

## Metis Beaded Vests

Metis vests were made out of moose, elk and deer-hide; or from stroud cloth, velvet and nowadays from Melton cloth. The edging was usually made from silk ribbon, nowadays edging is done with bias tape or braid. Metis beaded vests and beaded buckskin jackets became a status symbol in the old north-west among army officers and scouts.



Boundary Commission Scouts and Metis hunters from the “Big Camp” July 18, 1874.  
Note the number of men who are wearing vests.



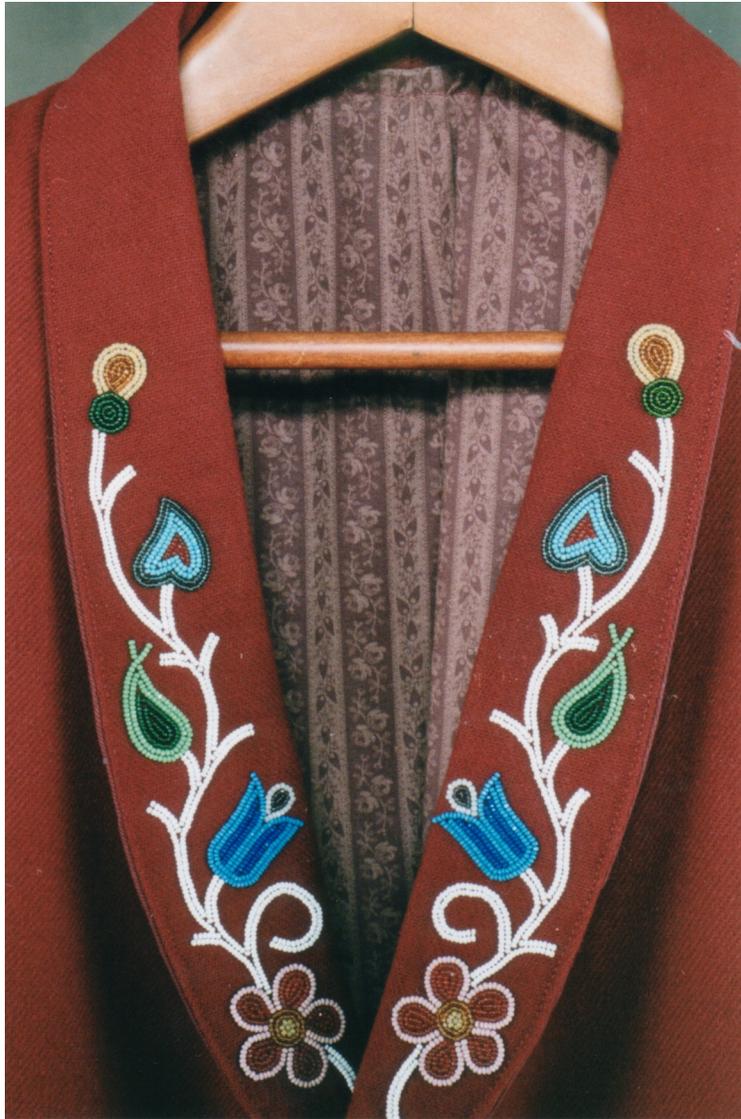
David Chartrand in a vest made by Jennine Krauchi

Shown below: Metis singer and songwriter, Don Freed.  
(Photograph courtesy of Gabriel Dumont Institute)





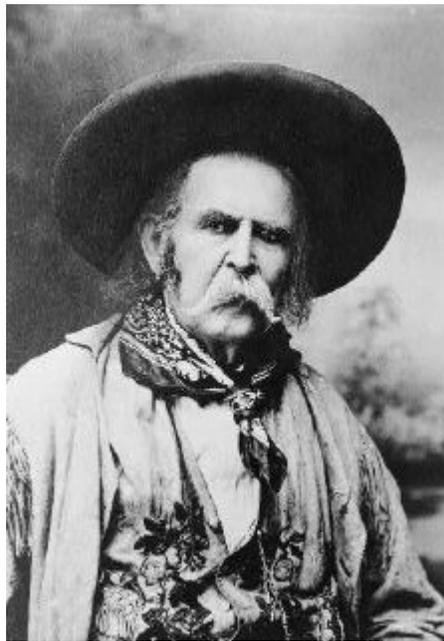
Metis Elder Ted Chartrand, The Pas, Manitoba.  
Photo by L. Barkwell



