

Paul L.A.H. Chartrand: Teach. Cert. (Man. Teachers' College); B.A. (University of Winnipeg); LL.B. (Hons.) QUT, Australia; LL.M. (U of Sask); (b. 1943).

Paul Chartrand, former Commissioner of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (1991-1996) is a proud Michif speaker from St. Laurent, Manitoba. As he has pointed out:

Moins, ch'tin Michif—ipi—in Michif di St. Laurent apor di ca!¹

Law Professor Paul Chartrand is a former athlete who competed at the national and international level and has been inducted into the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame and the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame.



In 2004, Paul Chartrand was inducted into the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame. They give the following description of his achievements:

Chartrand was a right-handed pitcher who played for fifteen teams over thirty years (1961-91) in Canada and Australia, including three Prairie Provinces. He played on Team Manitoba in First Canada Summer Games at Halifax (1969) and again in 1972 when the Canadian championships were in Brandon. He played for St. Laurent Alouettes, Warren, Balmoral, Transcona Atomic, St. Lazare Athletics, Ste. Agathe Bisons, and McAuley Blazers from 1961-74. Chartrand played in Brisbane Major Baseball League on the Queensland State Team and Australian National Team (1974-82). Chartrand led Queensland with two wins in tri State series in 1974 at Sydney N.S.W. He pitched a 20 strikeout no hitter on October 21, 1979 against Ipswich Musketeers. Chartrand had a 15-3 record with 1.51 ERA in first year 1974-75. In 1983 he played for the Saskatoon Patrick Liners, who won bronze medals at the Canadians in Sudbury. From 1984-91 Chartrand played for the Teulon Cardinals and Elmwood Giants in Redboine Senior League, struck out sixteen batters in a five-inning tournament game at annual Kenora tournament game. Chartrand had a 6-2 record with the Calgary Giants in 1974. Paul Chartrand is now a teacher and law professor at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon.

Paul Chartrand, I.P.C., was born and raised in the Metis community of St. Laurent, Manitoba. He is one of twelve children of J. Aimé Chartrand and Antoinette (Bouvier). Paul's first language is French-Michif. His father was a trapper and fisherman, who quit trapping around 1955, after which he worked as a carpenter until retirement. He was a house builder and built a number of homes in what is now the St. Charles area of Winnipeg. Paul and his brothers helped him.

On his paternal side Paul is the great-grandson of Jean Baptiste Larence (born 1794, died January 20, 1854) who is buried in the Metis cemetery at Pembina, North Dakota.

¹ Me, I am a Michif—and—a Michif from St. Laurent on top of that!

Jean Baptiste's daughter Clarisse Larence married Paul's grandfather, Jean Baptiste Chartrand (b. 1870). His great-grandfather, Pierre Chartrand was married to Marie Pangman the daughter of Marguerite-Angélique (Wewe-gekabawik) and Pierre 'Bostonais' Pangman Jr. (b. 1794). Pierre Chartrand was the son of Baptiste Chartrand and Jenwah'bik'ahbik also a Saulteaux woman. Pierre Chartrand's brother Michel was married to Marie's sister, Marguerite Pangman. The Chartrand family is one of the four founding families of Fond du Lac, Manitoba (now St. Laurent) on the southeast shore of Lake Manitoba. The other founding families of this community were the Pangmans, Lavallées and Sayers.



Lawrence Barkwell and Paul Chartrand at a Manitoba Metis Federation Annual General Assembly in the early 1990s.

Paul's early education was with the Franciscan Missionary Nuns at St. Laurent. He graduated from Manitoba Teachers College in 1964, and completed an Arts degree at the University of Winnipeg in 1972, while teaching school. He later graduated with honours from the law school at Queensland University of Technology in Australia (LL.B. Hons.) and obtained a Masters degree in Laws (LL.M.) at the University of Saskatchewan.

Paul has numerous publications in Aboriginal law and policy. One of his books, *Manitoba's Métis Settlement Scheme of 1870*, published by the Native Law Centre of the University of Saskatchewan in 1991, is the seminal piece of research on the basis for Metis land claims in Manitoba. He is noted for other written works such as *Who Are Canada's Aboriginal People? Recognition, Definition, and Jurisdiction* (Saskatoon: Purich Publishing Ltd., 2002) and *Pierriche Falcon, the Michif Rhymester: Our Métis National Anthem: The Michif Version* (Saskatoon : Gabriel Dumont Institute, 2009). This latter CD and book are a commentary on Falcon's song (most commonly known as "The Battle of Seven Oaks"), the Michif language and Metis nationalism, with Michif translations of Falcon's other songs.

Paul Chartrand is the best known and pre-eminent Metis lawyer associated with the Metis National Council. He has served as their Ambassador at the United Nations, and was a senior advisor during the First Ministers Conferences on Aboriginal Constitutional Reform in the 1980s. He formerly taught public school at St. Laurent Manitoba, and has held teaching and other academic positions in universities in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States, including his current appointment as Professor of Law at the University of Saskatchewan. He is a re-known public speaker and is frequently invited to conferences in many countries.

He was head of the Department of Native Studies at the University of Manitoba from 1982 to 1991, and was the first President and CEO of the Institute of Indigenous Government in Vancouver (1995-96). He has been a consultant and advisor to many Aboriginal organizations and governments. His distinguished record of public service includes service on advisory committees to the National Judicial Institute and the Canadian Race Relations Foundation. He was appointed by the Prime Minister of Canada as a Commissioner on the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (1991-1996), was a founding director of the board of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation (1998-1999), and one of two commissioners on Manitoba's Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission (1999-2001). A noted baseball pitcher, Chartrand has competed and won at national championships in both Australia and Canada, and played on the Australian national baseball and ice hockey teams. He also participated nationally and internationally in ice hockey competitions.

Paul was married to Diane Plowman, a teacher and former Canadian track star, and has three children. Lisa (husband Dean, and grandchildren Holly and Jillian), a graduate of the University of Manitoba, is a social worker. Daniel, a graduate of the University of Memphis, and Leila, a graduate of the University of Southern California, are both professional golfers. In July of 2002, Leila Chartrand became the first female Metis professional golfer when she made her debut as a professional at the Whirlpool PGA Women's Championship at the St. Catherines Country Club in St. Catherines, Ontario.

Paul has been Professor of Law in the College of Law, University of Saskatchewan. On October 18, 2002, Paul was presented the prestigious Indigenous People's Counsel (I.P.C.) award by the Indigenous Bar Association of Canada. This award recognizes Aboriginal lawyers for outstanding achievements in the practice of law. Paul is the third person (first Metis) to receive this award. Paul is now retired from his position as head of the Aboriginal Governance Program at the University of Winnipeg (2008-09). He lives in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. His most recent written work is *Niw_Hk_M_Kanak* ("All My Relation"): *Metis-First Nations Relations*, a research paper prepared in 2007 for the National Centre for First Nations Governance.



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