

METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN SENATE

#1 - 2705 MELROSE AVENUE SASKATOON, SASK. S7J 0V9

August 10, 1997

Michelle Harding
Minister in charge of Enumeration
Metis Nation of Saskatchewan

Dear Ms. Harding:

On behalf of the MNS Senate, I am writing requesting a meeting with you in order to begin the process of implementing the proposed enumeration project. We are pleased that both the province and the federal government have agreed to fund this process. However, it is our view that some work is still necessary before we move forward.

While the above governments have accepted the enumeration process based on the proposal submitted by the MNS in the spring of 1996, the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly at its sitting of October 1996 did not endorse it, and as you are aware, the Legislative Assembly actually took a strong position on this issue, especially with respect to the definition of Metis and who must be in charge of policy and direction with respect to the enumeration process itself. In that regard the following Motion was adopted by the Legislative Assembly:

WHEREAS the enumeration of the Metis people requires a Metis definition of the Metis. And,

WHEREAS the current elected leaders have proven incapable of dealing with this element

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Metis Senate be responsible for policy and direction in respect to Metis enumeration.

In the spirit of cooperation, it is necessary to begin this enumeration process by this initial meeting, and then arranging for a full meeting between yourself and the Senate in the near future.

I can be reached at (306) 934-4932 or fax (306) 955-0274.

Yours sincerely,


Senator Nora Ritchie
Chairperson