



The New Nation

La noovel naasyoon



Winter/Spring 2013



The New Nation

La noovel naasyoon

is a publication of the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research.

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GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
of Native Studies and Applied Research



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Stamp Your Place in Time Batoche Memorial Benches & Stepping Stones

Commemorate a person, place, or event by purchasing a Memorial Bench from Friends of Batoche Historic Site Inc.

The Friends of Batoche Historic Site Inc.:

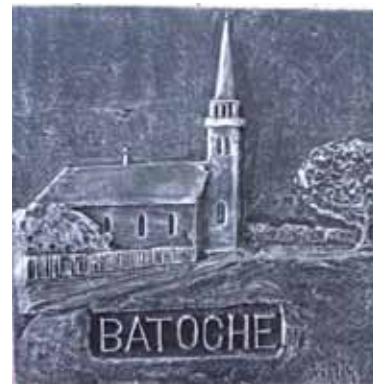
- Memorial Bench cost is \$1000 made payable to “Friends of Batoche Historic Site Inc.”
 - Includes the bench, inscription plaque, and 10 years of routine maintenance and care.
 - Additional 10-year renewal is available upon request.
- Bench stays at the Batoche National Historic Site.
- Stepping Stones can be purchased for \$75.
 - Can only be purchased from Friends of Batoche Gift Shop.
- Stepping Stones can be taken home to enjoy.
- All proceeds go towards the development of the Family Fun Centre at Batoche National Historic Site.

Parks Canada:

- Builds and installs the Memorial Bench and provides routine maintenance and care for 10 years.
- Affixes the engraved plaque to the memorial bench and selects the final location at Batoche National Historic Site.
- Parks Canada reserves the right to accept a limited number of memorial benches.



Bench



Stepping Stone

For more information please contact
Friends of Batoche at 306.423.5687 / 306.423.6227 or friendsofbatoche@live.ca

This program is made possible through the collaboration of
Gabriel Dumont Institute and Parks Canada Agency.



Success Story: Colin Azure, RN

Article by James Oloo and Sheena Yew

At Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), fostering the success of our students and clients is at the very core of our mission and service delivery. While it is a well established fact that in general, Aboriginal people often face multiple barriers to their meaningful participation in education and the labour market, GDI believes in the highest standards of achievement for all our students and clients, and our students and clients share the same expectation for themselves.

David Brinkley once said that, “a successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him.” Society may have thrown bricks at some of our clients. Some may have stumbled or been discouraged and needed a little push, a new mindset, to get back on their feet. GDI is always there for them. And at the end of their journey, when the clients look back with pride and say that ‘despite the challenges and the bricks, I have made it!’ GDI is still there to celebrate their success.

One such client is Colin Azure, a Registered Nurse with the Saskatoon Health Region. Colin has worked with GDI T&E Employment

Counsellor Sheena Yew since 2009. He recently sat down with us to chat about his journey.

Colin, a married father of two, left school before finishing Grade 12. His wife had gone through school a few years earlier with funding support from Métis Employment and Training Saskatchewan Inc. (METSII), the predecessor to Gabriel Dumont Institute Training & Employment (GDIT&E). When he felt that it was time to go back to school, he knew that, “GDI would be a good fit for me, being a mature student I did not feel comfortable in a regular classroom at a high school.” He completed upgrading in the DTI Adult 12 program in 2009. At the time, Colin had already set his goal of being a nurse, but needed to talk to someone.

Colin took his nursing degree at the University of Saskatchewan while working part-time for the Saskatoon Health Region. He successfully completed his degree program and is now working full time as a Registered Nurse. His duties include providing bedside nursing care, carrying out medical regimens, and supervising licensed practical nurses and aides. He also takes nursing home roles such as managing nursing

care for residents and assessing residents’ medical condition. According to Colin, the best part about his job is, “interacting with and helping the patients and their families.” In all this, he has learned the importance of patience and tolerance in one’s life.

Colin’s career goal is moving on to a management position. He states that his secret to success is, “set your goals, work hard, establish networks in the industry, and never, never, never give up.” He continues, “do not be too proud to ask for help because there are always people to help you.”

Colin is grateful for the support he received through GDI. He declares that, “plain and simple: I never would have done this if it was not for GDI.”

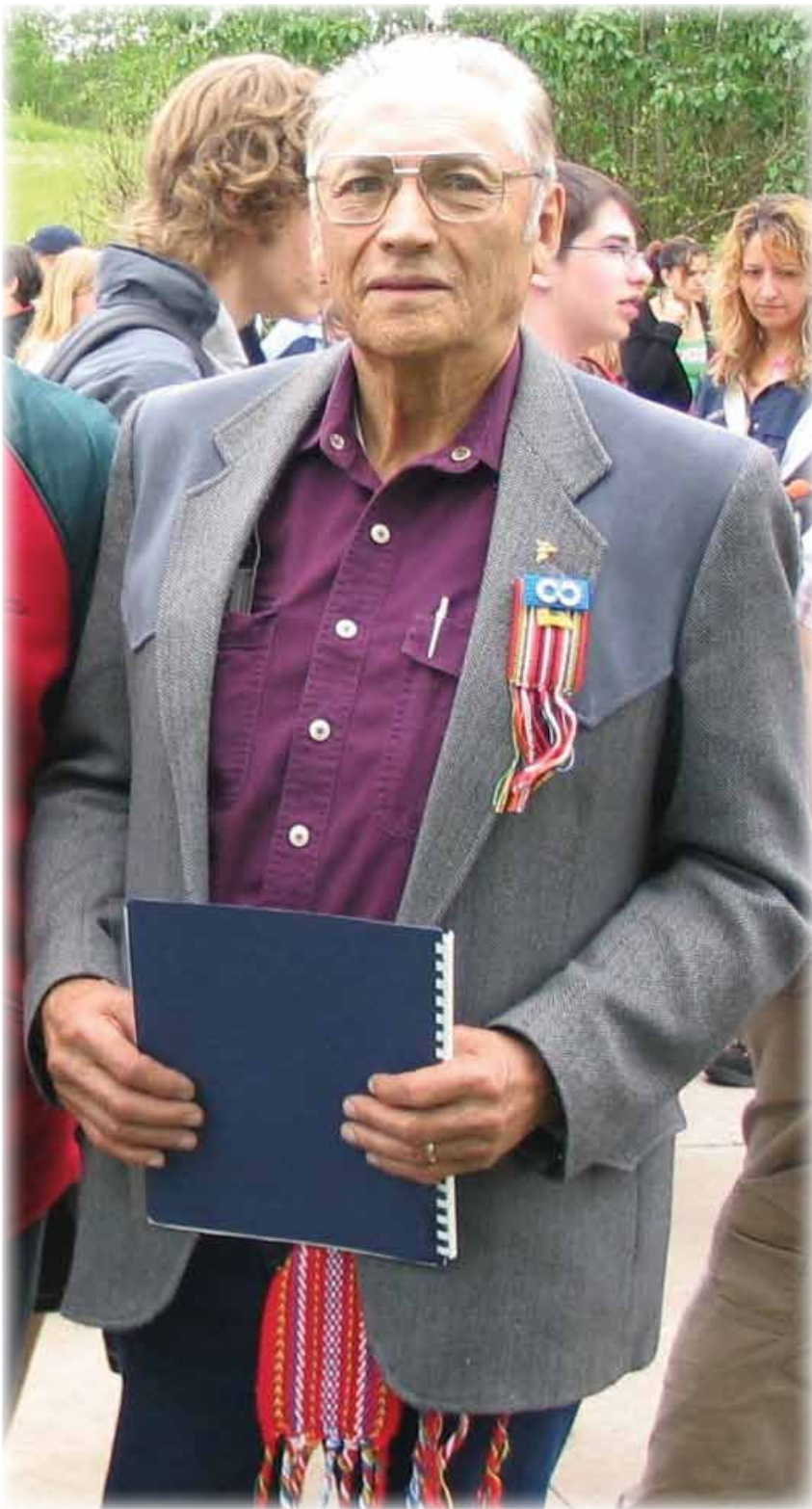
He points out that, “I am proud to be Métis (and) through my dealings with GDI, I would be happy to help them in any way that I can in the future so that they may be able to help others as they have helped me. Thank you GDI for your existence, support, guidance, and making me believe in myself and what I could accomplish.” You are very welcome Colin. Congratulations and very best wishes in your career.

