

George R.D. Goulet (b. 1933)

George Goulet was born at St. Boniface on September 27, 1933. He is the son of George-Wilfred Goulet and Laura McDougall. George is the author of the book titled *The Trial of Louis Riel: Justice and Mercy Denied*. This book examines the legal and political intricacies of Riel's trial, discusses the inapplicable centuries-old British statute under which he was tried and reveals the political, judicial and legal misdeeds, which led to his execution. George now resides in Calgary, Alberta and is a registered member of the Metis Nation of Alberta. He obtained his B.A. from the University of Manitoba, St. Paul's College, Bachelor of Laws from the University of Manitoba, and a Master of Laws degree from the University of Toronto. In 1982, George's legal article "Overview of Canadian Securities Laws with Respect to Oil and Gas Financing" appeared in the *Canadian-American Law Journal*, Vol. 1. His Masters thesis was entitled; "A Comparative Analysis of Constitutional Aspects of Securities Regulation in Canada and Australia" (University of Toronto, 1990).

George R. D. Goulet, [left] leading the Grand Entry at the Red River West celebration in 2007.

George practiced law for thirty-five years in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Calgary. He is currently a non-practicing member of the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Societies of Alberta and British Columbia.

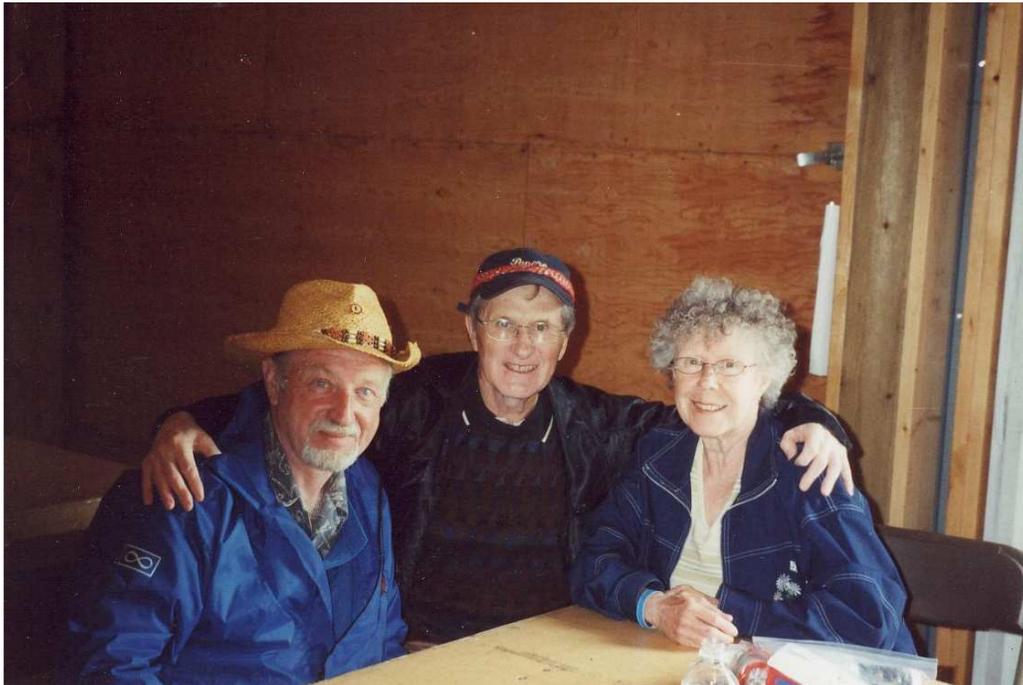
George is a grandnephew of Elzéar Goulet, who was a compatriot of Riel and considered to be the first martyr of the Metis Resistance movement. George's great grandfather is Alexis Goulet¹ and his other great grandfather, Pierre Delorme² was in Louis Riel's Provisional Government in Manitoba (1869-1870), and in the first federal election after Manitoba entered Confederation, was elected as the MP for Provencher. Delorme was also elected to the Manitoba Legislature and was a cabinet minister. George is married to best selling author Marie Therese "Terry" Goulet née Boyer de la Giroday who is a graduate of the University of Manitoba (B.Sc.) and is a legal editor and researcher. George and his wife Terry have given dozens of talks across Canada on the Metis, Louis Riel and His Trial at a number of venues including universi-



ties, historical societies, high schools, museums, public libraries, youth programs, and at various Metis festivals and other gatherings.

Their book collaboration, *Louis Hébert and Marie Rollet: Canada's Premier Pioneers*, profiles George's ancestors Louis Hébert and his wife Marie Rollet. Hébert is credited with being the first European pharmacist to practice in Canada. He came to Acadia in 1604 and settled in Quebec in 1617. Thus George and Terry's grandchildren are 14th generation Canadians.

