. Karon Shmon
- 1993 Métis Songs: Visiting was the Métis Way.
- 1996 Alfred's First Day at School. Darrell Pelletier (English, French, Michif and Cree)
- 1996 Alfred's Summer. Darrell Pelletier (English, French, Michif and Cree)
- 1996 Lisa and Sam. Darrell Pelletier (English, French, Michif and Cree)
- 1996 The Pow Wow. Darrell Pelletier (English, French, Michif and Cree)
- 1996 The Big Storm. Darrell Pelletier (English, French, Michif and Cree)
- 1996 Singing To Keep Time: A Collection of Métis Songs.
- 1997 Journal of Indigenous Studies. Volume 3, no. 2 Winter.
- 1997 Remembrances: Interviews with Métis Veterans.
- 1997 Aboriginal Head Start Resource Guide. Health Canada Promotions Branch
- 1999 Resources for Métis Researchers. Lawrence J. Barkwell, Leah Dorion and Darren Préfontaine
- 1999 *The Metis: Our People, Our Story* CD-ROM. Leah Dorion, Todd Paquin and Darren Préfontaine.
- 1999 The Sasquatch Exterminator. Don Freed
- 2000 Changes. Penny Condon
- 2000 Li Michif: Kakee-Payshee-Peekishkwaywuk-Oma
- 2001 The Turtle's Teachings.
- 2001 My Family. Penny Condon
- 2001 John Arcand and his Métis Fiddle
- 2001 Drops of Brandy: and Other Traditional Métis Tunes. Volume One.
- 2001 *Métis Legacy*. Lawrence Barkwell, Leah Dorion-Paquin and Darren Préfontaine.

# Appendix 3

# Past and Present Employees and

# **Contributors**

1985	Joanne Pelletier – Curriculum Officer
1985	Calvin Racette – Curriculum Officer
1986	Calvin Racette – Curriculum Officer
1986	Joan Dagdick – Curriculum Officer
1986	Don McLean – Research Officer
1986	Dennis Morin – Research Officer, Languages
1986	Tom Francis – Cree Language Specialist
1988	Don McLean – Researcher
1988	Joan Dagdick – Curriculum
1988	Calvin Racette – Curriculum
1989	Marie Baker – Curriculum Developer
1989	Anne Dorion – Curriculum Developer
1989	Don McLean – Research Officer
1989	Calvin Racette – Curriculum Developer
1990	Anne Dorion – Curriculum Developer
1990	Calvin Racette – Curriculum Developer
1990	Ingrid Gallagher – Clerk Steno
1991	Anne Dorion – Curriculum Developer
1992	D. Hutchinson – Curriculum Officer
1992	A. Tremayne – Curriculum Officer
1994	A. Tremayne – Curriculum Officer
1994	T. Amendt – Clerk Steno
1994	Marlene Laliberte – Clerk-Steno
1994	R. Desjarlais – Curriculum Officer
1995	Todd Paquin – Curriculum Developer
1995	Leah Dorion-Paquin – Curriculum Developer
1996	Todd Paquin – Curriculum Developer
1996	Leah Dorion-Paquin – Curriculum Developer
1997	Leah Dorion-Paquin – Curriculum Developer
1997	Darren Préfontaine – Curriculum Developer
1997	Louise Fraser – Clerk-Steno
1998	Leah Dorion-Paquin – Curriculum Coordinator
1998	Darren Préfontaine – Curriculum Developer

1998	Blanche Gehriger – Clerk-Steno
1998	Norma McKay – Clerk-Steno
1999	Leah Dorion-Paquin – Curriculum Coordinator
1999	Darren Préfontaine – Curriculum Developer
1999	Blanche Gehriger – Clerk-Steno
1999	Yvonne Morrisette – Clerk-Steno
2000	Leah Dorion-Paquin – Curriculum Coordinator
2000	Darren Préfontaine – Curriculum Developer
2000	Blanche Gehriger – Clerk Steno
2001	Leah Dorion-Paquin – Curriculum Coordinator
2001	Darren Préfontaine – Curriculum Developer
2001	Blanche Gehriger – Clerk-Steno
2001	Cheryl Troupe – Summer Student Research Assistant
2001	Herb Lafferty – Summer Student Research Assistant
2001	Lilah Morin – Summer Student Research Assistant
2001	Cheryl Troupe – Curriculum Developer

Some of the many dedicated people in the past who have worked in or with the Curriculum/Publishing Department include: John Arcand, Christel Barber, Charles Belhumeur, Wesley Budd, Cliff Bunny, Maria Campbell, Penny Condon, Creerunner Productions, Anne Dorion, Sherry Farrell-Racette, Norm Fleury, Rob Innes, Michelle Isbister, John Leclair, Don McLean, Wayne Morin, Peter Myo, Todd Paquin, Lorna Payne, Gilbert Pelletier, Joanne Pelletier, Calvin Racette, Right Tracks Studio, Alan Tremayne, Keith Turnball, Turtle Island Music, and Patrick Young.

We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted past contributors. Each of these people, coming from diverse cultural and educational backgrounds, has left a legacy to the Institute, to the Métis community, and to the province's educational system. The Curriculum and Publishing Department developed as a result of their vision, talents and efforts.