Edward Bruce (Edwar Brousse) 1933-2013: A Tribute

Article by Diane Payment (“also proudly known as Ms. Batoche”)

A humble and dedicated Métis hero, Ed was “the heart and soul” of Batoche National Historic Site during his long career from 1961 to 1994. He was a respected elder and his knowledge of the land and its people was a continued source of guidance and inspiration to staff and visitors. He loved Batoche, the home of his ancestors, and for most of his life, he resided on a river lot farm nearby, where he raised racing horses and pursued a traditional lifestyle which included hunting and fishing. He was always close to Batoche National Historic Site or “on call” if someone needed him or if there was an emergency.

Ed was born and raised in Bellevue, near Batoche, the son of John Bruce and Florestine Parenteau. When I first met him at Batoche in 1976, he identified himself as French-Canadian although it was clear that in his heart he was Métis. He grew up at a time when it was unpopular to identify as Métis due to prejudice against Aboriginal Peoples, in particular the “Batochiens” or “rebels” who had taken a stand against the Canadian government in 1885. But he soon became quietly



proud of his Métis heritage and the unofficial guardian of its legacy at Batoche.

One of the highlights of his life was his marriage in 1955 to his “Angel”, Marie-Ange (née Pilon), a descendant of founding families, in the historic church at Batoche. Together they raised seven children. Her strength and hard work were indispensable to their success and for a few years after his retirement, they operated the restaurant at Batoche NHS where Ed’s bannock and Marie-Ange’s creme pies were a great attraction.

His “dream job” at Batoche began in the old rectory which first opened as a museum. He was the site custodian and interpreter in the 1960s and early 1970s and worked quite independently as the Parks Canada superintendent, or “boss,” was in Fort Battleford. He made it his unofficial mission to bring in the Métis side of the events of 1885. He told me that he was given four books to read and asked to develop a storyline for the museum. The books did not tell the Métis side of the story and he had to tread softly or try to “balance” his presentations as the “Northwest Rebellion” was still the official

storyline of Canadian history. He talked to old timers such as Raoul St-Germain and Christine Dumas Pilon who had witnessed the “*guerre nationale*” or Métis Resistance and incorporated local testimonies and stories in the tours that he gave to visitors when circumstances were appropriate. He also tried to preserve archaeological resources or convince local farmers not to cultivate or destroy the Métis rifle pits in the old village and the trenches of the Northwest Field Force.

One of his most important “coups” was the rescue of many furnishings and religious articles from the historic St. Antoine de Padoue Church when it was renovated following the reforms of Vatican II in 1968. “The priest was throwing everything out or giving it away: the altar, statues, pews, vestments, etc. And I took them home and kept them.” When Parks Canada restored the church in the 1980s, these invaluable artifacts were returned to their original home.

Ed tried to avoid controversy or was circumspect because of his position as a Métis working at Batoche National Historic Site especially in the early years of his career. He was often called

to exercise his diplomatic skills during the conflicts and debates between Parks Canada and the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan in the 1980s and 1990s. Some Parks Canada officials, especially “suits from Ottawa,” were insensitive to Métis rights and the Métis politicians “wanted to take over.” I often witnessed a wink or a sidelong glance at some of those heated meetings. His resilience and quiet determination were an inspiration to all who worked with him.

Ed witnessed the evolution of Batoche National Historic Site from a small museum to its growth and development as “the Louisbourg of Western Canada” in the late 1980s. More importantly he played an important role in the rehabilitation of Métis history in Canada. A generous, kind man, he shunned the limelight—*un de ces bons michifs canayens comme il s’en fait rares*. He has joined family and friends and compatriots he admired such as Gabriel Dumont, Xavier Letendre, and Josephite Tourond in the historic cemetery at Batoche.

Il sera toujours dans nos coeurs.
Time gentlemen, please!

GDI Publishing Incorporating Technology for Promotion and Sales

Article by David Morin

Being a small department/publishing office, it's often challenging to promote our resources as much as we'd like. To get some help doing this, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Publishing Department decided to make our books available on amazon.ca. We anticipate that people who don't know about the Institute will be able to find our books on the Amazon site via general Internet searches. Since first joining the site in January 2012, we've received 183 orders with a total of 230 books being sold amounting to over \$6,500 in sales. In addition to the sales, the efficient work of Ryan Nordmarken and the quality of GDI's resources has garnered 16-five star ratings from customers happy with the books and the service provided. Here are some of the comments:

- "Excellent service," "An excellent item. Happy it's part of my collection!"
- "GDI always has very good products. This book is awesome, very simple and detailed, DVD is very good. One of my favorite books."
- "Excellent service, and surprised at how prompt this was



shipped, once it had cleared my credit card. And the materials themselves are gorgeous in quality. Thanks, GDI!"

While the number of orders made through Amazon is comparable to our online shop at <https://shop.gdins.org>, the number of items ordered differs greatly. Since migrating to the new site in July 2011, we've had 169 orders totalling 1506 items, amounting to just under \$21,000 in sales. As a non-profit organization all sales from our resources go back into creating more resources.

Facebook has also been a part

of the Publishing Department's promotion strategy. GDI's page is currently up to 255 "likes," which translates to a reach of 72,939 unique people if each person were to comment or like a post. Over twenty different communities are represented from Île-à-la-Crosse to Missoula, Montana, and from Vancouver to Montreal. The majority of our fans come from Saskatoon with 47%, followed by Prince Albert with 14%, and Regina with 9%.

Another online project that the Publishing Department has been able to track is the Michif Dictionary Android App. Since its

release, it has been downloaded by 219 people. Of those 219, there are 115 active installs with 99 from Canada, and 16 from USA. Even people from Korea and England have checked out our app! The app is currently in development for Apple platforms, which will see further features and more content, and is estimated for release Summer/Fall 2013. All the new features and content will be added to the Android version as well.



Norman Fleury and David Morin recording Michif for app project.

GDI Publishing is pleased to incorporate peoples' increased use of technology as another means to learn about

and access GDI's offerings. These efforts, in combination with word of mouth and printed catalogue promotion, help to

keep up the public profile of our available resources.

Métis Cultural Development Fund (MCDF)

SaskCulture's Métis Cultural Development Fund (MCDF) program in partnership with the Gabriel Dumont Institute seeks to fund activities that preserve, strengthen and transmit Métis culture and traditions in Saskatchewan.

The Métis Cultural Development Fund aims to advance the course of culture in Saskatchewan by providing funds to cultural organizations in areas not typically funded by conventional support systems.

Program Objectives include activities that preserve, strengthen and transmit Métis culture and traditions in Saskatchewan; build cultural leadership skills in Métis communities; transfer knowledge between generations; benefit children through skills development, mentorship, and having fun; and encourage gathering, sharing, learning, celebrating and developing Métis culture in Métis communities.

Applications must be submitted prior to the April 30th and October 31st deadline. Visit www.saskculture.sk.ca for more information.

Contact:
 Damon Badger Heit
 First Nations and Métis
 Coordinator
 Phone: (306) 780-9251
 Email: dbheit@saskculture.sk.ca

Mail applications to:
 SaskCulture
 404 – 2125 11th Avenue
 Regina, SK
 S4P 3X3
 Toll Free: 1-866-476-6830



GDI AGM and Grand Opening of Regina Facility

Article by Jim Edmondson and Photograph by Karon Shmon

Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday April 20, 2013 in conjunction with the grand opening and dedication of our newly purchased facility in Regina. Both events were well attended and were a resounding success.

This year's AGM meeting followed a slightly different agenda than the previous ones with the Directors of the functional Institute areas, GDI, GDI T&E, DTI, Publishing, Human Resources and Finance presenting details of the past year to attendees. The presentations were very well received and generated thoughtful discussions among attendees and presenters.

GDI recently purchased the property located at 1235-2nd Avenue North in Regina from the Regina Métis Sports & Culture Inc. The grand opening and dedication of the new building which took place on April 20, 2013, was a special moment. The new GDI facility was dedicated to the late Métis leader Clifford LaRocque and a plaque in honour of Mr. LaRocque (1940-2008) was installed near the

front entrance of the building.

Mr. LaRocque was a respected leader in the Saskatchewan Métis community and recipient of the Order of the Métis Nation. His daughter Karen served on the Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Directors.

GDI will be using the building for a number of purposes including classes for Licensed Practical Nursing, Culinary Arts, and GDI Training and Employment programs as well as for Métis community and sporting events.

