

1310 Louise Ave.,  
SASKATOON, Saskatchewan,  
January 15, 1974.

Dear Member:

This letter is to bring you up to date on matters concerning the West Central region.

As you probably know there was an area meeting held in North Battleford on December 27, 1973. This meeting was called by Clarence Trotchie for the purpose of removing me as Director. However the meeting backfired on Mr. Trotchie. In the end Mr. Trotchie and the Saskatoon local were expelled from the area.

Recently the Saskatoon local held a meeting to organize a so-called Saskatoon Central Region. However, it is not possible to establish a new Region. The Constitution states specifically that there can be only seven regions. Therefore, attempts to organize a new Region is unconstitutional, and a waste of time. I suggest that you disregard all attempts by the Saskatoon local to involve you in a new region, because it cannot be recognized as an additional Region.

As you probably know the Headquarters and staff for the Housing Program for the West Central Region is located in Saskatoon. Since Saskatoon local has been expelled, this Head office and staff no longer service our area. Therefore, we should request that the Housing Headquarters be moved to North Battleford, and that a new staff be hired to serve all locals of our area.

Therefore, would you please make a request for this service in letter form and send it to me, so that I could forward them to Ray Hamilton, in Regina.

There is nothing new to report on business pertaining to meetings of the Council. The last Council meeting in Prince Albert was devoted exclusively to two issues. One issue was to fire me as Director of Aboriginal Rights Program. The second issue was an attempt to force Butch McDougall to resign. No other business was taken up at this Council meeting. As a result, no new developments will take place in your community with regard to Metis Society Programs.

For those people who were at the meeting on December 27th, 1973, you will remember that Jim Sinclair stated clearly in an answer to my question about the salary paid to me as Director of Aboriginal Rights. I am enclosing a financial statement from the auditor on Aboriginal Rights expenses. You will note that the total sum of money paid to me is \$4,166.66. This was for a period of five months, from June 1st to October 31st. This amounts to \$833.33 per month, which is the correct amount of what I was paid. Yet, Jim Sinclair and the Saskatoon people argued that I was getting \$1500.00 per month. This is typical of the false rumours that they continue to spread about me. But this is proof of the lies they circulate on me. Therefore, I suggest you treat their future stories as this one: a lie.

I would like to attend one of your local meetings in your community sometime in the near future. Would you please send me a notice when you would like for me to attend one of your meetings. Then when I receive all notices I will arrange my schedule so that I can attend one of your meetings sometime in the near future. I would like to get better acquainted with the people at the local communities. Also, we should plan towards solving some of the local problems, and preparing programs that would benefit the local people.

I am hoping that the Metis Society problems will be settled within the next month or two and that everyone then can get down to serious business. There is talk about a re-election of the President and Vice President. At the area meeting last month in North Battleford the people turned this proposal down because it would cost approximately \$30,000.00, according to Jim Sinclair. However, if this is the only way of settling the conflict in the Metis Society, then possibly we should re-consider it. I think it is up to the local people to decide if they think such an election is necessary.

Unless the Metis Society is re-organized so that the Government grants benefit the local people, then it may as well not exist. If the Metis Society is going to benefit only a few persons at the top, then it might as well be put out of business. But, I am hopeful that we can re-organize it so that it will work for the good of the local communities. As long as we stay united I think we can win the struggle.

sincerely,



Howard Adams