

*Metis Nation  
Legislative Assembly*



*Batoche, 1994*

Mass.

**METIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
BATOCHÉ, 1994**

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**METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

JULY 21-22, 1994

**PROPOSED AGENDA**

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8:00 A.M.- 10:00 A.M.	Registration
10:00 A.M.	Opening Prayer Metis Nation Anthem
10:10 A.M.	Swearing-in of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly Members
10:30 A.M.	Selection of Speaker & Deputy
10:40 A.M.	Adoption of Agenda
10:55 A.M.	Re-structuring Report Senator John Boucher
11:15 - 12:00	Rules of Conduct/Protocol
12:00 - 1:00 A.M.	LUNCH BREAK
1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.	Executive Reports: President Secretary Treasurer
3:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.	Ratification of Council of Ministers (Terms of Reference)
5:00 P.M.-6:30 P.M.	Supper Break
6:30 P.M.	Introduction of Legislation A.) Wildlife & Conservation Act B.) Education Act Discussion Period on "Acts".  Minister Reports:  * Intergovernmental Affairs  * Environment/land claims  * Justice/Sentencing Circle  * Economic Development/Gaming  * Health
	DISCUSSION PERIOD

**METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**July 21 - 22, 1994**

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09:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.	Guest remarks * Armand Roy-Provincial MLA and other guests
10:00 a.m. - 11:00	Senator's Report
11:00 a.m. - 12:00	* Citizenship Act * Election Act
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
1:30 - 5:00	Agenda Continued  RESOLUTIONS  Adjournment  Closing Ceremonies

***METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN***

***1993 METIS SELF-GOVERNMENT AND RESTRUCTURING  
REPORT***

# **METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN 1993 METIS SELF-GOVERNMENT AND RESTRUCTURING REPORT**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Metis Society of Saskatchewan recognizes the inherent right of Metis to openly govern Metis. Throughout the past one hundred years, and more, that right has been ignored by the Federal and Provincial Governments and in some cases forgotten by our people. The structures we have built to manage our institutions have reflected the mainstream governments' agenda. Fortunately, our people have maintained the original intent of Metis owned institutions and so they have served to enhance the status of Metis. Our people have regained their conviction of being a self-governing nation. We now wish structures which reflect the manner in which Metis wish to govern. In order for Metis to best govern and manage, restructuring of our present institutions has to take place. These restructuring efforts began in the fall of 1992 when the Provincial Metis Council established the Metis Society of Saskatchewan Self-Government and Restructuring Committee. The Committee consists of eight members representing the Provincial Metis Council, The Metis Elders' Senate, the Metis Women of Saskatchewan and the Metis Youth Committee.

held in Saskatoon on March 17, 18 and 19, 1993. The second was the **All Presidents' Assembly** which was held at Batoche on July 21 and 22, 1993;

- To date, Area Self-Government and Restructuring Workshops have been held in eleven MSS Areas: NRI, NRII, NRIII, WRI, WRIA, WRIIA, WRIII, ERI, ERII, ERIIA, ERIII;

- Two Urban Metis Self-Government and Restructuring Meetings were held in Saskatoon on June 21 and July 20, 1993. A third is planned for fall 1993.

- The Provincial Metis Council has met three times to discuss and critique the proposed MSS Constitution which is intended to reflect the voices heard at the Workshops;

- A Code of Ethics has been developed based on the direction of the citizens of the Metis Nation and the guidance of the Provincial Metis Council;

- The MSS Affiliates, which are owned by the Metis Society of Saskatchewan, have become semi-autonomous delivery mechanisms;

- The Metis Elders' Senate has proposed to take on greater responsibilities. These will include mediation, arbitration and advisory and cultural representation;

- The Metis Women of Saskatchewan has developed a position paper on the involvement it seeks to have

## **2.0 DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITIES**

The following describes most of the activities accomplished under the self government and restructuring strategy.

### **2.1 MSS Self-Government and Restructuring Committee Meetings**

Essentially, the Self-Government and Restructuring Committee drove the process. It met, formally, six times to plan, direct and prioritize all of the initiatives. Significantly more work than is shown here was conducted by the members and their designated technicians to bring the process to life.

### **2.2 Provincial Workshops: March and July, 1993**

The first step in Phase I of restructuring was the **Metis Self-Government Nation Building: Step One** workshop on March 17, 18 and 19, 1993. The workshop was an opportunity to share ideas on how Metis self-government should work, including how to structure it. A package containing the information gathered at the conference has been developed and was circulated at the **All Presidents' Meeting** at Batoche and at each of the Area Workshops. A package containing the information from the Batoche Assembly was made also. Both are available upon request. If you have not yet had the opportunity to review these please do so. They each contain

- What are the jurisdictional areas in which Metis could exercise the right to Metis government in an urban setting;
- How would a system of Urban Metis Governments relate to Municipal Governments;
- How would a system of Urban Metis Governments relate to Urban Indian Governments; and
- How could autonomous program and service systems for Metis be linked to and operate in harmony with existing delivery systems?

From the discussions addressing these questions, two potential models of Urban Metis Governments structures evolved. The Prince Albert Urban Metis Local Presidents have developed a model which brings the Local Presidents (or designates) as Chairs from each of the Locals together for decision making. Affiliate boards would include each of these Chairs. The Regina Urban Metis Local Presidents have designed a model which divides the City into Wards. Metis Public Authorities would be developed with full representation from the Wards and would be the Authority for the Affiliates as well.

Details of each of these models will be presented to the membership at the Annual Assembly in December.

which have resulted in a draft structure for all the education, training and employment Affiliates. A **Metis Education Act** has also been formulated for legal ratification by the proposed Metis Legislative Assembly next year. The Metis Pathways to Success program continues to evolve as a Metis Self-Government Institution through greater Local and Regional control. As part of our Metis Government initiatives, the Metis Family and Community Justice Services of Saskatchewan (MFCJS) has drafted a discussion paper entitled **Metis Family and Community Justice Services of Saskatchewan, Inc Proposed Development Plan.**<sup>1</sup> The proposed plan has two components: a provincial structure which will be responsible for legislative enactment, policy development, evaluation, accountability; and Local and Regional structures which will be responsible for the design and implementation of services. A regional pilot project is presently underway in the Saskatoon Region. The project will be administered by the MFCJS until such time as a Regional Authority is in place. There are discussions underway concerning the establishment of similar Authorities and long term planning for some communities.

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For details of the **Metis Family and Community Justice Services of Saskatchewan, Inc. Proposed Development Plan, July 19, 1993.** please contact Alphonse Janvier.

## **2.9 The Position of Metis Women of Saskatchewan, Inc.**

The position of the Metis Women of Saskatchewan was presented to the Provincial Metis Council in October, 1993. It will be presented to the citizens of the Metis Nation in Saskatchewan at the 1993 Metis Society of Saskatchewan Annual Assembly.

## **2.10 The Role of Metis Youth**

In 1992, two Metis youth from each region were invited to MSS Annual Assembly. With the assistance of the MSS, the Metis Youth Committee<sup>2</sup> organized skill and knowledge building workshops for Metis Youth and others. Such topics as culture, health, justice and education were discussed in depth. In March of 1993, the Provincial Metis Council formally recognized the Metis Youth Committee with designated responsibilities. It was decided that they would be consulted on all matters directly affecting Metis youth. The Metis Youth Committee was also given the duty of representing the Metis Society of Saskatchewan in public forums when issues about youth were being addressed. The Metis Youth Committee is planning to hold a meeting at the MSS Annual Assembly. The Metis Youth Committee intends to study the proposed constitutional changes and will define their position within the new concept once it is ratified by the membership.

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<sup>2</sup>

Membership in the Metis Youth Committee is based on being Metis and between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five.

economic initiatives. As a general principle, decision-making and program delivery will be decentralized. This is in recognition of the view that local residents are best equipped to identify their economic needs or problems as well as the solutions most appropriate to their area. To carry out the strategy, a Saskatchewan Metis Economic Development Authority (SMEDA) as well as a system of area and Metis community economic development authorities, each with its own board, will be formed."<sup>3</sup>

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Quoted from the Review Draft of the Governance Study: Metis Self-Government in Saskatchewan, August 16, 1993, pages 80-81.

and human resources are made available to strengthen existing Metis administrative structures. Identifying and securing these resources for application by Metis institutions is viewed as a crucial ingredient for the success of the Agreement.

### 3.1.2 The Bilateral Agreement

The second interim process, a Bilateral Process Agreement between the Metis Society of Saskatchewan and the Government of Saskatchewan, was signed in June of 1993. This Agreement is intended to enable the two parties to address a wide range of policy and planning issues. Meetings and decisions resulting from the process are also expected to clarify the extent of federal jurisdiction for Metis people in the province. Although some overlap is probably inevitable, the two Agreements - Tripartite and Bilateral - are designed to complement one another. In certain instances, matters raised within the Bilateral discussions may be referred to the Tripartite committees for further attention. By the same token, issues which cannot be resolved through Tripartite may be placed on the Bilateral agenda.

Both the Tripartite and Bilateral Agreements are important to the MSS as interim steps towards our self-government goals. They allow us to continue building and, where appropriate, re-shape our existing administrative

restructuring step is in harmony with the proposed Metis Society of Saskatchewan Constitution which seeks to implement a legislative assembly and cabinet. Ministers will have portfolios similar to those activated by the Metis National Council.

### **3.3 The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples: Self-Government Studies**

In Saskatchewan, the Metis Society of Saskatchewan, several of its affiliates, the Metis Women of Saskatchewan and many individuals have conducted research for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. Of interest to our self-government and restructuring aims are the following studies:

- **Metis Society of Saskatchewan Report to The Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, August 1993 - contact MSS office; and the**
- **Governance Study: Metis Self-Government in Saskatchewan - contact person, Clem Chartier, MSS.**

The Metis National Council also has been involved in several studies with the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples where it has affirmed the right of Metis to govern Metis. Saskatchewan Metis participated in all of the national research. These studies have resulted in a report reflecting the aspirations of the Metis in Canada. The report will be presented to the Commission this fall.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Metis Society of Saskatchewan has developed a new Constitution which addresses the concerns and the ideas expressed by our people during this past year of consultations. "The major debate has addressed the issues of decentralization, accountability, streamlining and greater involvement of the Locals in the decision-making and running of the Organization. In order to accomplish this objective the consensus currently developing revolves around a restructuring which it is believed will give the Locals a greater role in administering the political and administrative affairs of the Organization. It is being proposed that a Metis Legislative Assembly be created, composed of the Local Presidents and the Provincial Metis Council."<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Quoted from the Review Draft of the Governance Study: Metis Self-Government in Saskatchewan, August 16, 1993, page 58.

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN**

## **PREAMBLE**

The Metis Nation and People are a distinct **SOCIETY** within the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada. The Metis are distinct from the Indians and Inuit and are the descendants of the historic Metis who evolved in what is now Western Canada and part of the northern United States, as a People with a common political will and consciousness.

Having experienced physical and political conflict and dispossession in the late 1800s, we are still engaged in a continuing struggle to rebuild our social base and revive our cultural heritage and pride. As such, we are striving for the political, legal and constitutional recognition and guarantees of the rights of our People, including the right to a land and resource base, self-government and self-government institutions. In order to achieve these objectives we are hereby re-establishing a strong and revitalized organization within the province of Saskatchewan, which must involve all sectors within our Society.

While pursuing these objectives within Saskatchewan, we are also committed to co-operating with the members of the Metis Nation in the rest of the Metis Homeland in order to develop a National Forum to represent our collective interests at the national and international levels.

## **ARTICLE 1: NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

1. The organization shall be known as the "Metis Nation of Saskatchewan."

## **ARTICLE 2: METIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. There shall be a Metis Nation Legislative Assembly which shall be the governing authority of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.
2. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall be composed of the Local Presidents, the Provincial Metis Council and four representatives of the Metis Women of Saskatchewan.
3. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall have the authority to enact legislation, regulations, rules, and resolutions governing the affairs and conduct of the Metis in Saskatchewan.
4. The President shall assign and recommend portfolios, subject to the approval of the Provincial Metis Council and ratification by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly. The assignment of portfolios shall be restricted to members of the Provincial Metis Council.

5. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, based upon the recommendations of the Provincial Metis Council, shall have the authority to appoint Commissions, Committees or other subsidiary bodies, where these are deemed necessary in order to effectively carry out the activities and functions of the Organization. In so doing the Assembly shall ensure equity of representation from the Youth, Women and Elders.

6. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall meet at least twice a year.

7. Seventy-Five members of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall constitute a quorum.

8. Notice of any session of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall require thirty days notice to the Local Presidents and Provincial Metis Council.

9. A person is disqualified from being a member of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly when:

- a) he/she dies or resigns
- b) he/she is under sixteen (16) years of age

10. All budgets shall be determined by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, based upon the recommendations of the Provincial Metis Council.

11. The delegates to the Metis National Assembly of the Metis National Council shall be the Provincial Metis Council and the remainder shall be chosen from amongst the members of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, while the President shall form part of the Executive Council of the Metis National Council. This Constitution may be amended to take into account and reflect changes which may take place within the Metis National Council.

### **ARTICLE 3: PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL**

1. The Provincial Metis Council shall be composed of the elected Regional Representatives, the Executive and one representative from the Metis Women of Saskatchewan for a total of Sixteen (16) Provincial Metis Council members.

2. The Provincial Metis Council shall form the cabinet and be responsible for the portfolios to be assigned and recommended by the President.

3. The Provincial Metis Council shall be responsible for ensuring that the affiliates, departments, programs and services covered by their portfolios are running smoothly and have the necessary resources to enable them to operate effectively. In addition, they shall provide a report at each meeting of the Provincial Metis Council and each session of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly or as requested by the President.

4. a). The Provincial Metis Council shall have the authority to appoint Commissions, Committees or other subsidiary bodies, where these are deemed necessary in order to effectively carry out the activities and functions of the Organization and Metis Nation Legislative Assembly directives.

b). The Provincial Metis Council shall designate persons who may have signing authority for the purpose of conducting the affairs of the Organization, which shall include the Treasurer.

5. The Provincial Metis Council shall meet at least once every two months.

6. Nine members of the Provincial Metis Council shall constitute a quorum.

7. Notice of any meeting of the Provincial Metis Council shall be given at least seven days prior to such meeting.

8. The Provincial Metis Council shall provide written reports to the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.

9. Elected Provincial Metis Council members and Presidents should not hold paid positions with the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan or any of the Affiliate Boards.

10. The Provincial Metis Council shall set the date and place for each Metis Nation Legislative Assembly sitting, provided no less than Thirty (30) days written notice is given to the President of each Local.

#### **ARTICLE 4: EXECUTIVE**

1. There shall be Three (3) Executive members of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly who are elected province-wide.

2. The Executive shall be composed of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

3. The term of office for the Executive shall be three years.

4. a) The President of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall be the head of the Executive, and chief political spokesperson for the Organization.

b) The President shall assign and recommend portfolios, subject to the approval of the Provincial Metis Council and ratification of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.

5. The Executive of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall meet at least once per month and three members shall constitute a quorum.

6. The Executive shall provide written reports to the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.
7. Where a vacancy is created for any reason, including death or resignation, the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall elect from the Provincial Metis Council members an interim Executive member, who shall serve until a by-election has been held and the vacancy filled.

#### **ARTICLE 5: REGIONS**

1. There shall be Twelve (12) Regions as set out in Schedule A of this Constitution.
2. The Regions shall be governed by a Regional Council composed of the Presidents of the Locals within the respective Regions along with a regionally elected representative who shall be the Chairperson of the Regional Council, as well as the Region's Representative on the Provincial Metis Council of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Regional Representative shall have the option to sit as the Chairperson of all Institutions and Affiliates, in their respective regions.
4. The Regional Council shall establish regional administrative offices.
5. The Regional Councils shall be responsible for programs and services decentralized to that level.
6. The Regional Councils shall enact a Constitution which is not inconsistent with this Constitution and such Regional Constitutions shall be registered with the Head Office.
7. The Regional Councils may incorporate with the appropriate government department.
8. The Regional Councils may seek the necessary finances and resources to carry out its programs, services, objectives and duties, and where so requested the Provincial Metis Council shall assist in securing these necessary finances and resources.
9. The Regional Councils shall assist their Local Communities in preparing to assume Metis self-government, which includes land, where this is an objective.
10. The Regional Councils shall provide direction to their Representative on the Provincial Metis Council with respect to the aims, objectives and aspirations of the Organization, and for their respective Regions.
11. Where a vacancy is created for any reason, including death or resignation, the Regional Council shall elect from the members of the Council an interim Regional Representative, who shall serve until a by-election has been held and the vacancy filled.

## **ARTICLE 6: URBAN COUNCILS**

1. The Metis Nation of Saskatchewan shall initiate, assist, support, assign, recommend, and facilitate the development, implementation, and establishment of Metis Urban Self-Government Councils in Saskatchewan.

## **ARTICLE 7: LOCALS**

1. The Local shall be the basic unit of the Organization in each community.
2. The Local shall be made up of at least nine members.
3. New Locals can be admitted by the Regional Councils provided this decision is ratified by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly and the requirements herein are met.
4. Locals can be dissolved by the Regional Councils provided this decision is ratified by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly and the requirements herein are no longer met.
5. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall adopt rules pertaining to the admission and dissolution of Locals.
6. Each Local shall be governed by an elected leadership as determined through the Constitution of the Local, which may include terms of one to three years and elections may be by ballot box or conducted at a General Assembly of the Local membership.
7. Any Metis who is sixteen years of age or over and is a member of the Local shall be entitled to vote or seek office.
8. Each Local shall enact a Constitution which is not inconsistent with this Constitution, including the establishment of portfolios, committees or other bodies required to address community and other issues, and such Local Constitutions shall be registered with the Regional and Head Office of the Organization.
9. The Locals shall provide yearly up-dates of their membership to the Regional and Head Office, separating those members who are under sixteen years of age, from those sixteen and over.
10. The Locals shall be responsible to prepare the Communities for the assumption of Metis self-government, which includes land, where this is an objective.
11. The Locals may incorporate with the appropriate government department.

12. The Locals may seek the necessary finances and resources to carry out their programs, services and objectives, and where so requested the Provincial Metis Council of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall assist in securing these necessary finances and resources.

## **ARTICLE 8: ELECTIONS**

1. Any member who is sixteen years of age or older may vote or seek elected office within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

2. Elections for the Provincial Metis Council of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall be held on the date set by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, based upon the recommendation of the Provincial Metis Council.

3. Elections for the Provincial Metis Council of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall be held at least every three years.

4. The Executive of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall be elected by the total membership at the Local polls by secret ballot.

5. Regional Representatives of the Provincial Metis Council shall be elected within their respective Regions through the establishing of a poll in each Local.

6. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall enact, on a priority basis, an Elections Act, along with the necessary regulations and guidelines.

7. a) A Metis Elections Commission composed of 3 Senators is empowered to oversee and conduct the general elections and by-elections of the Organization.

b) The terms of office of the Senators who sit on the Commission shall cease at the first session of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly following the elections.

c) The Senators who sit on the Commission shall be appointed by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, based upon the recommendations of the Senate, for a term of not more than three years, and are eligible for re-appointment.

d) When the election or by-election date has been set and the election called by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, based upon the recommendation of the Provincial Metis Council, the Commission shall have sole authority and responsibility to conduct the elections and shall be independent and answerable only to the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.

e) The Commission shall appoint a Chief Electoral Officer and other required personnel.

f) The Commission shall be responsible for official recounts and appeals.

g) The decisions of the Commission shall be final and binding, subject to the right of appeal to the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, which decision shall be final and binding.

h) The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall ensure that the Commission has the necessary financial and other resources for the fulfilment of its mandate.

i) The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, based upon the recommendations of the Provincial Metis Council, shall determine the rate of remuneration and expense accounts for the Commission members, along with the period deemed necessary for the work of the Commission.

8. In the event of a vacancy on the Provincial Metis Council of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, a by-election shall be called within ninety (90) days from the date of the vacancy.

9. When nominations close all candidates shall take a leave of absence from any elected position on the Provincial Metis Council of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly or any salaried position with the Organization, or its subsidiary bodies. The Provincial Metis Council members and any person who has a salaried position with the Organization shall continue to receive their salary while they are on such leave of absence.

10. When nominations close and until candidates are unofficially elected, the Senators shall be solely responsible for conducting the affairs and activities of the Organization. The Senators shall receive remuneration for their work during this period.

11. The Provincial Metis Council members shall be on call and shall conduct business or represent the Organization from time to time as requested by the Senate. The Provincial Metis Council members shall receive expenses to compensate for travel as requested by the Senate.

12. All defeated or retiring candidates who were on the Provincial Metis Council prior to the election shall be entitled to and will receive their salary for two weeks after the election.

13. Any candidate who's election has been appealed under section 7(f) and has been found guilty by the Metis Elections Commission of violating section 9 shall forfeit such elected position with a right of appeal to the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, which decision shall be final and binding.

#### **ARTICLE 9: METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN HEAD OFFICE**

1. The Head Office shall be in Saskatoon.

2. The (12) Regional Offices of the Organization shall be accessible to our People and Leadership.

## **ARTICLE 10: MEMBERSHIP**

1. a) Membership is comprised of the Aboriginal People known as "Metis" and who meet the criteria in sub-section (b).

b) A Metis is a person of Aboriginal ancestry, who:

1. can provide proof of his/her ancestry;
2. declares himself/herself to be a Metis; and
3. meets one of the following tests:
  - a) is accepted as a Metis by the Metis community;
  - b) has traditionally held himself/herself out to be a Metis; and
  - c) has been recognized by the community-at-large as a Metis.

2. Any Metis who is a member of a duly registered Local is a member of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

3. a) A member shall only belong to one (1) Local.

b) A person shall reside in the Local for at least (6) months before he/she is eligible for membership in that Local. The Locals may make exceptions for educational and medical purposes.

4. Members shall be issued a membership card.

- a) This card shall provide life-time membership in the Organization.
- b) There shall be no fee for membership cards.
- c) Membership cards shall be numbered and a register maintained by the Senate in the Head Office. Replacement cards shall retain the original number.
- d) Membership cards shall be issued by the President or Secretary of a duly registered Local upon completion of the designated form.

5. Where there is a dispute as to membership, a ruling shall be made by the Senate, with a final right of appeal to the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly the decision of which shall be final and binding.

6. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall enact, on a priority basis, a Metis Citizenship Act.

## **ARTICLE 11: GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. A General Assembly, composed of members from the Locals, shall be convened by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly every year.

2. The General Assembly shall provide a Forum whereby the members of the Organization will receive information, review developments and provide guidance to the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, and discuss, clarify, amend, vote on and ratify amendments to the Constitution.

#### **ARTICLE 12: SENATE, WOMEN AND YOUTH**

1. The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly shall make these items a priority, and shall involve the Senators, Women and Youth in the determination of their role and responsibilities within the Organization.

2. The Metis Women of Saskatchewan shall be designated (1) seat in the Provincial Metis Council and (4) seats in the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly. This provision shall cease to apply when women have achieved equitable representation in the Provincial Metis Council and Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.

3. That appointments to vacancies in the Metis Senate be made at area meetings; Further, that Senate appointments be for lifetime or until such time as the Senator is unable to fulfil his/her duties.

4. That the Senate be given the power to resolve disputes occurring in Regions and Locals; Further, that decisions of the Senate shall be final and binding.

5. That the Senate be equally represented by male and female.

#### **ARTICLE 13: METIS INDEPENDENCE**

1. Whereas the Metis are seeking self-government as a third order of government within Canada, the organization shall be non-sectarian and non-partisan.

2. The loyalty of the members of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly must be to the Metis People and Nation, and shall swear an Oath of Allegiance prior to taking office.

3. The leadership shall be responsible and accountable to the Communities, as reflected by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, which is the Supreme Body for the Metis within Saskatchewan.

4. Members of the Organization are not precluded from joining political parties of the two other orders of government, being the federal and provincial levels of government.

5. Any Provincial Metis Council member of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly who chooses to seek the nomination of any Provincial or Federal Political Party in any provincial or federal election shall take a leave of absence from his/her position.

#### **ARTICLE 14: AFFILIATES**

1. a) The Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, on behalf of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, shall exercise all voting rights, powers, and duties of ownership in relation to the affiliates, based upon the recommendations of the Provincial Metis Council.

b) Where not currently provided all affiliate Articles and By-laws shall be amended at the first reasonable opportunity to conform with this section.