The AGM reconfirmed the Institute's commitment to informing, involving, and gaining input from the Métis communities that it serves. The AGM and grand opening and dedication of the Regina facility



was followed by a soup and bannock lunch that allowed for attendees to share a meal and the continued success of GDI.

Task Force on Aboriginal Education

Releases Report

Article by James Oloo

In May 2011, the Government of Saskatchewan (Province) and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations established a joint task force on Aboriginal education and employment (JTF) with the aim of increasing First Nations and Métis participation and success in education and the labour market. The Métis were invited to submit their views to the JTF. GDI's submission focused on early childhood education, K-12, postsecondary, and labour market participation.

On March 26, 2012 the three-member JTF was announced: Gary Merasty, Rita Bouvier, and Don Hoium. The JTF published its report on March 31, 2013. Key recommendations of the report are summarized below.

The report recommends that the Province proclaim First Nations and Métis languages

as the original languages of Saskatchewan (note that in Manitoba, the Aboriginal Languages Recognition Act (2010) recognizes seven Aboriginal languages that are spoken and used in the province).

That the Province and the Federal government, working with First Nation and Métis authorities, articulate an integrated comprehensive Early Childhood Strategy both on- and off-reserve.

That the Province support early years literacy development through the provincial library system with emphasis on Northern, rural, and inner-city communities with significant First Nations and Métis populations.

That the Province strengthen its policies for First Nations and Métis content, perspectives, and ways of knowing in curriculum, instruction,

and student assessment.

That the Province engage with Métis and First Nations institutions of higher learning to expand their capacity to deliver programming to meet the needs of Aboriginal communities and the growing demands of the Saskatchewan economy.

That all post-secondary institutions continue to work closely with employers to provide better alignment between industry employment needs and program offerings, and that the Provincial and Federal governments articulate a strategy for First Nations and Métis people to facilitate one-stop access and supports for training and employment.

Access the full report at www.jointtaskforce.ca.

“Not mentioned in the local history books”: The Road Allowance People of Saskatchewan

Article by Darren Prefontaine and Images courtesy of Edwin St. Pierre and the late Gilbert Pelletier

After the Métis at Batoche were defeated ... [they], became landless wanderers, exiled in their own land and cheated of their birthright. In the Qu'Appelle they gathered at Lebret, Katepwa, St. Marthe de Rocanville, St. Joseph's, and St. Lazarre. They are the families not mentioned in the Jubilee Year history books, those dark-skinned people who lived on the road allowance or by the river, hunted grouse and deer year round, sold cordwood, fence pickets, and half-wild ponies, and sent their children to school with gopher-meat sandwiches in their lunch-pails.

—Trevor Herriot, *Qu'Appelle Past Present Future: Tales of Two Valleys*. <http://quappelle.mendel.ca/en/tales/whoscalling/downto/index.html>.

Historical amnesia is insidious. For too long, the Métis—who were only mentioned during the fur trade and the 1869-70 and 1885 Resistances—disappeared from our national and regional historical narratives. Of course, the Métis were here all along. However, as the quote above indicates, you

won't find many Métis families mentioned in the province's local history books, which focus on “Pioneer” history. In them, no mention was made of Métis midwives like Tillie Rose Trottier (née Whiteford) who helped countless newcomers birth their children or to Métis men like Willow Bunch's Alexandre “Cathou” McGillis who guided French Canadians to the site of La Veille (Gravelbourg) in 1906. Very few know that in Lipton, Saskatchewan, the local Métis and First Nations taught Jewish immigrants

how to chink and construct log cabins. These little known vignettes speak to the Métis' marginalization in our collective memory.

Before the school opened, I can recall and can still picture farmers' kids going to school carrying their lunch kits, walking by where we would be working, and stopping and looking at us. They were probably wondering how come we were out in fields and bushes working with our parents instead of being in school with them.

—Ed St. Pierre. *Remembering My Métis Past: Reminiscences of Edwin St. Pierre*. Saskatoon. Gabriel Dumont Institute, 2012.



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The 1885 Resistance had a deleterious impact upon the Prairie's Métis, which contributed to a fractured historical narrative. Although only a few hundred Métis took up arms, the region's Métis were stigmatized as “rebels.” As a result, the Métis were socially, economically, and politically marginalized—although some “bourgeois” Métis were successful in business and politics. Most Métis, however, lost out in the new social and economic landscape in the Prairie West as newcomers flooded the region. The Métis lost their tenure to their land through

the fraudulent Scrip system. Further still, restrictive game laws in the three Prairie Provinces meant that many Métis went to prison or had to pay steep fines because they hunted out of season and without mandatory licences. Unable to pay taxes on the land or having clear legal title to it, ensured that most Métis were squatters.

Most Métis squatted on Crown Land on the approaches to rural roads commonly known as “road allowances.” Since they paid no taxes, most Métis were unable to send their children to school as universal school attendance in the province didn’t become mandatory until the mid 1940s. Others lived in the northern bush, or near First Nations reserves, provincial and federal parks and forests, garbage dumps, or along the fringes of cities. The Métis became known as the “Road Allowance People.”

The Road Allowance period (roughly 1900-1960) is a key but little known component of Métis history and corporate identity. However, very few have a sense of how widespread these communities were. In fact, hundreds of Road Allowance communities existed in the Prairies from 1900 to 1960. They include Maria Campbell’s

Spring Valley, along the fringes of Prince Albert National Park, “Little Chicago” in the Qu’Appelle Valley, “Tokyo” near Yorkton, and Ste. Madeleine, Manitoba near the Saskatchewan border. These are four communities that have been written about; unfortunately, we don’t have stories for hundreds more.

The dissolution of these Road Allowance communities began during the Depression. Through the *Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act*, community or “Co-op” pastures were created, forcing many Métis out of their shanty communities. In places like “Little Chicago,” Métis families were loaded on rail cars, watched their homes burned, and were sent to parkland destinations like Green Lake. Such ethnic cleansing was actively encouraged by local RM officials, but was not written about and discussed in the larger society until recently. At this time, many Métis began moving to the province’s cities to make a living while others went to Métis farms in Lebret, Baljennie, Crescent Lake, Crooked Lake,



Duck Lake, Glen Mary, Lestock, and Willow Bunch. As late as the 1970s, homelessness, housing, and property ownership were still matters of grave concern for the province’s Métis.

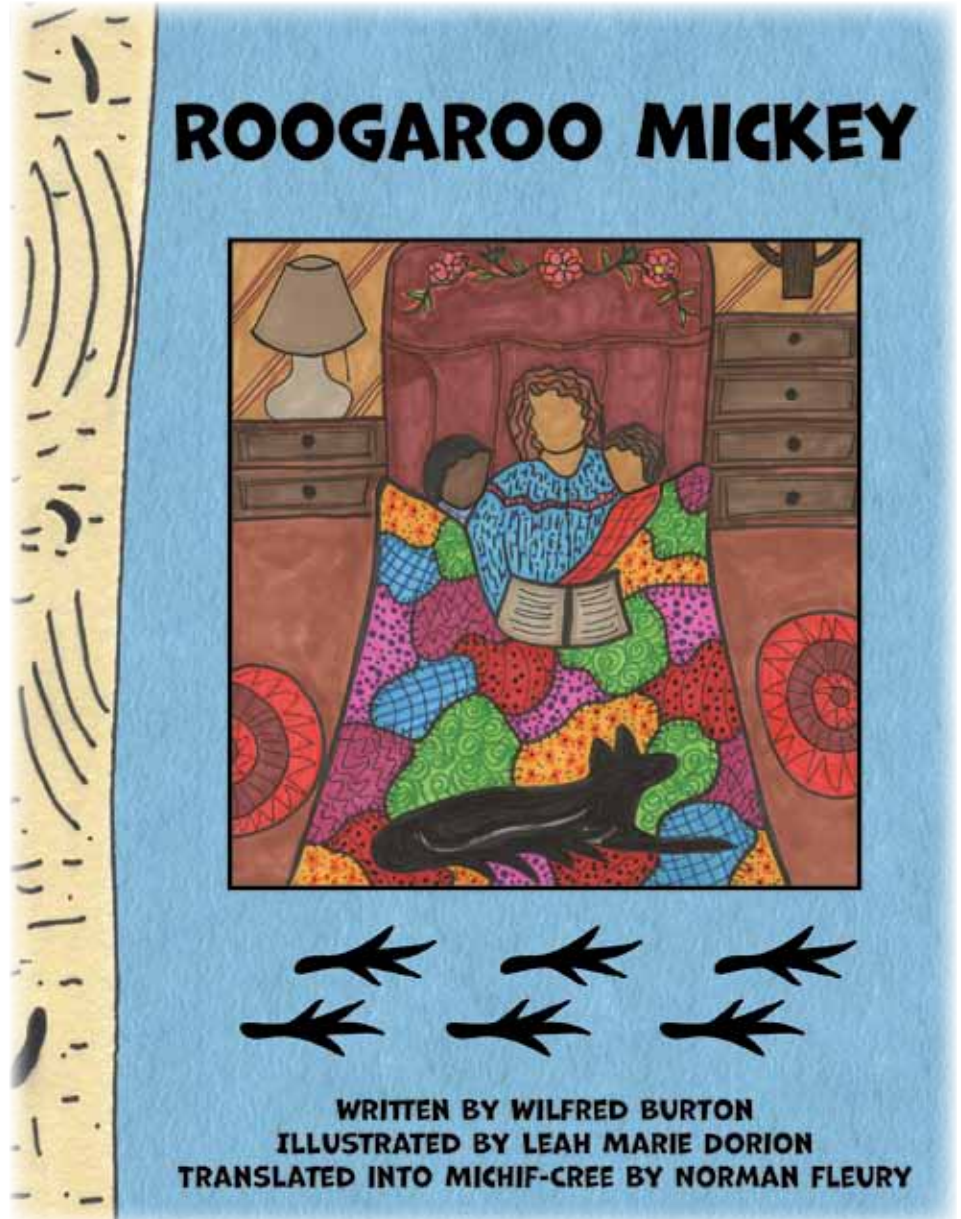
The Gabriel Dumont Institute is working on a Saskatchewan-based Métis Road Allowance project that will document this little-known period of our shared history. It will include an atlas and oral histories. If you would like to contribute—by way of information, photographs—or if you would like to be interviewed for this project, please contact Darren Prefontaine at 306.657.5711 or at darren.prefontaine@gdi.gdins.org.