Their latest book, commissioned by Metis Nation – British Columbia is *The Metis in British Columbia: From Fur Trade Outposts to Colony* (Vancouver, BC and Calgary, AB, FabJob, 2008). This groundbreaking book outlines the historical roles that Métis people played in the history and development of early British Columbia and the old Oregon Territory of the Northwest. George and Terry are also contributing authors of biographies of Jane Klyne McDonald and Josette Legacé Work in the book, *Women of the Metis Nation* (L. J. Barkwell [Ed.], Winnipeg: Louis Riel Institute, 2009. ISBN 978-0-9809912-5-3).



Lawrence Barkwell, George Goulet and Terry Goulet at "Back to Batoche", Batoche, SK, 2005.

Historical and Metis specific publications:

Goulet, George & Terry: *The Trial of Louis Riel: Justice and Mercy Denied*. Calgary: Fabjob Inc., 1999. ISBN 0968548903

Goulet, George & Terry. *The Metis: Memorable Events and Memorable Personalities*. Calgary: Fabjob Inc., 2006. ISBN 978-1-894638-98-0

Goulet, George & Terry. *Louis Hébert and Marie Rollet: Canada's Premier Pioneers*.
Calgary: Fabjob Inc., 2007. ISBN 978-1-897286-15-9

George and Terry Goulet. *The Metis in British Columbia: From Fur Trade Outposts to Colony*. Vancouver, BC and Calgary, AB, FabJob, 2008. ISBN 9781897286296

Endnotes:

¹ Goulet, Alexis. (1811-1856)

Alexis Goulet was born around 1811-12, the descendant of a line of voyageurs. Goulet followed in their spirit, roaming western Canada to hunt and trade. He also guided sportsmen who ventured out west in their quest to acquire trophies. John Palliser's expedition was typical of this zeal to accumulate souvenirs from the Canadian wilderness. Horns, antlers, skins and "other such spoils" hunted by Palliser and his mates were soon shipped back to merry old England. Indeed, in 1851 Alexis Goulet helped guide the Count de la Guiche, his two servants, John Ferguson and "Goulait's son" on to the plains for a hunting expedition.¹

Alexis Goulet married the sixteen year old Joséphte Siveright on October 1, 1833. She was born in August 1817, the daughter of John Siveright and Joséphte or Louise Roussin, a mixed-blood woman.

Alexis and Joséphte's children, through marriage, brought the Lagimodière, Genthon, Jérôme, McDougall, McDermot and Bannatyne families into the Goulet kinship network; the Goulets were well-connected with the political and economic elite of both the French and English communities. Two sons would hold political positions. Maxime Goulet, the youngest child, would eventually become a member of the Manitoba legislature and a cabinet minister. Roger Goulet held various positions, including surveyor, customs agent, police magistrate and a member of the Council of Assiniboia. In fact, Goulet Street in St. Boniface is named after him. (Todd Lamirande)

² Delorme, Pierre, M.L.A., M.P. (1832-1912)

Pierre was born October 1, 1832 in St. Boniface, the son of Joseph Fafard Delorme and Josephte Bellisle. From 1852-56, he worked for the HBC at Swan River as a middleman. In September 1854, he married Adélaïde Millet *dit* Beauchemin and in 1857 they bought lot 21 at Pointe-Coupée (St. Adolphe) where they built a log-framed two-story house. They raised five sons and two daughters. Pierre farmed, traded and ran a boarding house for Pembina Trail travelers and later operated a cart brigade to northern Saskatchewan.

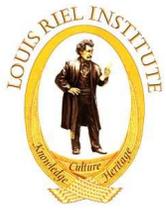
During the late 1860s, Louis Riel and the other Metis political leaders started meeting at Delorme's home to strategize on their response to the planned transfer of Rupert's Land to Canada. Delorme took an active part in the Provisional Government and in 1870 was elected to the Convention of Forty as the member from Pointe-Coupée. In the first provincial election of December 1870 he was elected as MLA for St. Norbert. He was elected as a federal MP in 1871, for Provencher riding, defeated in the next election (1874) and re-elected in December of 1878 by acclamation. As a Captain of the Metis he captured Major Boulton and others when they attempted to take Upper Fort Garry on behalf of the Canadian Party. In 1871 he was elected a Captain of the Metis from Pointe-Coupée to defend Manitoba against Fenian invasion from the United States.

He contested the 1870 election, running as a Conservative and won the seat of St. Norbert South, which he held until defeated in 1874. In 1871 he ran federally in the Provencher riding and became one of Manitoba's first members of the House of Commons. From 1873 to 1875 he served on the Council of the North-West Territories. He nominated Riel for the seat in 1872, but it was withdrawn so he could nominate George-Étienne Cartier, who had been defeated in his Montreal riding. Cartier was elected by acclamation. After Cartier's death in 1883, Delorme was again active in attempts to nominate Riel and have him elected for Provencher.

In 1878, Premier Norquay named Delorme Minister of Agriculture and President of the Executive Council. In the provincial election of that year, he was elected by acclamation for the riding of St. Norbert. Upon retiring from politics, he returned to St. Adolphe as a farmer and businessman. He argued for Riel's amnesty and was deeply involved with the Metis lands issue.

Reference

Shore, Fred. "Pierre Delorme." *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. XIV (1911-1920). Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1998: 280-281.



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