2. The Provincial Metis Council member who is assigned a portfolio shall automatically sit as the Chairperson of the Affiliate(s) which falls under his/her portfolio.

3. A member who is an employee/staff person/management of an Affiliate shall not be permitted to sit on any Affiliate Board.

4. All Affiliates shall have representation from the (12) Regions of the Organization, unless otherwise decided by the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, based upon the recommendations of the Provincial Metis Council.

#### **ARTICLE 15: AMENDING FORMULA**

1. The Constitution shall only be amended by the majority of three-quarters of the members of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly and ratified by three-quarters of the members of the General Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE 16: IMPLEMENTATION**

1. The Constitution shall take effect upon its adoption by the General Assembly subject to amendments validly passed by three quarters of the Assembly present, and the conclusion of General Assembly. Upon the happening of these two conditions all previous By-laws of the Organization are repealed and this Constitution shall constitute the sole Constitution of the Organization, until otherwise determined by the Organization.



Adoption of Agenda

Motion #002/93: Moved by Max Morin  
Seconded by Henry Cummings

TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Motion Amended: by George Girouard  
Seconded by Richard Parisien

TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO INCLUDE OPENING  
REMARKS BY ALL PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Amendment Carried

Motion Amended: by Hugh Guthrie

THAT MORLEY NORTON MAKE A PRESENTATION  
ON THE SASKATCHEWAN NATIVE RECREATION  
CORPORATION AFTER THE HONOURABLE ROBERT  
MITCHELL'S PRESENTATION

Amendment Carried

Motion Amended: by Richard Parisien  
Seconded by Harry Daniels

TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA WITH AMENDMENT TO  
HAVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS RIGHT  
AFTER MR. MITCHELL'S REMARKS TOMORROW.

Amendment Carried

Motion Amended: by Bernice Hammersmith  
Seconded by Chris Perry (Local #87)

TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO PROVIDE FOR  
ADOPTION OF THE 1992 METIS SOCIETY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.

Amendment Carried

Record reflects AGENDA ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

Adoption of 1992 Metis Society of Saskatchewan Annual General Assembly Minutes

Motion #003/93: Moved by Bernice \_\_\_\_\_ (Ruthilda #105)  
Seconded by Kent Clarke (Sturgis)

TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE METIS  
SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN ANNUAL GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AS PRESENTED.

Motion Carried

Adoption of Proposed Constitution

Motion #004/93: Moved by Jim Durocher (Local #165)  
Seconded by Senator King

TO ADOPT THE METIS SOCIETY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

Record reflects that during discussion, Assembly informed of  
Resolution of Support carried at Metis Women of Saskatchewan  
Annual General Meeting held November 7, 1993:

Moved by Eileen Brabant  
Seconded by Mary Fiddler

WHEREAS the Metis Women of Saskatchewan, Inc. desires to  
acquire and maintain a cooperative and continuing  
involvement in the affairs of the Metis Nation of  
Saskatchewan,

AND WHEREAS the Metis Women of Saskatchewan, Inc. has  
arranged for meaningful inclusion of Metis Women in the new  
Constitution proposed by the Provincial Metis Council's  
Restructuring Committee of the Metis Society of  
Saskatchewan,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Annual Assembly strongly endorse the  
proposed new Constitution of the Metis Society of  
Saskatchewan and that this endorsement be publicly  
proclaimed at the Annual Assembly of the Metis Society of  
Saskatchewan in Saskatoon on December 3 and 4, 1993.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion Amended:

TO ADOPT THE METIS SOCIETY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN PROPOSED CONSTITUTION  
SUBJECT TO AMENDMENTS VALIDLY PASSED BY  
3/4'S OF THE ASSEMBLY PRESENT.

4

Motion #005/93: Moved by Richard Parisien (Local #33)  
Seconded by Robert Doucette

THAT WE DISCUSS THE PROPOSED  
CONSTITUTION IN DETAIL UNTIL WE COME TO  
CONSENSUS ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AND  
WE THEN VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE PROPOSED  
CONSTITUTION.

Motion Withdrawn

Record reflects Dennis Langan (#13 Yorkton) called Question  
to Motion #004/93 and Motion Carried

Motion #006/93: Moved by Randy Smith  
Seconded by Robert Doucette (Local 126)

TO PROVIDE A REVIEW/COMPARISON OF THE  
OLD CONSTITUTION TO THE NEW  
CONSTITUTION.

Motion Carried

Motion #007/93: Moved by Randy Isbister  
Seconded by Edwin Pelletier (Lily Plain)

THE METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SHALL BE  
COMPRISED OF THE LOCAL PRESIDENTS, THE  
PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL AND FOUR  
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE METIS WOMEN OF  
SASKATCHEWAN WITH EACH PRESIDENT OF THE  
LOCAL HAVING PROPORTIONATE VOTES TO  
MEMBERSHIP.

Motion Defeated

Motion #008/93: Moved by Arnold Dufour (CUMFI #165)  
Seconded by Randy Isbister

THAT ARTICLE 1: NAME OF CORPORATION BE  
AMENDED TO READ:

THE ORGANIZATION SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE  
"METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN".

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion #009/93: Moved by James Hamilton (Local #269)  
Seconded by Keith Vandale

THAT ARTICLE 10: GENERAL ASSEMBLY BE  
AMENDED TO READ:

1. A GENERAL ASSEMBLY, COMPOSED OF MEMBERS FROM THE LOCALS, SHALL BE CONVENED BY THE METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY EVERY YEAR.

2. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PROVIDE A FORUM WHEREBY THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION WILL RECEIVE INFORMATION, REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO THE METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, AND DISCUSS, CLARIFY, AMEND, VOTE ON AND RATIFY AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

FURTHER, THAT ARTICLE 14: AMENDING FORMULA BE AMENDED TO READ:

1. THE CONSTITUTION SHALL ONLY BE AMENDED BY THE MAJORITY OF 3/4'S OF THE MEMBERS OF THE METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND RATIFIED BY 3/4'S OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion #010/93:

Moved by John Dorion  
Seconded by Harry Daniels

THAT THE METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BE RENAMED TO "METIS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY"

Motion Amended:

by Ray Laliberte  
Seconded by Hugh Guthrie (Local #7)

THAT THE METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BE RENAMED TO "SASKATCHEWAN METIS NATION ASSEMBLY"

Amendment Defeated

Motion Amended:

by Duane Ross (Local #126)  
Seconded by Keith Vandale (Local #269)

THAT THE METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BE RENAMED TO "METIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY".

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion #011/93:

Moved by Vital Morin  
Seconded by Robert Doucette

THAT ARTICLE 11: SENATE, WOMEN AND YOUTH BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE:

3. THAT APPOINTMENTS MADE TO VACANCIES IN THE METIS SENATE BE MADE AT AREA MEETINGS;

FURTHER, THAT SENATE APPOINTMENTS BE FOR LIFETIME OR UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE SENATOR IS UNABLE TO PERFORM HIS/HER DUTIES.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion #012/93:

Moved by Max Morin (Local #21)  
Seconded by Michelle Harding (Local #19)

THAT ARTICLE 11: SENATE, WOMEN AND YOUTH BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE:

4. THAT THE SENATE BE GIVEN THE POWER TO RESOLVE DISPUTES OCCURRING IN REGIONS AND LOCALS.

Motion Amended:

4. THAT THE SENATE BE GIVEN THE POWER TO RESOLVE DISPUTES OCCURRING IN REGIONS AND LOCALS;

FURTHER, THAT DECISIONS OF THE SENATE SHALL BE FINAL AND BINDING.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion #013/93:

Moved by Herman Fiddler (Local #269)  
Seconded by Alex Fiddler (Local #269)

THAT THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THE FIRST PARAGRAPH IN THE PREAMBLE ON PAGE 1 SHOULD READ:

THE METIS ARE DISTINCT FROM THE INDIANS AND INUIT AND ARE THE DESCENDENTS OF METIS PEOPLE WHO EVOLVED IN WHAT IS NOW GENERALLY REFERRED TO AS WESTERN CANADA, AS WELL AS THROUGHOUT THE METIS HOMELAND INCLUDING ALL PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES OF CANADA, PART OF THE NORTHERN UNITED STATES, AND FROM OTHER AREAS, AND/OR ARE OFFSPRING BETWEEN ABORIGINAL AND NON-ABORIGINAL PEOPLE, WITH A COMMON POLITICAL WILL AND CONSCIOUSNESS."

Motion Defeated

Motion #014/93:

Moved by Helen Hamilton (Local #269)  
Seconded by Karen Vandale (Local #269)

THAT ON PAGE 5, JUST PRECEDING ARTICLE  
6: LOCALS,

THERE SHOULD BE INCLUDED, IN THIS  
PROPOSED CONSTITUTION, AN ARTICLE WHICH  
DEALS WITH URBAN COUNCILS:

"THE METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN SHALL  
INITIATE, ASSIST, SUPPORT, ASSIGN,  
RECOMMEND, AND FACILITATE THE  
DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND  
ESTABLISHMENT OF METIS URBAN SELF-  
GOVERNMENT COUNCILS IN SASKATCHEWAN.

Motion Carried

Motion #015/93:

Moved by Isabelle Impey  
Seconded by Michelle Harding (Local #19)

THAT ARTICLE 11: SENATE, WOMEN AND  
YOUTH BE FURTHER AMENDED TO INCLUDE A  
SUB-SECTION WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR THE  
SENATE TO BE EQUALLY REPRESENTED BY MALE  
AND FEMALE.

Motion Carried

Motion #016/93:

Moved by Michelle Harding (Local #19)  
Seconded by Chris Perry

THAT ARTICLE 3: PROVINCIAL METIS  
COUNCIL, SECTION 9 BE AMENDED AS -  
FOLLOWS:

THAT ELECTED PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL  
MEMBERS AND PRESIDENTS SHOULD NOT HOLD  
PAID POSITIONS WITH METIS SOCIETY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN OR ANY OF THE AFFILIATE  
BOARDS.

Motion Carried (See Appendix 1)

Record reflects Motion #013/93 re: Preamble reintroduced by  
Robert Doucette (Local #126)

THAT THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THE FIRST  
PARAGRAPH IN THE PREAMBLE ON PAGE 1  
SHOULD READ:

8

THE METIS ARE DISTINCT FROM THE INDIANS AND INUIT AND ARE THE DESCENDENTS OF METIS PEOPLE WHO EVOLVED IN WHAT IS NOW GENERALLY REFERRED TO AS WESTERN CANADA, AS WELL AS THROUGHOUT THE METIS HOMELAND INCLUDING ALL PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES OF CANADA, PART OF THE NORTHERN UNITED STATES, AND FROM OTHER AREAS, AND/OR ARE OFFSPRING BETWEEN ABORIGINAL AND NON-ABORIGINAL PEOPLE, WITH A COMMON POLITICAL WILL AND CONSCIOUSNESS."

Motion Defeated

Motion #017/93: Moved by John Dorion  
Seconded by Edwin Pelletier

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN

Motion #018/93: Moved by Randy Smith  
Seconded by Kent Clarke

THAT THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES BE RATIFIED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY.

Motion #019/93: Moved by Randy Smith

THAT THE (OLD) CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED FOR THIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PROVIDE FOR RATIFICATION BY SIMPLE MAJORITY.

Record reflects Chair rules that meeting is adjourned (5:22 p.m.) to 9:00 a.m., December 4, 1993.

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December 4, 1993

Call to Order

Gerald Morin called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m.

Opening Prayer

Senator John Boucher

Presentation: Honourable Robert Mitchell

Adoption of Proposed Constitution Cont'd

Motion #020/93: Moved by Jim Durocher (Local #165)  
Seconded by Arnold Dufour (Local #165)

THAT THIS ASSEMBLY ACCEPT THE PROPOSED  
CHANGES TABLED BY LOCAL #165

Motion #021/93: Moved by Harry Daniels (Local #33)  
Seconded by Richard Parisien (Local #33)

THAT WE CONSTRUCT A COMMITTEE TO DEAL  
WITH THE SPECIFIC ISSUE OF  
CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE AND WE HAVE A  
SPECIAL ASSEMBLY WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS  
(AT BATOCHÉ).