Two Award Winning Authors Team-Up for New Book, *Roogaroo Mickey*

Article by David Morin

When award-winning author Wilfred Burton approached the GDI Publishing Department with his idea of a children's book about the Roogaroo, a Métis werewolf, with the intention of having Leah Marie Dorion illustrate it, GDI Publishing jumped at the chance to work with two highly-acclaimed talents on the same project. Leah Dorion had never illustrated someone else's story before but could see how much fun Wilfred's story was, and agreed to provide the art. With the artist in place, Wilfred's story came to life and became GDI Publishing's latest children's book, *Roogaroo Mickey*.

Telling stories has been a Métis tradition for generations. Papayrs or Mooshums and Mamays or Kookhums share stories with their grandchildren, parents share stories with their children, and friends share stories with one another! Some stories are for fun while other stories teach lessons to young ones, and some do both. The favoured stories of many are those about tricksters like Chi-Jean or about Roogaroos, the Métis werewolf. In *Roogaroo Mickey*, Mamayr tells Louis and Charlie a Roogaroo story from when she was a little girl. But Roogaroos aren't real . . . , right?



Available through GDI's online shop
at: <http://shop.gdins.org/node/83>
or order by phone at:
306-934-4941.
Price: \$15.00

Veterans' Monument Update

Article by Lisa Wilson

In early April, GDI consulted with a small group of Métis Veterans regarding the proposed Veteran's monument for Batoche. For a couple of years now GDI has been leading the fundraising efforts for the monument, accepting donations from Métis Veterans, their families, and other interested parties from across Canada, and issuing tax receipts on behalf of the project. To date, we have raised approximately \$136,000 for the structure, including Federal and Provincial government sources of revenue.

While the initial concept design was estimated at \$300,000

several years ago, that cost has only increased with time.

Furthermore, the Federal and Provincial funding pots both have expiry dates attached to them, adding a sense of priority to the project. At the February 8, 2013 Provincial Métis Council meeting, the motion was passed authorizing the Clarence Campeau Development Fund (CCDF) "to direct the next \$100,000 capital grant for Batoche towards the Métis Veterans Monument to be constructed on the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Batoche grounds effective for the 2013/14 fiscal

year." This recent development puts the realization of the Métis Veteran's Monument within reach.

The Métis Veteran's are being consulted in order that we may proceed with the next phase of the project. The Veterans will provide advice and feedback on monument designs within the current budget and timeline realities. We very much appreciate the counsel and wisdom of the Métis Veterans on this consultation.



GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE
of Native Studies and Applied Research

Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project

The importance of Métis veterans to the Métis community cannot be understated. Our veterans occupy a point of honour at all Métis gatherings and cultural events. The Métis Veterans Memorial Monument will be a landmark for generations of Métis people to gather and pay homage to the servicemen and servicewomen who have served our country.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute has been chosen to oversee the building of the Métis Veterans Memorial Monument at Batoche, and is seeking donations towards the total project cost of \$300,000. Donations over \$10 are eligible for a tax receipt.

Donations over \$25 will receive the CD *Honouring Our Heroes: A Tribute to Métis Veterans*, featuring Métis performing artists ~ Donny Parenteau, Andrea Menard, Ray St. Germain, Jess Lee, Mike Gouchie, and Krystle Pederson.

Donations over \$50 will receive the CD above as well as the book: *Métis Veterans of Saskatchewan: 1914-1953* by Cathy Littlejohn.

Our goal is to ensure the monument recognizes and honours all of our Métis Veterans, past and present. If you know of a Métis veteran who should be recognized, please visit the website below for submission information.

For more information, please contact the Gabriel Dumont Institute at 1-877-488-6888 (Toll-Free in Saskatchewan), Amy Briley at 1-306-657-5719, by email: amy.briley@gdi.gdins.org, or visit the website: www.gdins.org/veteransmonument.

Donations can be mailed to:
Métis Veterans Memorial Monument Project
c/o Gabriel Dumont Institute
917-22nd Street West
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0R9

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

Jess Lee Releases New CD: *I Am All of This*

GDI is delighted to have played a role in the production of Jess Lee's two CD set, *I Am All of This*. This "best of" Jess Lee compilation features many of his recordings as a solo artist and includes some new songs, "Shining Star," and "All of This." Decades of sharing his gifts as a musician, singer, and songwriter demonstrate the sharpened skills, and the maturity and depth of this seasoned professional. Whether he is crooning about his experiences as a Métis man, sharing his celebrations and losses, or reminding us of our connection to the land and the universe, we come away reminded of our human condition, and are left satisfied with a rarely paralleled listening experience. For his Métis fans, Jess has retold much of our story through his songs—some that will make you cry with joy and others with sorrow. Either way, the history, the reflections, the experiences, and the memories shared in these heartfelt, poignant songs are gifts to us all. As a community, we are gifted to experience the musical legacy of Jess Lee. He is indeed, "all of this."

As this is a compilation album containing 24 songs on a wide variety of topics, we recommend teachers select the songs they want to use with their students.



Disc 1:

1. Sacred Ground
2. Métis Rose
3. Walking the White Line
4. Red White and Blue
5. Friendship Song
6. Happy Go Lucky
7. Red River Jig (Interlude)
8. Red River Cart
9. Born in the North
10. Bingo
11. Canadian Red and White
12. All of This

Disc 2:

1. Still Standing on Sacred Ground
2. Think About That
3. Wa Ha Hey
4. Calvin's Song
5. Friends
6. Old Time Country Song
7. Midnite Eagle
8. Sparrow
9. Rainy Lorraine

10. What You Gonna Do
11. Evolving Waltz
12. Shining Star

Available through GDI's online shop at: <http://shop.gdins.org/node/84> or order by phone at: 306-934-4941. Price: \$25.00

Jess launched his CD on Friday, May 17th at the St. Albert Métis Spring Festival and will be having a second launch at this year's *Back to Batoche* celebration. He is also leading a workshop for Métis youth at *Back to Batoche*, focusing on some of his Métis-specific songs.

National Aboriginal Day 2013

Batoche Photo Highlights

Photographs by Peter Beszterda



Top Row: Rose Fleury and Maria Campbell, painting by Christi Belcourt; Jigging presentation.

Middle Row: Bonnie Hrycuik demonstrating beading; Len Dumont.

Bottom Row: Len Dumont and Mel Vandale performing; Karon Shmon demonstrating fingerweaving.

