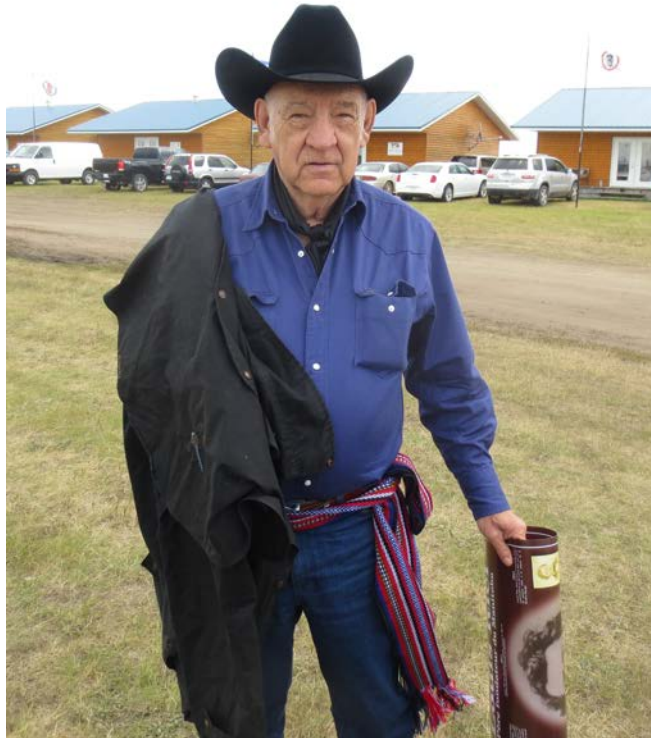


Métis Bandanas or Wilds

Wilds are men's bandanas made of silk or cotton, usually worn around the neck to protect against winds, rain, and sunshine. On the Great Plains when the wind blew up the dust the bandanas were pulled up over the mouth and nose for protection. Wilds were also used to wash the face, tie up broken bones or to signal friends. Métis men also cherished fancy silk or cotton handkerchiefs. Before the advent of paper bags handkerchiefs were used to carry expensive food items such as salt, tea, and sugar.



Métis Elder Don Beauchesne wearing his trademark black “wild.”
Photograph by Lawrence Barkwell, Batoche 2015.



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