Record reflects meeting recessed to 2:00 p.m.

Presentation by Honourable Keith Goulet

Record reflects that Senator John Boucher advised that it was the request of the Senate that the Annual General Assembly be adjourned since it was clear consensus would not be reached.

Adjournment

Motion #022/93: Moved by Edwin Pelletier  
Seconded by Kent Clarke

THAT THE DECEMBER 3 AND 4, 1993, METIS  
SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN ANNUAL GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY ADJOURN (2:14 P.M.)

Record reflects that it was the decision of the Chairperson that the Motion regarding Adjournment take precedence.

Motion Carried

/nsb  
03FE94

**DRAFT RULES OF ORDER  
SPEAKER OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Speaker shall be responsible for the procedure, rules, decorum and written record of the Legislative Assembly.
2. In the absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker shall assume the functions of the Speaker.
3. The Speaker shall only recognize registered members of the Legislative Assembly from a list prepared by the Credentials Committee.
4. The list of the registered members shall only be composed of the Provincial Metis Council Members, four representatives appointed by the Metis Women of Saskatchewan and the President of each registered Local, or his/her Vice-President who has a written authorization from the Local President.
5. Any member of the MNS who wishes to raise any matter may only do so through their representative in the Legislative Assembly.
6. Notwithstanding rule 5, the Speaker with the approval of the Assembly, may allow special guest presentations.
7. The Speaker shall ensure that personnel are in place to deal with security and safety matters during sessions of the Legislative Assembly.
8. The Speaker shall appoint a recording secretary for each sitting of the Legislative Assembly.
9. The Speaker shall also be empowered to convene joint sittings of the Senate and the Legislative Assembly.
10. The Speaker may expel a member of the Legislative Assembly for the duration of that day's sitting, where the member refuses to respect the ruling of the Speaker.
11. The Speaker may expel observers from the Legislative Assembly premises where the observer refuses to follow the ruling of the Speaker.
12. The Speaker, until such time that Metis Legislative Assembly rules of order are established, shall operate under Robert's Rules of Order.

## ***OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND CODE OF ETHICS: A Concept for Ratification***

The following **Concept** has been developed for ratification by the General Assembly. Upon your approval, it is proposed that each Local President return to her or his community and seriously discuss the issues presented with all members. It is asked that you develop the points most important to you so that the **Oath of Allegiance and Code of Ethics** best represent your needs. At the first sitting of the Legislative Assembly it is planned that the **Oath of Allegiance and Code of Ethics** be passed and established as law. Immediately thereafter, the **Oath** will be taken by each representative.

During the past year, many activities fulfilling **Phase One of Métis Government and Restructuring** have taken place. Of greatest success and importance was the consultations held throughout our Métis communities. A common theme was heard during these consultations: the need for governing rules to ensure loyalty, accountability and responsibility among all who represent us. In other words, the need for an oath of allegiance and a code of ethics have been identified.

The Métis Society of Saskatchewan proposes to develop the **Oath of Allegiance** and the **Code of Ethics**. The **Oath** provides our representatives with a formally recognizable entry into the Legislative Assembly, Boards and/or Councils. It is, in a sense, a verbal contract. Each Legislative Assembly, Board and/or Council representative must pledge her or his loyalty to the citizens of the Métis Nation. And, the **Oath of Allegiance** will complement the **Code of Ethics**. The **Code** will outline, in detailed written form, ways to ensure and safeguard the quality of decisions made by the Legislative Assembly, Boards and/or Councils. It is directed at maintaining order and dignified relationships among representatives in the conduct of their duties. It provides mechanisms for members to hold representatives accountable for their conduct and decisions.

The **Oath of Allegiance** and the **Code of Ethics** have not been developed in a detailed format. This work will proceed if the General Assembly accepts the concept of having these two important mechanisms in place for all our representatives. After the Métis Society of Saskatchewan 1993 Annual General Assembly closes, **Phase Two of the Métis Government and Restructuring** process will begin. The Local Presidents are asked to meet with members from their Locals to discuss and generate details for inclusion in the **Oath of Allegiance** and the **Code of Ethics**. Since the Métis Elders' Senate is the guardian of our culture and ethics, it is suggested that the Senators, with research assistance from the Gabriel Dumont Institute, develop the **Oath of Allegiance** and the **Code of Ethics** based on your considerations. Upon first sitting of the Métis Legislative Assembly, the **Oath** and the **Code** will be submitted for legal ratification. As the Métis Elders' Senate takes on greater responsibilities in the area of mediation and arbitration, it is proposed that it administers the **Oath of Allegiance** and activates the **Code of Ethics** as well.

**Phase Two of the Métis Government and Restructuring** process will see the establishment of the **Oath of Allegiance** and the **Code of Ethics**.

The following areas have been identified by Métis citizens to be represented in the **Oath of Allegiance** and specified in a **Code of Ethics**:

#### **Oath of Allegiance**

The **Oath** will call for allegiance and loyalty to the Métis Nation. Each representative will make a verbal commitment to devote herself or himself to the goals and objectives of the Métis Nation through the Métis Society of Saskatchewan. The representative will pledge loyalty to the Legislative Assembly, Board(s) and/or Council(s) of the Métis Society of Saskatchewan and/or Affiliates she or he has been elected or appointed to. By taking the **Oath** the representatives agree to follow the **Code of Ethics** as well.

#### **Code of Ethics**

The **Code of Ethics** will be in written format. It will provide regulations for the representatives to follow. The **Code** can cover the following:

\*\*\*\*\*

**Accountability** - All representatives must be able to answer any questions regarding decisions made and actions taken.

**Responsibility** - All representatives will be obliged to carry the burden of their decisions and actions resulting.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Competence** - Each representative will inform and educate herself or himself at all times of the duties charged to her or him.

**Democracy** - All decisions will follow democratic procedures and practices and all representatives shall respect democratically produced decisions.

**Confidentiality** - All decisions deemed confidential and private by the Legislative Assembly, Board and/or Council the representative works with must be held in secrecy by each representative involved.

**Honesty** - All representatives must conduct herself or himself in a trustworthy, ethical and candid manner.

**Integrity and Protection of Reputation** - Based on the honour of the representative, she or he must notify the Assembly, Board or Council of any breach of the **Oath**

and Code by herself or himself and/or any other representatives and must report any action which may hurt the reputation of the Assembly, Board and/or Council.

**Public Statements:** Any representative who makes a statement to the public on behalf of the Assembly, Board or Council she or he is representing, can only do so when designated by that particular Assembly, Board or Council.

**Patronage** - The Legislative Assembly and every Board and Council must develop rules for hiring which do not require favours in return.

**Nepotism** - The Legislative Assembly and every Board and Council must develop rules which govern the hiring of family relations.

**Conflict of Interest** - The Legislative Assembly and every Board and Council must develop guidelines that clearly explains those situations that can cause a representative to be in conflict of interest while serving on the Assembly, Board and/or Council.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Personal Conduct** - Each representative shall at all times be mindful of the effects of her or his personal conduct on the reputation of the Assembly, Boards and/or Councils of the Society.

**Compatible Activities** - Representatives must be aware of the suitability of other undertakings that she or he may be engaged in.

**Unlawful Activities and Detrimental Situations** - No representative shall engage in unlawful activities and/or situations which may be considered damaging to the Assembly, Boards or Councils.

**Criticism of other Representatives, Staff and Society Members** - Guidelines for appraisal or disapproval of the actions of a co-representative, staff and/or Society members must be developed and subsequently contained in relevant meetings.

**Legal Actions against Representatives, Staff and Members** - The representative taking legal action must provide ample notice and fully inform the Assembly, Board and/or Council of her or his intentions to pursue legal action.

**Protection from discrimination of Race, Gender, Religion, National Origin, Sexual Orientation or Social Origin** - All representatives, staff and Society Members must be protected at all times from all forms of discrimination.

**Bankruptcy Procedures - Guidelines for bankruptcy must be developed.**

**Disciplinary Procedures and Actions - These will be detailed in the Code. By agreeing to become a representative for the Society, she or he is obliged to be governed by all ethical codes outlined and agrees to respect disciplinary procedures and actions.**

## **A PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MÉTIS SENATE AND ELDERS COUNCIL**

### **1. INTRODUCTION.**

The Métis <sup>Nation</sup> ~~Society~~ of Saskatchewan is hereby applying for an operation grant from the Saskatchewan Indian and Metis Secretariat for the purpose of establishing a Métis Senate and Elders Council in the Province of Saskatchewan.

This establishment is aimed to accomplish two principal goals. First, given the recognition and determination of Métis self-government, the Provincial Métis Senate and Elders Council will organize the reputable and seasoned Métis elders to perform as political advisors to consult and direct the Board of Executive of the Métis Society of Saskatchewan to fulfil MSS's missions. Second, given the recognition of the importance of Métis elders' historical knowledge and experience to the revitalization of the Métis traditional culture, the Provincial Métis Senate and Elders Council will perform as a symposium for the senators and elders to express their visions and concerns and also as an organized function to capture their visions, wisdom, and knowledge.

### **2. IMPORTANCE OF THE MÉTIS SENATE AND ELDERS COUNCIL OF SASKATCHEWAN.**

#### **2.1 Current Pursuits of Métis Society of Saskatchewan.**

In 1968, the Métis <sup>Nation</sup> ~~Society~~ of Saskatchewan (MSS) was incorporated to represent the political and economic interests of Métis people in Saskatchewan. As the recognized representative body of the Métis people of the province, MSS is currently engaged in tripartite negotiations with the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan on the issues of Métis self-determination and self-government. These discussions involve generally detailed examinations and bargaining in the following areas:

1. The type and nature of Métis institutions required to enable a constituent body to govern itself;

2. The type and nature of the mechanisms which would empower such institutions to act;

3. The scope and extent of the jurisdictional powers that would be provided to such institutions; and

4. The source, quantity and nature of the financial resources that would enable these institutions to operate.

The assumptions which are upheld by us to guide the tripartite process include the following perceived needs. They are evolved from our distinct culture and long struggle for recognition as long-term goals and have been implanted into our belief and missions. They are stated as follows:

1. Métis people must have the right to exercise, through their own governmental institutions, management and control over matters directly affecting them;

2. Métis people must participate in the design and delivery of services and programs directed towards their particular needs and circumstances;

3. Métis culture and heritage must be protected and enhanced; and

4. Métis economic development must be prompted.

There are two ways to achieve the above objectives. One is to increase representation and jurisdictional power of the existing Métis institutions. Another leads to the establishment of new institutions which provide the capacity to self-govern or to meet the needs of self-government. We see that the establishment of a Provincial Métis Senate and Elders Council is a necessary step to institutionalize the capacity and functions in the aforementioned areas of MSS. Therefore, it is fully recognizable that this proposed initiative is very important and significant to MSS to fulfil its missions and to accomplish its goal of self-government.

## 2.2 Métis people in the province of Saskatchewan.

In 1992, the Métis people of Saskatchewan comprise approximately eight percent of the total provincial population. Almost eighty thousand Métis peoples live in urban, rural and isolated remote northern communities.

Although Métis people spread over the province, the Saskatchewan Métis come together to form a cohesive unit with the representation of MSS and to strive for political

growth, economic development, family strengthening and self-determination. As one of the founding peoples of the confederation, the Métis people of Saskatchewan claim not only the rights by the terms of the constitutional provisions of Canada, but also some inherited rights that are from inheritance of being a distinct founding nation of the country and therefore that are supra-constitutional in nature.

However, ignorance of Métis people's rights and under-privilege of Métis people are pervasive. The languages of the Métis have been eroded by the mainstream educational systems. The discrimination and downgrading of Métis traditional culture have long been so phenomenal and systematic that our children are placed outside of our culture by the mainstream educational and welfare systems. Moreover, we are disproportionately represented in the governmental systems and affected by justice systems which serve only to compound these problems. These practices, obviously, are incompatible with the values declared in the Canadian Bill of Rights and also have devastating impact upon our efforts toward self-determination and self-government.

Moreover, socio-economic depression is evident in Métis communities. Métis people have been continuously plagued by illiteracy, under-education, unemployment, low labour force participation, low income, inadequate housing, drug and alcohol abuse, and a host of other social ills. All of these point to an urgent need for a solution of this wholly unequal situation, which precipitates a vicious cycle of poverty, depression and social problems in Métis communities.