Teacher Guidebook for GDI Resources

Introduction from Guidebook by Wilfred Burton

Bringing Métis Children's Literature to Life is a guidebook for teachers to support the children's literature published by Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI). Not only will teachers be able to teach about the Métis but they will also utilize strategies that foster and promote literacy development (listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, and representing).

The stories used in this guidebook are written and illustrated by Métis authors and illustrators. Each story brings traditional and contemporary Métis culture to life. They honour the past and present. Métis children often see themselves in these publications. Non-Métis students will see and connect with the universal themes and relate them to their own lives while learning about Métis culture. Most importantly, this resource is about engaging readers in the history and traditions of Métis culture through literature.

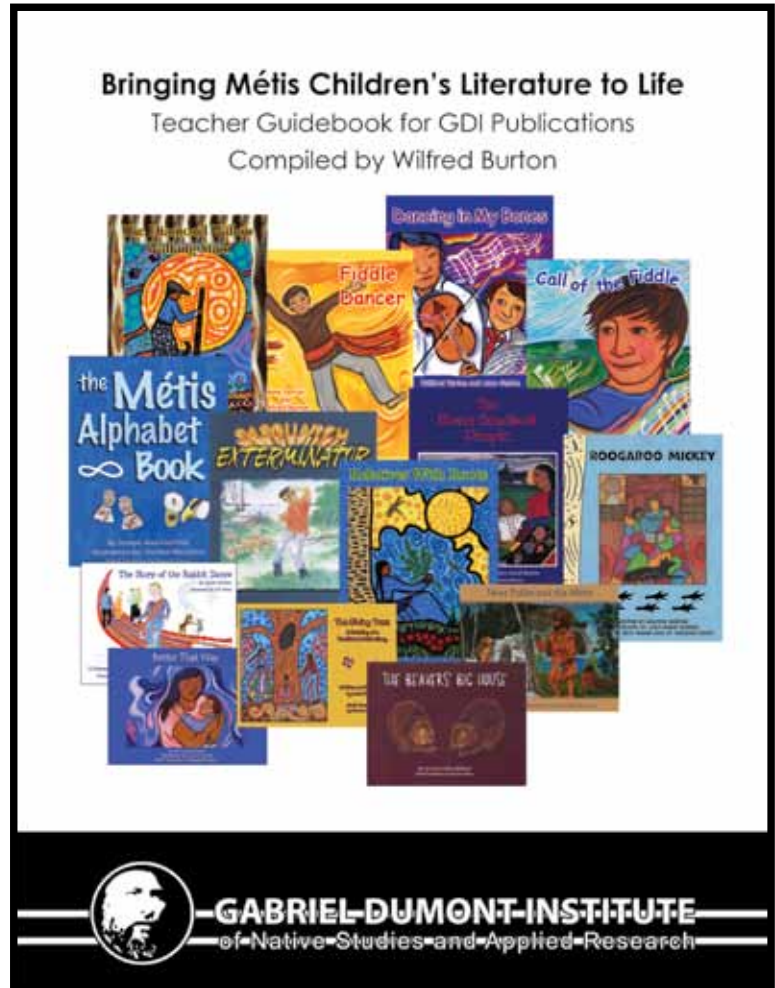
Métis children's literature is found in classrooms, and in school libraries and public libraries all across Canada. Teachers use the books in various ways to bring awareness of the culture and teach outcomes. However, teachers are not always an "insider" in the culture, and often search for

ideas on how to incorporate Métis content into their practice. There is a desire by teachers to be more inclusive, but they may not know how. This resource assists teachers in being culturally responsive while at the same time allowing them to teach provincial outcomes.

The guidebook is broken up into five main categories: Who are the Métis?; Métis Values-Good Medicine; Métis Roots; Entertainment Stories; and Métis Dance.

It will be available on August 15th as an interactive PDF file from the website: <http://www.metismuseum.ca/resource.php/13827>

It contains hyperlinks to navigate the document, and to visit external webpages, as well as printable worksheets and resources. The file will be updated with new lesson plans as GDI publishes new resources so be sure to check the website for updates!



GDI Wins Saskatchewan Book Award

Article by Lisa Bird-Wilson

At the 2013 Saskatchewan Book Awards, April 27th in Regina, GDI was pleased to accept the Aboriginal Peoples' Publishing Award for the publication, *The Diamond Willow Walking Stick: A Traditional Métis Story about Generosity*, written and illustrated by Leah Marie Dorion with Michif translation by Norman Fleury.

The Aboriginal Peoples' Publishing Award, sponsored by the First Nations University of Canada, is presented to the Saskatchewan publisher of the best book, based on literary or artistic value, the quality of editing, book design, production and content.

Of Leah's book, the jurors remarked, "It is a beautifully rendered book that will appeal to everyone."

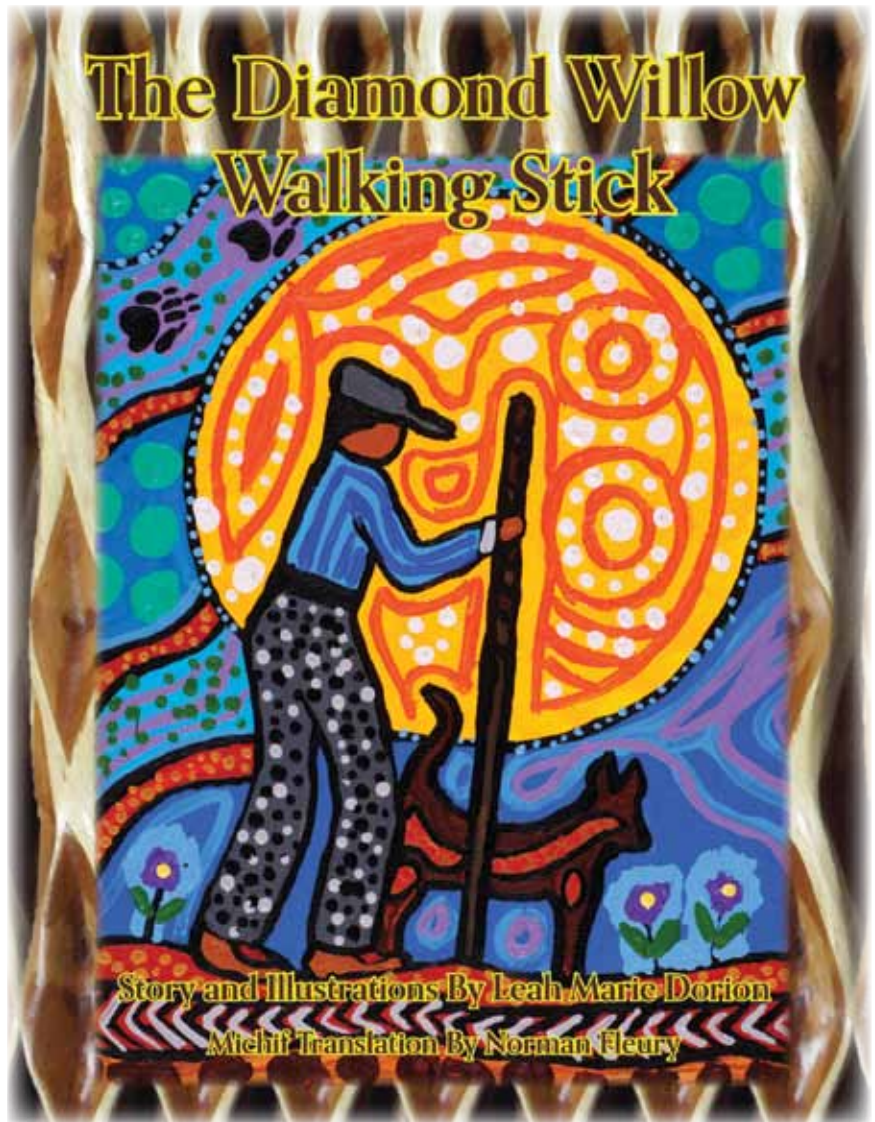
GDI Publishing also had books competing as finalists for four other awards, including a second title for the Aboriginal Peoples' Publishing Award, *An Institute of Our Own: A History of the Gabriel Dumont Institute* by Lisa Bird-Wilson, and Leah's book, *The Diamond Willow Walking Stick*, for the Aboriginal Peoples' Writing Award; the Publishing Award; and the Award

for Publishing in Education. Both Leah and Lisa are employees of the Institute and collaborated with the staff of GDI Publishing to bring the books to print.

