

## Métis Political Activist Interview Questions

- 1) Who are you? Where are you from originally? Who were/are your parents, grandparents?
- 2) Were you parents and grandparents involved in the political process? How so?
- 3) What is your earliest memory of a political event? What struck you most about it?
- 4) Which Métis politician(s) played the greatest role in the development of Métis political consciousness? Why?
- 5) Which Métis and which mainstream politician(s) has influenced you the most? Why?
- 6) Who were some of your role models in the Métis activist movement? What qualities did they possess?
- 7) What qualities did you think a political leader should possess?
- 8) What role did women play in the movement?
- 9) Were there any women who were leading activists? Who were they? Were their methods effective?
- 10) Which mainstream political party did most Métis traditionally support? Did the Métis have a constituency within this party or were they left in the margins?
- 11) Looking at the mainstream political parties, such as the CCF/NDP, the Liberals and the Conservatives, which of these had the best relationship with the Métis? Which had the most troubled relationship? Provide examples.
- 12) How were the actions of all these parties similar in regards to their treatment of the Métis?
- 13) What role did the Church and individual priests in the Métis political movement?
- 14) How did the political process differ for the Métis in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba?
- 15) What process led to the creation of the Alberta Métis Settlements? Discuss the leadership abilities of those involved.
- 16) How was the leadership style of Malcolm Norris different than that of James Brady? How was it similar?
- 17) How did the Métis before World War II participate in the mainstream political process? From 1945-1960? The 1960s? The 1970s? The 1980s?
- 18) What was the main emphasis of the Métis political movement in the 1950s? The 1960s? The 1970s? The 1980s? The 1990s? Currently?
- 19) How did 1960s radicalism impact upon Métis activism?
- 20) What were the goals of the Métis Society prior to the 1960s? The 1970s? The 1980s? The 1990s?
- 21) What were some of the problems that the Métis Society would have had in organizing during the 1950s? 1960s? 1970s? 1980s? 1990s?
- 22) What steps did Métis activists take to create Métis-run institutions like the Gabriel Dumont Institute?

- 23) Did the state support or co-opt the Métis activist movement?
- 24) How did the inclusion of the Métis in the 1982 Constitution effect Métis political activism? Was this change for the better or did it take power out of the hands of community people and into those of politicians?
- 25) What has happened to the tradition of Métis political activism? How or can this situation change?
- 26) What were your experiences in the Canadian military? Were your experiences positive or negative? As an Aboriginal person did you feel at home with the military? Did you face discrimination?
- 27) Where did you serve?
- 28) Was the training that you required useful in your later life?
- 29) Who were some of the other Métis with whom you served with in the military?
- 30) Do you know of other Métis who served in the military? Where and when did they serve?