In order to voice and address Métis people's needs and concerns, we propose to establish an institution of Provincial Métis Senate and Elders Council to provide a mechanism for Métis elders to play an important role in the direction of MSS. We believe that the proposed establishment will not only work in the capacity as political advisor of MSS, but also as an important communication channel between the Métis people and MSS as well as between the Métis people and the governments. Further more, this measure is also a means of ensuring that issues related to Métis people will be examined and resolved by Métis people.

### 2.3 Organizational Structure and Affiliates.

The Métis Society of Saskatchewan is represented by an elected executive who receive their directions and mandate from the Métis people of Saskatchewan. The Society is then organized into twelve regions. The regions are broken down into approximately 120 Locals each of which represents one or several communities. The size of membership varies from Local to Local ranging from nine people to six hundred. Generally speaking, MSS is grassroots driven to reflect and react to the ideas, concerns and needs of the vast mass of members. During the past twenty-four years, the Society has been experiencing struggles for political recognition and economic development and

continues to represent the diverse and changing needs of Métis people. All the divisions and affiliates of MSS, especially the newly proposed Provincial Métis Senate and Elders Council, are organized and aimed to fulfil the missions of the Society and to meet the demands of our people.

MSS also have a few affiliates which run educational programs, economic development projects, business and management initiatives, and social programs and services. In 1992, the affiliates include the Gabriel Dumont Institute, Provincial Métis Housing Corporation, Sasknative Economic Development Corporation, Saskatchewan Native Recreation Corporation, Saskatchewan Native Addictions Council, Saskatchewan Native Communication Corporation, the Third Party Coordinators Group and the Pathways to Success Program.

### **3. URGENT NEED FOR THE PROVINCIAL MÉTIS SENATE AND ELDERS COUNCIL**

As stated previously, the Métis Society of Saskatchewan is facing a variety of challenges from diverse demands of its membership and the changing reality which impose tremendous economic and political difficulties on the Métis people in Saskatchewan. In order to address these issues, both MSS and its membership as well as affiliates spell out the urgent need of the establishment of the Provincial Métis Senate and Elders Council.

The most prominent role of the Senate is to provide in-depth historical information and knowledge to help MSS in its strategic decision making and systems planning. Moreover, the Senate will certainly be able to identify contemporary issues related to economic, resource and cultural development in Métis communities. In addition, the Senate will have convincing authority to expose the current and historical barriers and difficulties in a way that constructive advice will be generated from this exposure.

In recognition of this urgent need, MSS has held several organizational meetings and a workshop to discuss the role of the Senate. A number of decisions and recommendations have been made. Among them, notable are:

1. Elders are one of the most important part of Métis human resources and also the most critical source of historical and contemporary knowledge about Métis people and Métis culture. Special and specific organizational measures must be taken to capture their knowledge and to institutionalize the communication channels between them and MSS as well as between them and the governments. The most urgent measure are believed and recommended unanimously by all the participants to be the establishment of a Provincial Métis Senate and Elders Council;

2. The Senate, with the assistance of GDI and all other MSS affiliates, should perform the duties to identify the utilization of elders' expertise and the areas they can participate within their institution and programs;

3. The Senate, whose selection will be developed and ratified by MSS, will be an advisory body of MSS. The elders and Senate's Code of Ethics should be developed by discussions and communication and also ratified by MSS;

4. The Senate should also perform as a permanent institute to carry out on-going dialogues with governments and other interested parties on Canadian Constitution, land and resource, economic development, Métis education, culture and self-government;

5. The Senate will act as mediators with disputes but shall have no political authority;

6. The Senate must participate in the curriculum development for Métis education and Métis language programs in order to provide accurate Métis content;

7. The Senate will be responsible to developing a Métis elders roster to meet demand of elders' services from different institutions. Comprehensive elders' biographies must be also developed;

8. The Senate will perform as an official communication channel of MSS to share information and common interest with other provinces.

#### **4. ROLES OF THE SENATE AND ELDERS COUNCIL**

The Senate will work in the capacity of advisory function of MSS. This function can be performed at local, provincial and national levels. The mandate of the Senate will be basically to be political advisors to help define the Visions and Missions of MSS.

The senators will become part of the circles of elders. They will always work closely with elders as their representatives. They will at times be requested to make presentations for the Gabriel Dumont Institute and its affiliates.

The senators should define and implement, with the consultation and ratification of MSS, the Code of Ethics of the Senate and Elders Council. The Code of Ethics will include ethic standards, function descriptions, and disciplinary measures. Based on the Code of Ethics, a protocol system will be established by the Senate and Elders Council.

Membership in both the Senate and the Elders Council will be a life time position.

**APPENDIX B: A LIST OF MSS SENATORS**

Stan Durocher

██████████

La Ronge, Saskatchewan

S0J 3G0

4 ██████████

Northern Region I

Robert Mercredi

Louis Morin

██████████

Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan

S0M 0J0

8 ██████████

Northern Region II

Norman Hansen

██████████

Vital Morin

██████████

Ile a la Crosse, Saskatchewan

S0M 1C0

8 ██████████

Northern Region III

Max Morin

8 ██████████

Marie Alma Cheboyer

██████████

Cumberland House, Saskatchewan

S0E 0S0

Eastern Region I

Leonard Morin

██████████

Alfred Gensille

██████████

Chelan, Saskatchewan

S0E 0N0

2 ██████████

Eastern Region II

Clarence Campeau

██████████

Rose Ledoux

Box 575

Yorkton, Saskatchewan

S3N 2W7

7 ██████████

Eastern Region IIA

Gary Martin

██████████

Joe Fayant

P.O. Box 291

Sintaluta, Saskatchewan

S0G 4N0

██████████

Eastern Region III

Wilbert Desjarlais

3 ██████████

Edward King  
P.O. Box 81  
Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan  
S0M 1V0  
[REDACTED]

Lawrence Martell  
872-102 Street  
North Battleford, Saskatchewan  
S9A 1E1  
448 [REDACTED]

John Boucher  
[REDACTED]  
St. Louis, Saskatchewan  
S0J 2C0  
422-8488  
[REDACTED]

Leo Amyotte  
P.O. Box 542  
Kindersley, Saskatchewan  
S0L 1S1  
[REDACTED]

Western Region I  
Guy Bouvier  
236 [REDACTED]

Western Region IA  
Albert Delaire  
[REDACTED]

Western Region II  
Edwin Pelletier

Western Region IIA  
Martin Aubichon

*Nora Ritchie*

*Met's Women of Sask.*

**TERMS OF REFERENCE****(DRAFT)****Composition and Selection of the Metis****Nation Senate Council**

1. The Metis Nation Senate shall be composed of thirteen (13) Metis Senators from each of the 12 regions of the province, in addition, one representative from Metis Women of Sask.
2. Metis Senators from each region shall be appointed.

**Responsibilities of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan**

-Senate

The Metis Nation-Senate shall be responsible for:

- (a) Swearing in the members of the Metis Nation of Sask. Legislative Assembly, Minister's of the Provincial Metis Council of Minister's;
- (b) Initiating laws respecting decorations, medals of honour or other commemorative honours for the Metis Nation;
- (c) Resolving internal disputes among members of the Metis Legislative Assembly, Provincial Metis Council Ministers  
Resolving conflicts between the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly and any of the Locals, regional structures or women's representative bodies within the Metis Nation of Sask.

Expanded role of the Senate including:

1. (a) Membership/Enumeration
- (b) Central Registry
- (c) Elections/Bi-elections
- (d) Appeals (memberships, etc.)

(e) Ceremony and Protocol (opening prayer, anthem, flag, etc.)

(f) Draft Code of Conduct

(g) Metis Veterans

2. Final right of appeal for Senators regarding memberships and enumerations, elections and disputes.

**DRAFT****ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS,  
ENUMERATION AND ELECTORAL REFORM**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Community Affairs, Enumeration and Electoral Reform.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that Lennard Morin has been appointed Minister of Community Affairs, Enumeration and Electoral Reform at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister will advise the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan of all issues pertaining to community affairs, enumeration of Métis citizens and electoral reform and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister will extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) community affairs of Métis locals and regions, including assistance with community constitutional developments;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the enumeration process of Métis citizens in conjunction with the Ministers in charge of enumeration from other provinces and the Minister responsible from the Métis National Council;
  - c) Métis electoral reform;
  - d) the representation of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal departments relating to census; and
  - e) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

In conformity with the By-laws, in order to be a member, one must be a Metis person. In this connection, the preamble states that the Metis are "the descendants of the historic Metis who evolved in what is now Western Canada... as a People with a common political will and consciousness".

In dealing with the issue of membership, By-law No. 2 provides that a Metis "is a person of Aboriginal ancestry". This therefore means that non-Native persons cannot qualify for membership.

In registering our membership, the following policy is recommended:

1. **Membership Registry**

A registry will be maintained in the Head Office as currently provided in the By-laws. Such registry shall contain the name, number and Local of each member.

Each member who is 16 years of age or over, shall be issued their own number. Members who are 15 year of age and under shall be registered with the mother, except where they do not reside with the mother, or the mother is a non-Metis.

The registry will only be a list of MSS members, and not the general Metis population of the province.

2. **Membership Lists**

Each Local is required to maintain up-to-date membership lists. Yearly updates shall be registered with the Head Office before November 1st of each year.

To assist in this process, the Head Office will send out a reminder and the existing list to each Local by October 1st of each year.

**METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

**3. Membership Application Form**

Membership application forms shall be provided by the Head Office to each Local. Each member 16 and over will fill out separate application forms. Children 15 and under will be included with the mother, or as described in 1 above.

**4. Membership Cards**

Each card will be numbered, beginning with the number 1. Once a number is assigned, if a replacement card is required, it shall retain the original number. The card will also contain the name of the member and the Local to which that member belongs.

As the Locals register the membership application forms, the Head Office shall forward the membership cards to the Local President or Secretary who shall issue them to the members.

Membership cards shall only be issued to Metis persons who have completed the membership application forms. In the interim, current membership lists will be maintained for MSS business. However, in order to be on the voter's list and vote in the next MSS general election, membership application forms will have to be completed and a membership number assigned.

METIS SOCIETY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Member of Local: \_\_\_\_\_

4. DECLARATION

I declare that I am a Metis person as defined by the Metis Society of Saskatchewan By-laws and as such am entitled to membership within the Metis Society of Saskatchewan.

5. Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

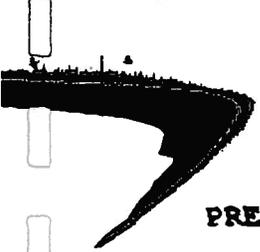
6. Membership No. assigned (To be filled by Head Office): \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Children (15 years of age and under):

<u>M/F</u>	<u>1st Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Born D/M/Y</u>	<u>Place</u>

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**



**PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE METIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
BATOCHÉ, SASKATCHEWAN  
JULY 21, 1994**

**I. RECOGNITION OF THE INHERENT RIGHT TO SELF-GOVERNMENT**

The present leadership within the Provincial Metis Council was elected in February, 1992. For the first eight months we were preoccupied with discussions leading up to the Charlottetown Accord which was eventually defeated by Canadians in a Referendum in October of that year.

The Charlottetown process marked a significant point in our history. It was significant because the Metis came closer than at any point in our history to finally having our rights to self-government and land clearly entrenched in the Constitution of Canada. In spite of the Accords defeat we achieved an important milestone on behalf of our People. **Most importantly was the fact that all governments across Canada acknowledged and recognized for the first time in history the Metis Nation's inherent right to self-government.**

We however have always believed in the principle of inherent rights and have practiced it in our political institutions. The concept of inherent rights means that our rights to govern ourselves as a People and a Nation flows from our Creator, our history, our Nationhood, our Aboriginal ancestry and by virtue of the principles of International law. As a result, **it is not up to the federal and provincial governments to grant us these rights, but merely to recognize and respect these pre-existing rights of our People.** Since the defeat of the Accord all governments across Canada continue to reaffirm their support and commitment to the inherent right of self-government.