The day started with GDI's Darren Prefontaine, a previous book award winner, invited to share his book *Gabriel Dumont: Li Chef Michif in Images and in Words* at the Festival of Readings.

"We are celebrating the win, the nominations, and the fact that both our traditional stories and our more contemporary ones are being preserved for all to enjoy," said Karon Shmon, Director of GDI Publishing Department.

The awards generally receive about 250 entries for 14 prizes. Congratulations to Leah and GDI Publishing for the award.

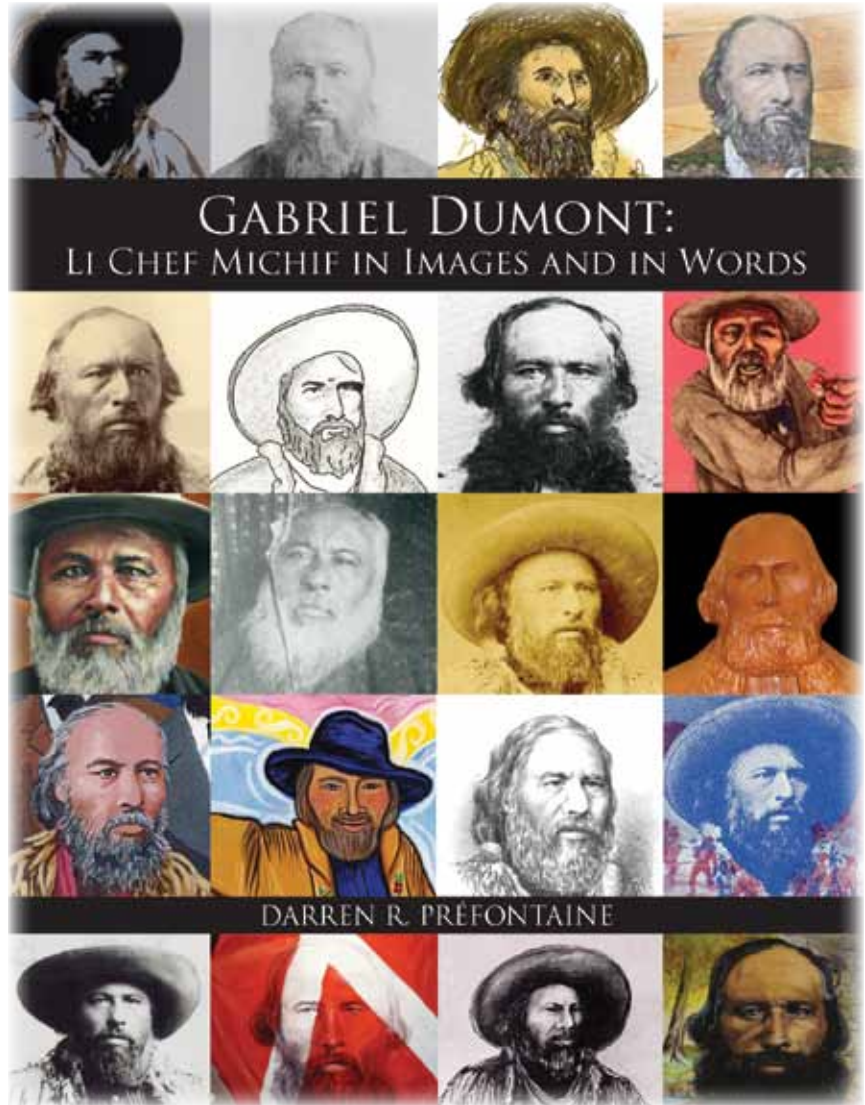


Book Review: *Gabriel Dumont: Li Chef Michif in Images and in Words*

Book Review by Shea Meyers, SUNTEP Prince Albert

Gabriel Dumont: Li Chef Michif in Images and in Words is a multi-faceted book. It can be used as a basic textbook for students delving into the complexities of Native Studies. Historians and the general public who are exploring Canada's history may discover a wealth of information from the archives the author accumulated while researching the life and times of Gabriel Dumont. Most importantly, the visual images present a fascinating glimpse of a man, a time, and an extraordinary event that has left an essential, but often underappreciated impact on the understanding of Métis history in relationship to Canadian politics.

In the preface, the author Darren Préfontaine offers differing views of Gabriel Dumont, whom the Métis nation regard as the "People's hero" — *Li Michif ka nii kaniit.*" (2) According to Préfontaine, Gabriel Dumont, until recently, has been overshadowed by Louis Riel as the real leader of the Riel "rebellion," and its effects on a nation of people seeking justice. This view was held mainly by Eurocentric middle class Canadians, whom Préfontaine believes has an "easier time



identifying with the Euro-Canadian educated and fairer skinned Louis Riel than the more visibly Aboriginal Gabriel Dumont who was unlettered, rough around the edges, and living off the land" (2). Préfontaine's image of Dumont as a Métis leader with convictions, values, and beliefs make him relatable to all people,

instead of portraying him as a remote and unrelatable Métis bushman or barbaric savage as previous portraits have done.

Préfontaine undertook a tremendous task in collecting visual images and journalistic information regarding the life and times of the legendary

Gabriel Dumont. His work was commissioned by the Gabriel Dumont Institute to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Dumont's passing (2006) and the 125th anniversary of the 1885 Resistance (6).

Préfontaine was the project leader who drew upon the resources of artists, community activists, museums curators, and provincial architects. Most importantly, artists were instrumental in bringing forth original pieces of art that were specifically ordered for this project. To add a touch of modern or popular culture to this visual anthology, images and logos were provided as a testament of Dumont's enduring purpose.

This book is organized into eleven chapters which creates a fluid timeline between the past and the present. In particular, the first eight chapters offer a thorough balance of visual images. Historical images of Gabriel Dumont are compared face to face to illustrate historical interpretations of a man who has become a "pan-Canadian icon." (4) The first glimpse of Gabriel Dumont sets the tone for the book. Gabriel appears in a staged photograph as a thirty eight year old man, who was, at the time, the president of the St. Laurent Council. Dumont is posing with "Le petit" a Winchester rifle, and standing proudly looking

directly at the camera, seeming to look out of the picture and at the reader. His passion, determination, and pride leaps out of this staged photograph. It provides the reader with a concrete and life-like image of Dumont to carry with them, and helps create enthusiasm to continue the journey from past to present. The yellowing pages of illustrated historical images, chapters covering artefacts, material objects, places and events related to Gabriel Dumont, highlight the intensity of a natural man of action.

The contemporary visual interpretations put a modern stamp on the book as it moves from the past to the present. At first glance, images of key chains, lawn chairs, earrings and pendants created in honour of Gabriel Dumont, introduce an unfamiliar tone. At the same time, it accents the author's aim of honouring the hero in its own traditions of pop culture. This modern honouring of Dumont's influence is balanced by the book's inclusion of images of the Métis

leader in books, magazines, graphic novels, and blogs.

During the latter part of the 19th century and the early 20th century, the popular opinion paid to Riel was that of a martyred hero who was executed for his role in leading the forces of the "rebellion." By contrast, Gabriel Dumont until the present was somewhat reduced to a secondary role as the astute military commander who followed orders. However, Préfontaine contends: "In the end, Gabriel Dumont was a masculine hero



who had no regrets, never vacillated, and never lamented his actions. He stood up to the Métis' oppressors, and he was not scared of them. Perhaps that is why he has been placed in the pantheon of Canadian heroes." (3) This is why this collection is such a fitting tribute to a great leader and hero, portraying him as the man he was, and demonstrating his influence and legacy for all peoples.

This volume enhances the social studies, history, and Native studies curriculum that requires a balanced view of the forces that drove two men, Riel and Dumont, into a struggle that was pivotal in the development and growth of Canada as a nation.

It would be difficult to criticize Préfontaine's work on the basis of stating that he did not achieve

You will note that the term "rebellion" is in quotation marks in this article because the Métis now refer to the 1885 conflict as the "1885 Resistance." We didn't get to write the history in 1885 and the actions of the Métis were viewed by those who did write the history as rebellious. The Métis considered their actions as resisting something that was happening to them.



his primary aim, revealing a portrait of an historical icon through the outlook of others who were related to the success or failure to Dumont's mission. Hindered by myths, legends, and a lack of substantial information regarding important data prior to the early 1870's, between 1889-1893, and early 1900's, Préfontaine was faced with a challenging task.

