

Métis Women's Firsts in North America

First Commendation and War medal from the British. (George III Military Service Medal)

Elizabeth Bertrand Mitchell, 1814

First Métis woman to enter the Order of the Grey Nuns

Marguerite Connolly, 1845

First Métis woman to be a Doctor of Medicine.

Susan LaFlesche M.D., 1889.

First Métis woman lawyer, Washington College of Law's first Native-American (Métis) student to graduate.

Marie Louise Bottineau (Baldwin), 1914

First Métis woman to be a published novelist (*Cogewea the Half-blood*).

Christine Quintasket, 1927

First Métis woman to win the Miss Canada title.

Diane Landry, 1966

First Métis woman inducted in the Fiddler's Hall of Fame in Weiser, Idaho.

Mary Briere (Trotchie), 1969

Olympians (cross-country ski) and the 1st Canadian women to compete in four straight Olympics, 1972, 1976, 1980, 1984.

Sharon and Shirley Firth, 1972

John Semmelink Memorial Award, the Canadian Ski Association.

Sharon Firth, 1972

Human Rights Commissioner for Alberta. She also founded the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women.

Muriel Stanley Venne, 1973

First woman to be President, Manitoba Métis Federation

Constance Thomas Eyolfson, 1973

President of Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC).

Bertha Clark-Jones, 1974

First CRTC license owned and operate a radio station called SPIRIT 91.7 (now CIXL-FM). Also the first woman inducted in the Aboriginal Business Hall of Fame.

Suzanne Rochon-Burnett, 1974

Commercially licensed pilot.
Dr. Alis Kennedy, 1976

A member of the Cowgirl Hall of Fame.
Bernice Welsh McLaughlin, 1977

Won an Oscar, for the song “Up Where We Belong.”
Buffy Sainte-Marie, 1983

Published the first Michif Language Dictionary.
Pauline Lavendeur and Ida Rose Allard, 1983

Won the Ladies World Curling Championship.
Connie Laliberte, 1984

The first all Aboriginal theatre production in modern Canada (*Flight*).
Maria Campbell, 1985

Full university professor at the University of Alberta. Her book, *A Concise History of Canada's First Nations* was the 1st Canadian Indigenous history book for university level education that was written by an Indigenous person.
Dr. Olive Dickason, 1985

A member of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York and the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame (as a player with the All-American Girl's Baseball League).
Yolande Teillet, 1988

First Métis woman elected to the Alberta Legislative Assembly (Lesser Slave Lake). In 2001, she was re-elected to a fourth term.
Pearl Calahasen, 1989

Appointed to the Order of Canada.
Anne Anderson, C.M., LL.D, 1991

First Métis woman to compete in both winter and summer Paralympics. She has represented Canada at nine different Paralympic games.
Colette Bourgonje, 1992

Received a Rudy Martin Award. Won a 1996 Gemini award for best performance by an actress in a guest role, dramatic series (“North of 60”).
Tantoo Cardinal, 1993

The first Métis woman to receive a National Aboriginal Achievement Award
Thelma Chalifoux, 1994,

Provincial Member of Parliament in Newfoundland.
Yvonne Jones, 1996.

Organized “Spirits in the Sun,” the first Canadian Aboriginal Arts Festival, to be held in the United States.

Barbara Bruce, 1997

Became a Canadian Senator.

Thelma Chalifoux, 1997

First female Métis professional golfer (PGA).

Leila Chartrand, 2002

First woman President, Métis National Council

Audrey Dumont Poitras, 2003

First Aboriginal woman elected to the Saskatchewan legislature.

Joan Beatty, 2003.

First to be an Olympian for the sport of modern pentathlon (1st for both men & women).

Monica Pinette, 2004

World Champion in Archery.

Doris Jones, 2006

Become a climatologist.

Dr. Jeannine-Marie St. Jacques, 2007

First M.D. (Dermatology) who is deaf.

Dr. Jessica Dunkley, 2010

Won an Olympic medal (Curling) in the Winter Games.

Carolyn Darbyshire, 2010



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