**In spite of the defeat of the Accord the Metis Nation has signalled very clearly to all governments and the Canadian public that we will not be held back, our People will continue to move ahead proactively and constructively to implement our rights to self-government and self-determination.** This is precisely what we have done in the past year and a half. Unfortunately, other governments have not yet responded to our initiatives in an appropriate and timely fashion. Hopefully the attitudes of other governments will change in the future and they will see fit to deal with our People in a respectful and honourable manner. In any event, the recent recognition of the inherent right to govern ourselves has had significant implications for our Nation.

Also significant to the Charlottetown Accord was the negotiation of the historic Metis Nation Accord. With its adoption this Accord, would have been legal and binding on the Western governments. Although the Metis Nation Accord was also defeated as part of the Charlottetown package it represented a significant development for our People. **The Metis Nation Accord continues to**

...ve as a model agreement in our current discussions with federal and provincial governments on self-government.

During the Charlottetown process we achieved some very important gains for our people--these gains which are a matter of public record will serve as important "benchmarks" for our People in the future. Certainly we cannot see how our leaders can settle for less in future Constitutional discussions which will take place again at some point in the future.

## II. IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR RIGHT TO GOVERN OURSELVES

With the defeat of the Charlottetown Accord we signalled to other Canadians and governments that the Metis Nation would immediately proceed to implement our right to govern ourselves through our own political structures and institutions. In so doing we would involve our communities in Saskatchewan. To this end, in October of 1992 the Provincial Metis Council created the "Restructuring Committee" which was empowered with the mandate to consult with our People and develop a new Constitution based on our inherent right to self-government. The new Constitution was to be based upon the inherent right of self-government rather than the provincial governments corporate legislation.

In the next year the "Restructuring Committee" and the Provincial Metis Council undertook extensive consultations with our People. Numerous meetings and discussions occurred within the Metis Nation focussing on the restructuring process which resulted in the development of a "proposed Constitution". The proposed Constitution was overwhelmingly adopted with some amendment in December of last year. Phase 1 of the restructuring process and consultations leading up to the adoption of our Constitution are described in more detail in the Report of the Restructuring Committee which is contained in your Assembly kits.

The Constitution of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan is an expression of our third Order of government (the federal and provincial governments constituting the other two Orders) and is based on our inherent right of self-government. The overwhelming support of the Constitution by our People at the Annual Assembly in December demonstrates it's strong acceptance and legitimacy in the eyes of our People. Although a small handful of People tried in vain to disrupt the meeting and prevent us from moving ahead with our rights they were not successful and our People collectively determined that it was time for our Nation to move forward and continue the legacy of struggle and resistance as was done by our Ancestors including the resistance in Red River and Batoche.

Through our actions and with the adoption of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan we as a Metis Nation are at the forefront in this Country in moving ahead with the implementation of our rights.

Not surprisingly, our rapid progress and movement away from the confines of corporate legislation, has caused a tremendous reaction among other governments. As in the past with leaders such as Riel, governments have unsuccessfully tried everything to discredit our leadership, our government and our movement. The only thing they can do to us now is to call in the military. However, it will be difficult for them to justify such actions to the public since we are not fighting with guns today, instead we have learned the game of our oppressors and are effectively using their own rules to turn back their racist practices against our People to carry forward our agenda and the pursuit of our rights and aspirations as a distinct People.

With the spirit and vision of our Metis ancestors we have adopted a new Constitution which contains all of the elements of a legitimate government. One of the most significant components of this Constitution is the creation of the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly. This Legislative Assembly is made up of the Provincial Metis Council and all Local Presidents across Saskatchewan. The Metis Legislative Assembly has the capacity to pass legislation and laws on behalf of our People in Saskatchewan. Through this process of lawmaking we will gradually assert our areas of jurisdiction as a Metis government--this for example could include jurisdiction over our land and resources, hunting fishing and trapping, justice, education, healthcare, economic development, etc.). **When we were structured under the Province's Non-profit Corporations Act we did not have the capacity to make laws.** This is probably the most significant feature of our new government based on our own Constitution. As well the Legislative Assembly finally gives our Local Presidents a legitimate and integral role within our government.

The new Constitution also provides for an executive branch of our government. This executive branch is the Provincial Metis Council who are elected provincewide by one person one vote ballot box elections at least every three years. The Provincial Metis Council makes up the Council of Ministers and have Cabinet responsibilities and are responsible for introducing Legislation in the Assembly. The Ministers are accountable to the Assembly and ultimately to all their constituents through the ballot box.

Our Constitution also provides for a judicial branch of our government--this of course is the Senate of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. This is consistent with our culture and traditions as our elders and most respected members of our communities were called upon to resolve disputes and differences amongst our People. This tradition has now been given modern expression and codified in our Constitution. The Senate has also been given additional responsibilities besides their judicial role.

Our Constitution also for the first time gives guaranteed seats to Metis Women in the Provincial Metis Council and the Legislative Assembly. The Metis Women of Saskatchewan also are considered to be the Metis Women's arm of our government and are

recognized as such in our Constitution. This should ensure a fair and equitable role for Metis Women within our government. This again is consistent with our traditions as Women were valued in our Communities and made an equal contribution to the development of our communities.

**The Constitution provides for much more including the following:**

**-decentralization of decision-making and power to the Local Presidents through our Legislative Assembly.**

**-sets the framework for the decentralization of programs and services to the regions and communities**

**-gives the Local Presidents an integral and meaningful role within our government.**

**-enhances the role and responsibilities of our legitimately elected leaders--the Provincial Metis Council**

**-respects the traditional roles of our Senators and gives them major and significant responsibilities within the MNS**

**-ensures fairness and equity for Metis Women within our government.**

**-continues to provide a meaningful role for Metis citizens by preserving the Annual General Assembly which is not restricted to delegates but to all Metis citizens who chose to attend.**

**-sets the framework for meaningful participation for Metis Youth**

**-provides for an amendment formula which will allow our People to change the Constitution over time to meet the changing needs and circumstances of our communities**

Now that we have adopted the Constitution we will go into phase 2 of our restructuring process which will allow us to improve our government and continue to implement our inherent right to self-government. Our Constitution only lays the foundation and general framework for government, we must build on this solid foundation in the future and further define our government and be responsive to the needs and aspirations of our People. This process of self-governance and self-determination is a gradual evolutionary process--it will take time and commitment to our Nation and Riel's vision for his People, after all Rome was not built overnight. Further activities in Phase 2 are discussed further in the Restructuring Report and will be also discussed at this Assembly.

### III. REESTABLISHMENT OF OUR TRADITIONAL LAND AND RESOURCES

On March 1 of this year we launched a major Land claim in the Court of Queens Bench in Saskatoon. In this lawsuit we are claiming approximately 145,000 square kilometres of land in Northwester Saskatchewan. We are claiming ownership and jurisdiction to the land and resources which includes the inherent right to govern ourselves on these lands. As well we are asking for compensation for having been deprived of these lands and resources and for the destruction of these lands and resources by other governments and private business interests.

It is important for people to understand that this is a test case on behalf of all of our People in Saskatchewan and indeed on behalf of the entire Metis Nation within Canada. Any positive legal ruling by the courts will benefit and impact upon all of our People. For example if the courts rule that the scrip system was not a valid way to extinguish our rights to land and resources than this will obligate all governments in western Canada to negotiate land claim agreements with all of our People since the federal governments attempted to extinguish our landrights through the scrip system. As well any political settlement of this court action will involve a landclaim settlement on behalf of all of our People in Saskatchewan throughout the MNS. Or alternatively we could negotiate an out of court settlement on behalf of the entire Metis Nation through the Metis National Council and the MNS.

Although we have taken our fight to the courts we prefer a political settlement of our rights to land and resources. We were, however, forced to take court action because we are presently shut out of all landclaims processes and negotiations in Canada. Other governments refuse to recognize our rights to land and will not negotiate these issues with us. Hopefully, these and other courtactions will compel them to come to the negotiating table to deal with us in good faith and in an honourable manner. This has always been our preferred approach to dealing with other levels of governments.

In any event, this landclaim action should help us to re-establish our land and resource base for the future. This is essential because if self-government is going to succeed and contribute positively to our communities it must be accompanied by a land and resource base. Without our land and resources we will effectively be shut out of social and economic development in this province. We see this happening around us everyday. While, everyone else in this province participates in the economy using our land and resources the Metis are forced to watch from the sidelines while others reap the benefits of social and economic development from the monies and jobs generated by our land. In spite of all of these developments, governments continue to force our People to live on welfare and keep our People in a

state of dependency. Simultaneously, they throw obstacles in our path when we attempt to achieve self-government and self-sufficiency for our People.

While all governments continue to tell our people and our communities that they support the inherent right of self-government for our people. Unfortunately, both the federal and provincial governments in their statements of defence to our land action have taken a hostile and negative position. Both governments argue against our claim by saying that the Metis are not a distinct Aboriginal Nation and that we do not have any rights to land and resources and that if we did have these rights were extinguished by the scrip system. While these governments say they support the inherent right they continue, as past Governments, to refuse to acknowledge that the scrip system was a massive fraud and was simply intended to dispossess our People from their lands. In their attempts to cover up their fraud they are once again committing another injustice against our People. Perhaps someone should explain to governments that two wrongs don't make a right. Whenever our People have tried to assert their rights to self-government and land in the past governments have always moved in to suppress and crush our People and our movements. They are trying it again but as in the past they will not kill the spirit of our People. This time instead of trying to put us down with guns and ammunition they are using more sophisticated and subtle methods. As in the past we must continue with our attempts to bring about fairness and justice for our People. We must not allow ourselves to be sidetracked or divided by governments and we must continue to work together for our rights--with unity and strength we will not be deterred in our efforts to achieve our aspirations. We must carry on the rich legacy of our Ancestors and keep in mind our children and future generations of Metis People.

#### **IV. METIS RIGHTS TO HUNT, FISH, TRAP**

In December of last year the Court of Queens Bench in Manitoba acquitted two Metis People who were charged for killing a moose out of season. The Court ruled that Metis People have a right to hunt and that this right is protected in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. In January of this year we held a News Conference in Saskatoon where we stated very clearly that we felt we have a right to hunt and that we were prepared to exercise that right especially now that we have received a favourable ruling from the courts. However, instead of exercising those rights immediately we were prepared to postpone the exercise of that right for six months. This would give the federal and provincial governments time to work with us in drafting Cooperative Management Agreements and also work with us in drafting our own rules and legislation. The Province reacted positively initially but unfortunately they have backed away in the past few months and have not been prepared to talk to us on

this issue. The six month period has now expired and we are prepared to move ahead with our right to hunt, fish and trap.

The Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Mr. Norman Hansen has been drafting legislation for tabling with the Legislative Assembly. This draft legislation has been circulated in our communities and based on the feedback Mr. Hansen has prepared another draft of this legislation which is being tabled at this Assembly for possible adoption. **It is hoped that we can adopt the Metis Wildlife and Conservation Act at this Assembly so that we may begin to exercise our right to hunt, fish and trap. We have waited long enough. It should no longer be illegal for us to be able to live our culture and way of life as our Ancestors have done for generations. As well our People need to be able to sustain themselves and feed their families.** Changes can be made to this proposed legislation at this Assembly based on the debate. As well we can change this legislation at future Assemblies to meet our changing needs and circumstances.

Hopefully other governments will respect our law on hunting, fishing and trapping. If they do then we can just pursue our way of life according to our own law. If they don't then we may have to be prepared to fight this issue in the courts. If this happens we will undertake to find a lawyer to represent all of us in court. **Regardless of how governments react we must all collectively exercise our right to hunt. There is strength in numbers and if we act collectively on this issue it will be impossible for governments to stop us from exercising our rights. We must reclaim what is rightfully ours as a People.**

By passing this law we will not only be making a stand on our right to hunt, fish and trap but also the inherent right to govern ourselves as a People. This is an example of the true exercise of self-government and the benefits it can bring to our People.

#### **V. METIS JUSTICE SYSTEMS--SENTENCING CIRCLE**

Last year Mr. Ivan Morin was convicted in the Court of Queens Bench and as part of his sentencing he requested a sentencing circle which included people from the Metis community including our elders. The Court of Queens Bench ordered a sentencing circle and further accepted the recommendations of the circle on the sentencing of Mr. Morin.