Thus, the author had to depend on scraps of oral history and archival records to depict Gabriel Dumont's life. Using the richness of visual images along with vivid, readable, descriptive prose, Préfontaine was successful in characterizing a remarkable

portrait of an authentic Canadian hero.

Most important of all, he raised Dumont to the pedestal beside Louis Riel. "Li Chef Michif" is no longer regarded as standing one pace behind the charismatic Riel, but stands beside him as the "first among equals." Finally, Préfontaine provided a wealth of archival information to substantiate the authenticity of this portrayal of Dumont. Therefore, Préfontaine achieved his two main goals in preparing this volume, and provides readers with a fascinating and inspiring look at a Métis political figure whose actions have defined Saskatchewan as we know it.

Harry Daniels: The Man and the Legend

Article by James Oloo

Many people across Métis Nation, First Nations Communities, and indeed Canada celebrated the Federal Court landmark ruling in Daniels versus Canada. Judge Michael Phelan declared that the federal government has jurisdiction for Métis and Non-Status Indians. The ruling, according to the Métis Nation of Ontario President Gary Lipinski, "is part of what Métis people have been fighting for since Louis Riel. By acknowledging that the federal government is indeed responsible for the Métis, we are that much closer to finding our rightful place within the Canadian Federation."

The case, Daniels v. Canada, was filed by Harry Daniels and the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP). This article briefly examines the life and times of Harry Daniels, a Saskatchewan native and proud Métis citizen.

Born in Regina in 1940, Daniels got his undergraduate degree from the University of Saskatchewan (U of S), a master's degree from Carleton University, and an honorary doctorate in Law from the University of Ottawa. Daniels was one of the founding members of the Saskatchewan Métis Society.

He served as native peoples organizer in the North West Territories, coordinator of Field Operations for the Métis Nation of Alberta, and as chairman of the Métis and Non-Status Crime and Justice Commission. Daniels also taught Métis History at the U of S.

At the Constitutional talks in Ottawa in the late 1970's, the Native Council of Canada had two seats. First Nations women formally requested a seat at the table, a request that was turned down by the federal government. Daniels then gave up one of the seats to the First Nations women, thus giving the women a voice at the table.

Daniels held a number of elected positions including Vice President of the Métis association of Alberta, President of the Native Council of Canada and its successor, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP); and President of the Métis National Council. Thus



Harry Daniels, Painting by Christi Belcourt

the ground breaking court ruling in Daniels v. Canada nine years after Daniels' death in 2004 is a culmination of a lifetime of work by Harry Daniels and others, and his struggle for social justice for Métis peoples.

A video tribute, *Harry Daniels: A Métis Voice for the People* is available online at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kg8rGQyOMus>

Maskisina Workshops Held in Saskatoon

Article by David Morin

In anticipation of the summer release of *maskisina: A Guide to Northern Style Métis Moccasins* by Amy Briley and Gregory Scofield, a two-part workshop was held in March and April, 2013.

Gregory and Amy were there to teach the eager participants how to bead and make moccasins, myself included. During the first workshop, we were taught how to bead the vamps of the moccasin, using the techniques found in the book *wapikwaniy: A Beginner's Guide to Métis Floral Beadwork*. Some of us practiced our beading, while some of the more experienced beaders went straight to creating their own patterns and began beading.

As a first-time beader, by the end of the workshop I was comfortable



Making a pattern. Photograph by Bonnie Hryciuk.



Workshop participants showing their vamps. Photograph by Gregory Scofield.

enough to apply my pattern to my vamps, and then spent the next six weeks beading so I was ready to make my moccasins.

In the second workshop, we were taught how to make our moccasins. We spent the first part of the morning practicing on scraps of hide in order to get the technique and the tension of sewing down, before starting on our actual moccasins. I would recommend anyone using *Maskisina* to do the same! By practicing on a scrap piece of hide, we were able to figure out how tightly the sinew needed to be pulled so it isn't visible when it's time to flip your moccasins right-side out.

I was fairly slow in the

process, but by the end of the day, I had one amazing moccasin completed. Greg and Amy did a great job facilitating the workshop. They were approachable and very helpful to all of us when we needed anything.

maskisina: A Guide to Northern Style Métis Moccasins will be available this summer so anyone can make their own pair of moccasins!



My Winnipeg Jets moccasin. Photograph by David Morin.



Batoche National Historic Site
parksCanada.gc.ca

Lieu historique national de Batoche
parcsCanada.gc.ca



THE Event of the Summer!

“Kidfest at Batoche”

Sunday, August 4

Your kids will have a groovy, fun-filled day of petting zoo, bouncy castle, wagon rides, magician, children’s activities, music, storytelling, costume photo zone and more!

L’événement de l’été

« Kidfest à Batoche »

Dimanche, le 4 août

Vos enfants passeront une journée merveilleuse et remplie : zoo pour enfants, château gonflable, balades en charette, magicien, activités pour enfants, musique, récits, coin de photos en costumes, et plus!

Don’t Miss!

July 1- September 2	NEW! Journey Through Time Tour: Your family will love this fun and animated version of the Batoche story. Meet interesting characters on this tour that explores the Métis community of Batoche before, during and after the events of 1885.
Daily	Xplorers for Kids Do your kids like to Xplore? They can have FUN doing activities and collecting COOL souvenirs at Batoche National Historic Site.
July 1- October 12	Seek and Scamper Geocaching Discover the hidden secrets of Batoche and earn your souvenir Geocoin in this brand new geocaching program for all ages. GPS units included in program fee.
September 5- October 12	Fall Hours

Ne manquez pas!

Du 1er juillet au 2 septembre	NOUVEAU! Un voyage dans le temps Votre famille se divertira grâce à cette version amusante, animée et divertissante de l'histoire de Batoche. Vous rencontrerez des personnages intéressants lors de cette visite qui présente la communauté métisse de Batoche avant, pendant et après les événements de 1885.
Tous les jours	Xplorateurs pour les enfants Vos enfants aiment-ils explorer? Ils s’amuseront à faire des activités et à collectionner des super souvenirs au lieu historique national de Batoche.
Du 1er juil- let au 12 octobre	À la découverte de secrets cachés - la géocachette Découvrez les secrets cachés de Batoche et obtenez votre géopiece-souvenir de Batoche dans le cadre de ce tout nouveau programme de géocachette destiné à tous. La location d’un appareil GPS est comprise dans les droits de participation au programme.
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9:00 am - 5:00 pm

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Heures d’ouverture
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Du 20 mai au 28 juin, du lundi au vendredi
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Yes! That's Métis!

Article and Photographs by Karon Shmon

The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) has held a number of consultations titled “Yes! That’s Métis!” to ask Métis what they want to know about the Métis and what they want others to know about us. The workshops had open registration at which participants were invited to contribute their knowledge and ideas for this initiative with the understanding that all of the data collected would be used to determine what is essential for people to learn about the Métis while at the same time informing us how we are similar and different as Métis.

The first six sessions were held at the Dumont Technical Institute’s 20th Anniversary Conference in November, 2012, and involved six concurrent workshops with 160 DTI students and other conference attendees participating. The workshop, designed by Métis educator Wilfred Burton, is designed to take all suggestions, with nothing deemed “right” or “wrong.” The participants group the responses into themes and also determine if any ideas are unique or “not necessarily Métis.” Following the conference, five additional sessions were held in Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert, and Yorkton, and ended with the final session



Facilitators Wilfred Burton and Angie Caron leading the activities.

in Saskatoon, but this time with only Elders attending. The Elders’ session had a slightly different purpose. The Elders were asked to look at the combined data for areas they could validate, areas in which they had questions or concerns, and areas they felt were not generally reflective of Métis identity and lifestyle. These five sessions were conducted by Wilfred Burton and Angela Caron, both SUNTEP graduates with a rich background in K-12 education. In total, 275 Métis were involved, and ranged in age from youth to Elder.

It was interesting to see how the same themes and ideas kept emerging with different groups

in different places. This overlap affirmed that much of what was shared helped us say, “Yes! That’s Métis!”

Five themes emerged, each with subheadings. Each was viewed from historical and contemporary viewpoints and included identifying both struggles and opportunities.

