

Mike Mercredi, Frank Tomkins, Ron Laliberte

Métis Political Activist Interviews (Jan 24, 25, 2004)

Tape 1

**Start Time: 11:41:25.12**

**(Video Time: 11:41.25.12) Ron Laliberte:** When you think back on, on Brady and Norris and your father and others that were involved that were such dynamic leaders, and you know, they all had their, their certain skills that worked together to, you know, push that movement forward, what are the, some of the things that you look back on and you say that, you know, you took from them, that were qualities that you admired, you know, as, as, political leaders back then that you still think about and still hold dear to, you know, to your political way of thinking today?

**(Video Time: 11:41.55.15) Frank Tomkins:** Well, I guess pretty well, I, I, I have pretty well the same thoughts that they had, you know. Do whatever you can to help your, your fellow man, you know, and take care that you don't get too involved with government, don't be controlled by government. That's always been my, my way of thinking anyway because as soon as you start accepting funds from government well then they sort of run the show. And this is one of the things that they very strongly objected to. Another thing that they always taught me and talked about, always keep your nose clean. You know, don't get involved in anything where the government can have something on you because then it'll control you. And this has happened, you know, quite a number of times with some of the

present leaders in, in, in the Métis society. Then I suppose in just about, and, and I don't think it's only the, the Métis organizations. I think you'll find it in any political organization.

**End Time: 11:43:00.03**