The Province appealed this decision to the Court of Appeal, Saskatchewan's highest Court. The Metis Nation of Saskatchewan intervened in the Court and we argued that Sentencing Circles should be recognized by the Court and should be available to Metis People who are convicted in the Courts if it is requested by an Metis accused. The hearing of this appeal was heard in May of this year. The Justices made some favourable

comments from the bench and it is likely they will rule in our favour and recognize Sentencing Circles as part of the Justice System in Saskatchewan. This reform in the Justice System will mean the System will be fairer and more responsive to our People. As well it is a step in the direction of putting in place our own Metis Justice System based on our inherent right to self-government.

## **VI. GAMING--SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

We have done a considerable amount of work in the past couple of years on Gaming initiatives on behalf of our People. Despite the favourable commitments and promises that was given to us by the Province in the end result we were betrayed and offered nothing by the Province. This will be discussed in more detail in the Minister of Economic Development's report to the Assembly. To make a long story short we are asking the Province to refer this whole issue to the Court of Appeal for a ruling on whether the Provinces Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act is valid because we feel that it is unconstitutional on the basis that it violates our Charter rights to equal protection and benefit of the law. If the Province refuses to refer this Constitutional question to the Court of Appeal than we will launch a lawsuit in the Court of Queens Bench against the Province.

It is important that we are treated fairly and equitably by the Province on this matter because there is a need to create jobs for our People. As well we could use the revenues from the profits for education, economic development, health services and so on. According to the Metis National Council's report to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal People the Metis are the most socially and economically disadvantaged People in Canada, given this situation our People could benefit from fair treatment on this issue so that we may bring about some social and economic justice in our communities.

## **VII. OTHER ISSUES WITHIN THE METIS NATION**

The last couple of years has seen a lot of activity within the Metis Nation. We have made a lot of progress and made some significant strides on behalf of our People. The following are some of the other developments within the Nation:

- Signing of the Tripartite Agreement with the federal and provincial governments
- Signing of the Bilateral Framework Agreement with the Province
- Signing of an Memorandum of Understanding with the Saskatoon Police Service

-Negotiated the reinstatement of Social Housing programs for Metis People

-Signing of an Agreement with the Province which created the Dumont Technical Institute, another training and educational Institute for our People.

-Metis National Council has made some progress with federal and provincial governments on Enumeration, implementation of Self-government and Section 91(24)

-Senate has begun to work on citizenship and elections-- ultimately we will be introducing a Metis Citizenship Act and a Metis Elections Act in the Assembly.

### **VIII. CONCLUSION --- THE FUTURE**

We have come a long ways as a People in the past few years. We have made significant strides to reclaim our Nationhood. We have taken some major steps in asserting our rights to self-government and self-determination. We can take pride in the fact that we are continuing the rich legacy of our Ancestors by resisting oppression of our People and struggling to bring about fairness and justice for our Nation. We must continue in this direction. At long last we are starting to achieve the dreams and vision of Louis Riel and our past leaders. Other governments will resist this movement and will attempt to destroy us, we must never allow this to happen. We owe it to ourselves, our Ancestors, our children, our communities and future generations of Metis to continue our march to self-determination and justice.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Deloitte &  
Touche**



**Deloitte & Touche**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
Suite 400, PCS Tower  
122 - 1st Avenue South  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7K 7E5

July 20, 1994

Mr. Philip Chartier  
Treasurer  
Metis Society of Saskatchewan  
219 Robin Crescent  
Saskatoon SK S7L 6M8

Dear Mr. Chartier:

On April 19, 1994 our firm released to members of the Board of Directors of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan the results of our audit which was conducted on behalf of a number of government departments in connection with their contribution agreements. During our meeting with your Board we provided a full report on the scope of our audit and its findings.

Unfortunately, during the last few months much of the media reporting has been on a relatively superficial level which has left some misunderstanding as to the specific results of our audit. Our audit reports and accompanying letter clearly explain the results of our audit and the errors we encountered. To help clarify the situation we can confirm to you that our audit did not disclose any unrecorded expenditures and that generally the errors we noted in our report resulted from a lack of documentation or support for certain expenditures. The purpose of this letter is to assist you and others in understanding the nature of the errors identified.

The majority of the dollar value of the errors noted in our report deals with the allocation of expenditures between the Core Funding Program and the Tri-Partite Program. Our report does not indicate that the funds were not spent for the benefit of the Metis Society but rather states that the internal accounting documentation was not adequate enough to allow us to determine if the expenditure had been charged against the proper program. Our report refers to \$592,000 of expenditures charged against the 1993 Tri-Partite Program which were paid for through the Core Program.

Our report also referred to errors that resulted from a lack of support for journal entries. Generally, these journal entries were prepared for the purpose of allocating expenditures from one general ledger account to another and were classified as errors as we were unable to locate copies of the journal entries to support the transaction.

**Deloitte Touche**  
**Tohmatsu**  
**International**

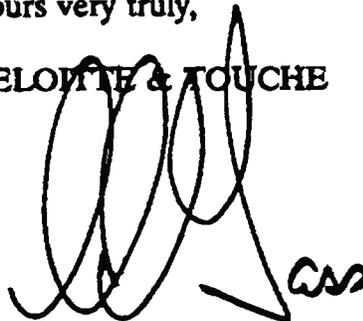
Mr. Philip Chartier  
July 19, 1994  
Page 2

The balance of the errors relate to payments made for which we were unable supporting documentation. These errors do not suggest that the funds were for the benefit of the Metis Society but rather indicate that supporting documentation could either not be located or did not have evidence of approvals.

As we indicated to you in the past, the full nature and extent of the errors w are explained in our audit reports and accompanying letter. We encourage a parties to review our reports in detail and if you or others have specific q would be pleased to provide additional information.

Yours very truly,

DELOITTE & TOUCHE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. E. Gass', written over the printed name 'DELOITTE & TOUCHE'. The signature is stylized with large loops and a trailing flourish.

D. E. Gass, FCA  
Partner

/ap

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND HERITAGE

DRAFT

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Culture and Heritage.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Edwin Pelletier** has been appointed Minister of Culture and Heritage and that **Darby Larose** has been appointed Associate Minister of Culture and Heritage at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall advise the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan of all issues pertaining to culture and heritage. The powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address cultural issues of the citizens of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan, including Métis languages promotion and issues of racism and discrimination;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address heritage activities of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan, including Métis heritage land surveys and archaeological research;
  - c) the coordination and promotion of a federal and provincial strategy for the transfer of culture and heritage programming resources from Federal and Provincial Governments to the Métis Government;
  - d) the coordination and facilitation of cultural and heritage initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates;
  - e) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF RECREATION AND YOUTH

DRAFT

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Recreation and Youth.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Edwin Pelletier** has been appointed Minister of Recreation and Youth and **Daryl Larose** has been appointed Minister of Recreation and Youth at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall advise the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan of all issues pertaining to recreation and youth. The powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the Saskatchewan Métis Recreation Corporation and the Batoche Development Corporation;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the needs of Métis youth;
  - c) the coordination and promotion of a federal and provincial strategy for the transfer of recreation and youth programs from Federal and Provincial Governments to the Métis Government;
  - d) the representation and advancement of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to recreation and youth issues, including direct involvement in the federal Youth Core initiative;
  - e) the coordination and facilitation of the recreation and youth initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates; and
  - f) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF LAND,  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT**

**DRAFT**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Land, Natural Resources and Environment.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Norman Hansen** has been appointed Minister of Land, Natural Resources and Environment and that **Max Morin** has been appointed Associate Minister of Land, Natural Resources and Environment at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall be the land, natural resources and environment advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) Métis land surveys, Métis land claims actions, hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address Métis land surveys, land claims actions, fishing, hunting, trapping and gathering, including an environmental management plan;
  - c) the research and subsequent promotion of the need for Métis land surveys;
  - d) the promotion of Métis land claims actions;
  - e) the promotion of the inherent and legal right of the Métis to hunt, fish, trap and gather to sustain life and develop economically;
  - f) the coordination and promotion of a provincial strategy for the transfer of resource management from Provincial Government to the Métis Government, including the jurisdiction over management and law enforcement;
  - g) the representation and advancement of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on international, federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to lands, natural resources and environmental issues;
  - h) the coordination and facilitation of Métis lands, natural resources and environment initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates;
  - j) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

DRAFT

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Health.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Max Morin** has been appointed Minister of Health and that **Edwin Pelletier** has been appointed Associate Minister of Health at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall be the health advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the Provincial Métis Health Board and the Métis Addictions Council Saskatchewan;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the health needs of the citizens of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan;
  - c) the research and subsequent promotion of customary Métis wellness strategies including midwifery and natural medicinal preparations;
  - d) the coordination and promotion of a provincial strategy for the transfer of health services resources, including those concerning addictions, to the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan;
  - e) the representation of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to health where the advancement of the health interests of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan will take place;
  - f) the coordination and facilitation of the health initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates; and
  - g) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE**

**DRAFT**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Economic Development and Trade.

2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Clarence Campeau** has been appointed Minister of Economic Development and Trade and that **Martin Aubichon** has been appointed Associate Minister of Economic Development and Trade at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

3. The Minister shall be the economic development and trade advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:

a) the Saskatchewan Native Economic Development Corporation (SNEDCO) and the Saskatchewan Métis Economic Development Authority (SMEDA);

b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to assist the growth and expansion of Métis small businesses;

c) the development of a strategic and operational plan for the economic activities of the Métis, such as in the areas of gaming, forestry and mining;

d) a strategy to encourage trade between Métis citizens and citizens of other governments;

e) the promotion, development and coordination of a provincial strategy for the expansion and diversification of Métis capital corporations;

f) the representation of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to economic development

g) the representation of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal, provincial and international boards and agencies pertaining to provincial, federal and international trade activities and negotiations;

h) the coordination and facilitation of economic and trade initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates;

i) the advancement of the economic and trade interests of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan with appropriate federal, provincial and international governments; and

j) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

DRAFT

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Communications.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Philip Chartier** has been appointed Minister of Communications at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister will advise the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan of all issues pertaining to communications and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister will extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the Saskatchewan Métis Communication Corporation;
  - b) New Breed;
  - c) Public Affairs;
  - d) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address communications policies and procedures of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan both internally and externally, including the media;
  - e) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

DRAFT

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS,  
ENUMERATION AND ELECTORAL REFORM**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Community Affairs, Enumeration and Electoral Reform.

2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Lennard Morin** has been appointed Minister of Community Affairs, Enumeration and Electoral Reform at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

3. The Minister will advise the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan of all issues pertaining to community affairs, enumeration of Métis citizens and electoral reform and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister will extend to and include all matters relating to:

a) community affairs of Métis locals and regions, including assistance with community constitutional developments;

b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the enumeration process of Métis citizens in conjunction with the Ministers in charge of enumeration from other provinces and the Minister responsible from the Métis National Council;

c) Métis electoral reform;

d) the representation of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal departments relating to census; and

e) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

**DRAFT**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs and Urban Development.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Gerald Morin** has been appointed Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Urban Development at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister will advise the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan of all issues pertaining to intergovernmental affairs and urban developments and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister will extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) intergovernmental consultations, including those between municipal, provincial, federal and First Nations Governments and all levels of Métis Governments;
  - b) urban developments concerning the Métis living in urban centres in Saskatchewan;
  - c) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address negotiations with other governments; and
  - d) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

DRAFT

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Housing.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Robert Mercredi** has been appointed Minister of Housing and that **Norman Hansen** has been appointed Associate Minister of Housing at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall be the housing advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the Provincial Métis Housing Corporation and Property Management;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the housing needs of the citizens of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan;
  - c) the administration of social housing programs such as the Emergency Repair Program and the Residential Repair Assistance Program;
  - d) the coordination and promotion of a provincial strategy for the transfer of all housing programs resources concerning the Métis, including training programs;
  - e) the representation of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to housing where the advancement of the housing interests of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan will take place;
  - f) the coordination and facilitation of the housing initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates; and
  - g) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

DRAFT

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Finance.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Philip Chartier** has been appointed Minister of Finance at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall be the financial advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the finances of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan;
  - b) the introduction of all financial statements and budgets to the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly for approval;
  - c) the introduction of a Financial Reform Package to the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly for adoption;
  - d) developing, administering and managing the Financial Reform Package of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan;
  - e) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT**

**DRAFT**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Training and Employment.

2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Guy Bouvier** has been appointed Minister of Training and Employment and that **Gary Martin** has been appointed Associate Minister of Training and Employment at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