1. Nationhood
 - a. Distinct Peoples
 - b. Governance
 - c. We are known as . . .
 - d. Symbols
2. Worldview
 - a. Language
 - b. Kinship and Family

- c. Spirituality and Beliefs
- d. Storytelling
- e. Connection to the Land
- f. Values

3. Lifestyle

- a. Religion
- b. Health (Intellectual/Spiritual/Emotional/Physical)
- c. Gatherings and Celebrations
- d. Games and Toys
- e. Housing
- f. Clothing
- g. Foods and Food Preparation
- h. Music and Dance

4. Economic Development, Education, and Employment

- a. Workforce

- b. Education
- c. Economic Development

5. Contributions (Historical and Contemporary)

- a. Artists and Artisans
- b. Authors
- c. Musicians
- d. More categories to come

GDI will utilize the findings in two ways. GDI's current cadre of learning resources will be looked at to determine which are suitable for conveying the themes and sub-headings as well as the appropriate grade level to which each resource is suited. This will help identify where additional resource development is required and

guide GDI Publishing until they are produced. The second purpose is to provide the Ministry of Education of Saskatchewan with the findings so Métis Essential Learnings, sometimes called MELs, can be developed for inclusion in provincial curricula. This important development will ensure all children in Saskatchewan, and their teachers, will learn about Métis history, culture, and lifestyles from a Métis perspective and including Métis indigenous knowledge. The end goal is to ensure all students in Saskatchewan learn about us and that Métis students see themselves in everything that is being taught.



Elder Michael Maurice.

GDI Publishing Gains Additional Space

Interview by David Morin with Karon Shmon

DM: GDI Publishing in Saskatoon has gained some additional space adjacent to its current location. Can you tell our readers why you needed it and what it will be used for?

KS: We've functioned in cramped quarters for some time now because when we started here we had a very small museum, fewer publications, and only one special collection. Métis artifacts require a "carpe diem" attitude because when one becomes available, you have to try to acquire it in real time. I am happy to say we have added a number of very significant pieces to GDI's museum over the last several years and need extra space to display them for public access. We've also been given the Dennis and Jean Fisher Collection and the Olive Dickason Collection and need space for those too. As our publications now number over 130, we have more Métis learning resources to store and sell. Lastly, I've always dreamed of a space large enough to have an entire class of students visit, and now we have it.

DM: You mentioned in our earlier discussions that you saw the space as being multi-purpose. How will that work?



KS: GDI has an extensive art and artefact collection that can be periodically pulled together as a gallery show. When we do that, we want enough room for people to move around and view what's on the walls as well as in display cases we may have here and there. That means we won't want chairs and table taking up space. We do, however, want chairs and tables for workshops, meetings, and project work, so we've purchased folding tables and chairs that can be put away when not needed. If we are having a media release, author reading, or classroom visit, we will likely use mostly chairs and only one or two tables.

DM: What did it take to get the space ready?

KS: It's not quite ready and we are aiming to have an official opening in the fall. To date, the space was renovated from a spa with lots of little rooms to a larger, open space for the purposes I've mentioned, and the much needed storage we require, given that our stock had to be held off-site until now. The space has been upgraded with paint, flooring, and museum standard lighting which ensures the art and artefacts are not damaged by heat or ultra-violet light.

DM: What do you have planned for the opening?

KS: Well, we've already had an unofficial opening at which a dozen Elders and our staff participated in a smudging

ceremony lead by Elder Michael Maurice. The Elders were assembling for a Métis Elders' Role Model learning resource currently in production. The official opening will give visitors a chance to see the space and some of the art and artefacts displayed.

DM: Although I've been interviewing you like I am just finding this out, because I work here, I can attest to how much work has gone into it and how useful it has been even during these last few months when we have been able to store stock, meet with others, and spread out as we work.

KS: Thanks, Dave. That's the whole idea. I can't wait to share it with the public and I think Louis Riel Day, November 16, would be a great occasion to officially open it.

DM: Thanks, Karon.

KS: You're most welcome.

*Gabriel Dumont
Scholarship Foundation*



The Gabriel Dumont Scholarship Foundation Golf Tournament was a huge success raising \$23,000 which will be matched by the Provincial Government and awarded to Métis Students in Saskatchewan.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the event. We hope to see you again on May 30th, 2014!



Friday, May 30th

**... GOLF ...
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2014
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The New Nation

La noovel naasyoon

Advertising

The New Nation: la noovel naaysoon, is a publication of the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), which promotes Métis history and culture, the Institute's activities and programs, and the larger Métis community in the province. Four issues a year will be published, one for each season: winter, spring, summer, and fall. Subscription rates to *The New Nation: la noovel naaysoon* will remain relatively low as we would like to see as many people as possible read it, and these rates are only meant to recover the costs associated with shipping the magazine. *The New Nation: la noovel naaysoon* will be available for free at the GDI Publishing Office, at cultural events in which GDI has a display, as well as online at the *Virtual Museum of Métis History and Culture* (www.metismuseum.ca).

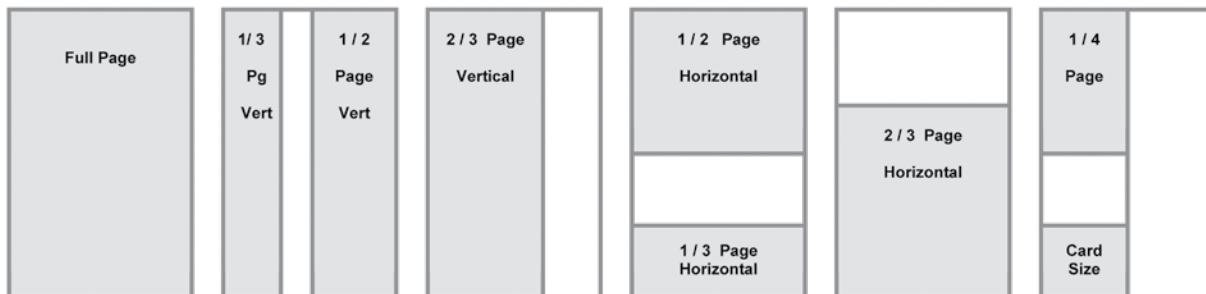
GDI's mission, which guides the Institute's work, provides a wide variety of topics to cover in the magazine.

GDI mission: To promote the renewal and the development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collections and the distribution of those materials and the development and delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services.

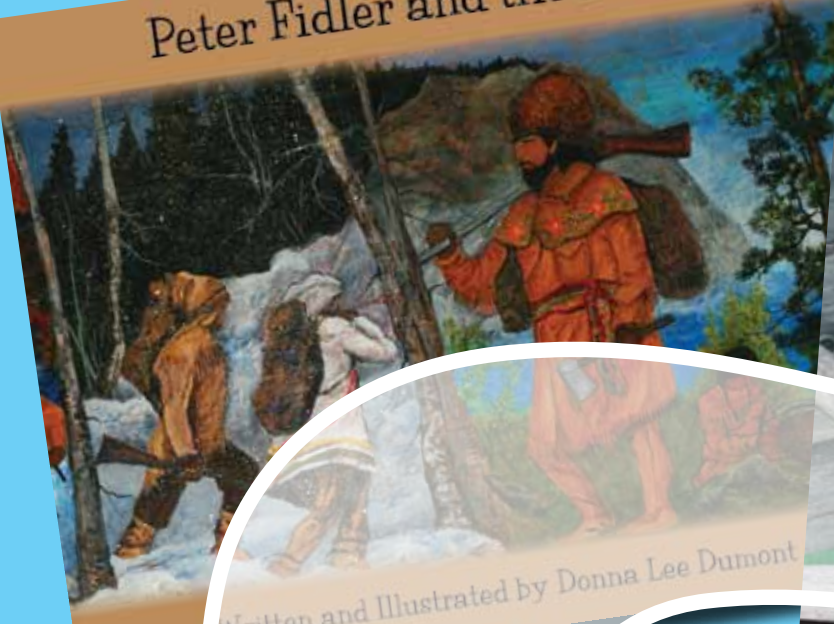
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Peter Fidler and the Métis



Written and Illustrated by Donna Lee Dumont

maskisina

A Guide to Northern-Style Métis Moccasins

Written By Gregory Scofield and Amy Briley
Historical Overview by Sherry Farrell Racette



ROOGAROO MICKEY



WRITTEN BY WILFRED BURTON
ILLUSTRATED BY LEAH MARIE DORION
TRANSLATED INTO MICHIF-CREE BY NORMAN FLEURY

The Diamond Willow Walking Stick



Story and Illustrations by Leah Marie Dorion
Michif translation by Norman Fleury



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