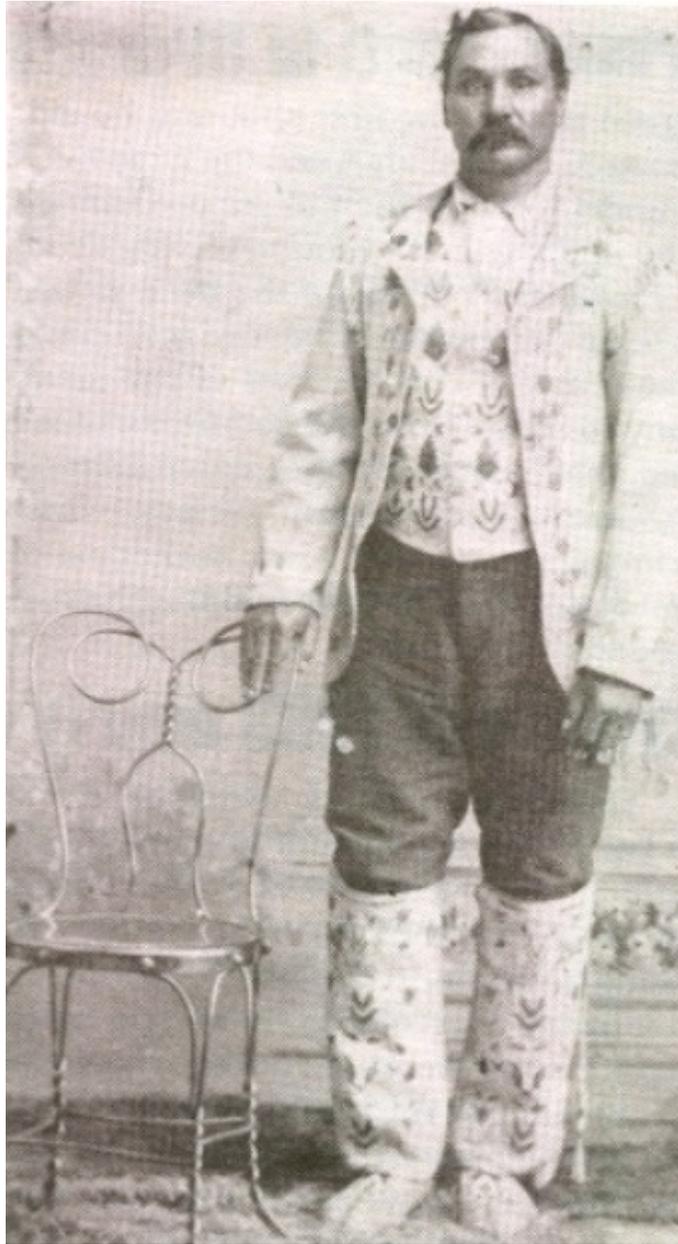
Close up of lapel area of a wool Metis vest, with floral beading, ca. 1850.  
Louis riel Institute, Gary Johnson Collection.



“Three Amigos” in their vests at an MMF Annual General Assembly,  
left to right, Lawrence Barkwell, Larry Haag and Brian Cyr  
Photo by Vivian Cyr



Bill Drennan, Indian Scout and  
companion of Kit Carson, ca 1880, wearing a Metis style vest.



Metis Scout, Baptiste "Little Bat" Garnier in a matching coat, vest and leggings. These were likely made by his wife Julia Mousseau. Her father was Magliore Alexis Mousseau who married Ellen the Yellow Woman.



Vest made by L. Barkwell, using a Jennine Krauchi bead pattern.



Bruce Flamont



Lawrence Barkwell and Brian Cyr in front of the “Batoche Families” display.





Vest on display at the Kelowna B.C. Museum, photo by L. Barkwell



Vest: detail





Yoke detail on a Metis vest.





Gerry St. Germain and Clement Chartier  
Clem wears a vest made by Jennine Krauchie



Typical Scout's outfit in the late 1800s



High Plains style vest.



Bruce Dumont President MNBC centre



Metis Vest: R.C.M.P. Heritage Centre  
Note the five-petal Metis roses top centre.  
Photo by Jim Steinhart



Metis Scout Tom Tobin with vest and matching leggings.



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