3. The Minister shall be the training and employment advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:

- a) the Pathways Secretariat;
- b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the training and employment needs of the citizens of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan. Such a plan will be developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Education;
- c) the coordination and promotion of a provincial strategy for the complete transfer of training and employment services resources for the Métis from the Federal and Provincial Governments to the Métis Government;
- d) the representation and advancement of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to training and employment;
- e) the coordination and facilitation of the training and employment initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates; and
- f) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

DRAFT

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Education.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Philip Chartier** has been appointed Minister of Education and that **Darly Larose** has been appointed Associate Minister of Education at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall be the education advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Métis Studies and Applied Research, including the Dumont Technical Institute, the Gabriel Dumont Colleges, the Métis university and the Community Training Residence;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the education needs of the citizens of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan. Such a plan will be developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Training and Employment;
  - c) the coordination and promotion of a provincial strategy for the transfer of education services resources, including those concerning student loans and bursaries;
  - d) the representation and advancement of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to education;
  - e) the coordination and facilitation of the education initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates; and
  - f) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**DRAFT**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Justice and Social Services.
2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Martin Aubichon** has been appointed Minister of Justice and Social Services and that **Wilbert Desjarlais** has been appointed Associate Minister of Justice and Social Services at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
3. The Minister shall be the justice and social services advisor of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister extend to and include all matters relating to:
  - a) the Métis Justice and Social Services Institute and of Law Enforcement, Policing and Security;
  - b) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the justice and social services needs of all individuals of the Métis Nation in Saskatchewan with special emphasis on children and families;
  - c) the research and subsequent promotion of the effectiveness of Métis justice strategies, including recognition and certification of Métis courtworkers, legal advisors, Sentencing Circles, law enforcers and security personnel, and approaches to social services for the Métis, including the certification of Métis counsellors and Métis delivery of services;
  - d) the coordination and promotion of a provincial strategy for the transfer of justice and social services resources to the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan;
  - e) the representation and advancement of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan on federal and provincial boards and agencies pertaining to justice and social services;
  - f) the coordination and facilitation of Métis justice and social services initiatives of Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Regions, Locals and Affiliates;
  - g) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.
4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES,  
LABOUR AND ADMINISTRATION**

**DRAFT**

1. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan hereby advises the citizens of the Métis Nation of the establishment of a Ministry of Human Resources, Labour and Administration.

2. The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly further advises that **Isabelle Impey** has been appointed Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Administration at the pleasure of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

3. The Minister will advise the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan of all issues pertaining to human resources, labour and administration and the powers, duties and functions of the Minister will extend to and include all matters relating to:

- a) the human resources of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and its affiliates;
- b) labour standards of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and of its Affiliates, including responding to human rights issues;
- c) the administration network of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and of its Affiliates;
- d) the development of a strategic and operational plan to address the human resource needs of the Nation in light of the creation of our Métis governing institutions;
- e) the development of a strategic and operational plan to employ consistent and applicable labour standards in all Métis Nation of Saskatchewan offices and Affiliates;
- f) the development of a strategic and operational plan to create an administrative network with all offices and Affiliates of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan;
- f) other relevant duties as are assigned by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

4. The Minister shall report on the progress of work undertaken within the Ministry at each Cabinet and Métis Nation Legislative Assembly meeting and shall keep the President of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan informed between meetings.

**An Act respecting the inherent right of the Metis within  
Saskatchewan to hunt, fish, trap, gather and conserve wildlife.**

**SHORT TITLE**

1. This Act may be cited as *The Metis Wildlife And Conservation Act*.

**DEFINITIONS**

2. In this Act:

- (a) "Metis" means an Aboriginal person as set out in section 35(2) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and as defined in the Constitution of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.
- (b) "person" means a Metis person.
- (c) "licence" means a licence issued under the authority of this Act or the regulations thereunder;
- (d) "Minister" means the member of the Provincial Metis Council to whom the administration of this Act is assigned;
- (e) "open season" means that period of time as set out in the regulations during which wildlife can be legally hunted;
- (f) "traffic" means to sell, buy or barter;
- (g) "wildlife" includes fish, an animal with a backbone which is wild by nature or a bird of any species, including its eggs;
- (h) "wildlife guardian" means any person appointed or authorized by the Minister to enforce this Act and the regulations thereunder;
- (i) "tribunal" means a tribunal composed of Elders and members of the Local where the person violating the Act or regulations is normally resident, and includes a sentencing circle where the practice is adopted.
- (j) "adult" means a person sixteen years of age and older.
- (k) "Elder" means a well respected person appointed by the Local.
- (l) "Local" has the same meaning as contained in the Constitution of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.
- (m) "firearm" includes a bow.

**PROPERTY IN WILDLIFE**

3. The property in all wildlife within the province is vested in the Creator. Once lawfully hunted, fished, trapped, gathered or taken the property vests in the hunter, fisherperson, trapper, gatherer or taker. Any unlawfully hunted, fished, trapped, gathered or taken wildlife vests in the Minister who shall dispose of it as set out in the regulations.

**ADMINISTRATION**

4. The Minister may appoint a director to administer the provisions of the Act and regulations.

**LICENCES**

5. The Minister or those acting under the authority of the Minister may issue or revoke any licence provided for by this Act or the regulations.

6. The Minister may delegate the issuing of licences to each of the Locals of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

7. The Locals which assume that administrative responsibility shall follow and adhere to the guidelines and standards set by the Minister.

8. Every person who has a licence shall, upon request by a wildlife guardian immediately produce it, along with their Metis membership card for examination.

**PROHIBITIONS, OFFENCES, PROSECUTIONS AND PENALTIES**

9. No person shall hunt, fish, trap, or take wildlife in a closed season.

10. No person shall hunt, fish, trap, or take wildlife without a valid licence.

11. No person shall hunt, trap or take wildlife in a wildlife refuge or preserve, as established by the province of Saskatchewan or the government of Canada and in existence as of the date of the passage of this Act.

12. No person shall hunt within 500 yards of a building, or in any manner or vicinity that endangers the public.

13. No person shall hunt or fish with the aid of an artificial light.

14. No person shall traffic in wildlife.

15. No person under the age of sixteen shall hunt without a parent, or under the supervision of an adult.

16. No person shall hunt, fish, trap or take wildlife while intoxicated or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

17. No person shall discharge a firearm across a highway or road.

18. No person shall interfere with a wildlife guardian in the discharge of his/her duty.

19. Any person who violates this Act or the regulations shall be brought before a tribunal, which may incorporate a sentencing circle in its determination of a penalty in the event of a conviction.

20. Any person convicted by a tribunal shall have a right to appeal to the Metis Senate of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, whose decision shall be final and binding.

21. Any person convicted of an offence under the Act or its regulations shall be required to do community service of a type and duration imposed by the tribunal.

22. Upon a second or subsequent conviction, the tribunal may suspend the right of the person to secure a licence for a specified period of time, but for no more than one year, in addition to mandatory community service.

23. Any person refusing to comply with the decision of the tribunal, or appeal decision shall not be eligible for a licence for a period of one year.

#### **MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

24. The Minister, subject to direction from the Legislative Assembly and the Provincial Metis Council, shall perform the following duties:

- (a) Provide annual reports to the Legislative Assembly;
- (b) Prepare draft legislation or amendments for presentation to the Legislative Assembly;
- (c) Prepare regulations for adoption by the Provincial Metis Council;
- (d) Prepare policy papers and guidelines for ratification by the Provincial Metis Council;
- (e) Provide liaison with federal and provincial government departments dealing with wildlife matters;

- (f) Provide liaison with Metis governments or organizations dealing with wildlife matters;
- (g) Generally perform those duties required for carrying out the provisions of the Act and regulations.

#### **POWER TO MAKE REGULATIONS**

25. The Provincial Metis Council may make regulations:

- (a) respecting the protection, management, regulation and use of any wildlife or habitat;
- (b) respecting the disposal of wildlife unlawfully hunted, fished, trapped, gathered or taken;
- (c) prescribing species of wildlife to be protected;
- (d) respecting the issuing of licences;
- (e) respecting the hunting, fishing, trapping and taking of wildlife during open seasons;
- (f) respecting the means of fishing;
- (g) respecting the gathering of eggs;
- (h) authorizing persons to act on behalf of the Minister in the issue of any licence subject to any terms and conditions that the Minister may prescribe;
- (i) regulating hunters, the number of hunters, and the manner of hunting at any time and in any area;
- (j) prescribing the wearing apparel to be worn by hunters;
- (k) regulating and prohibiting the use of certain vehicles or aircraft in any area for any purpose related to the hunting of wildlife;
- (l) setting the price for licences;
- (m) respecting cooperation between the provincial government and the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan with respect to wildlife;
- (n) setting seasons for hunting, taking or trapping wildlife;
- (o) setting seasons for fishing;

- (p) setting the number of big game animals which can be taken by a hunter within a season;
- (q) setting the number of fish and migratory birds which can be taken on a daily basis;
- (r) respecting any other matters relating to wildlife.

**EXCEPTION**

26. Wildlife not covered by this Act or regulations are not prohibited from being hunted, trapped or taken by Metis persons.

27. This Act, regulations, policies and guidelines thereunder shall not be interpreted as extinguishing, infringing or abrogating any Aboriginal right or title of Metis, and are purely of a regulatory nature.

**AMENDMENTS**

28. This Act may be amended, repealed or otherwise dealt with by the Legislative Assembly of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

**COMING INTO FORCE**

29. The Act comes into force upon ratification by the Legislative Assembly of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

**Regulations respecting the inherent right of the Metis  
within Saskatchewan to hunt, fish, trap, gather and conserve  
wildlife.**

**TITLE**

These regulations may be cited as *The Metis Wildlife And Conservation Regulations, 1994.*

**DECLARATION**

The hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering and taking of wildlife is solely for the purposes of food, clothing and ceremonial or religious activities, which includes exchange of wildlife for other forms of food.

1. No person shall leave any edible parts of wildlife after a kill.
2. No person is prevented from sharing wildlife as part of traditional Metis culture and practice, but does not include trafficking.
3. Where wildlife has been unlawfully acquired, the Minister or his designate may dispose of the wildlife by distributing it to members of the community based on need.
4. Licences shall be in the form prescribed by the Minister.
  - a) Until the first day that licences are available to the Local or the Minister's designate, the MNS/MSS membership card shall serve as a valid licence for the taking of big game, fish or migratory birds.
5. Licence fees shall be set at \$20.00 for big game, \$2.00 for fish and \$10.00 for migratory birds and such fees shall only be used for the administration of the Act and regulations.
  - a) Licences may be issued free of charge to persons in need as determined by the Locals.
6. The season for male big game animals shall be from the 15th of July to the 30th of March in the following year, and for female big game animals from September 1st to the 30th of March in the following year.
7. The season for fishing shall be from the 1st of May to the 31st of March in the following year.
8. The season for male migratory birds shall be from the 15th of July to the 30th day of October in each calendar year, and from September 1st to the 30th of October for female migratory birds.

*Dishes*

*April 1st*

*or made*

9. For the 1994 - 1995 seasons, the big game, fishing and migratory birds seasons will begin upon the coming into force of the Act and the regulations thereunder, except where the open season is set for a later date.

10. The number of big game which may be taken each season and by species shall be determined based on the availability of wildlife in a given area and shall be set out by the Minister in yearly guidelines.

11. The number of fish which may be taken by angling shall be limited to 5 on any one given day, except a person shall be allowed to have three days catch in possession.

12. For those using nets, there shall be a limit of one net per family, except where there is a need to feed sled-dogs, an additional net will be permitted.

13. The net mesh size shall be no smaller than 4 1/2 inches.

14. The limit for migratory birds shall be 7 on any one given day, except for "fall ducks" which shall be 15.

15. The Locals shall have the discretion of issuing additional big game limits to families in need, especially where the family is large and depends on availability of wildlife for sustenance purposes.

16. Licences for big game shall not be issued to persons under 19 years of age, unless they have a family to care for. They shall however be eligible for a licence for the period of September 1st to December 31st in each calendar year.

17. Licences may be assigned in the case of the elderly, single-mothers, widows and handicapped persons to a person of their choice.

18. All persons issued licences under these regulations must wear proper hunting colors during the hunting season established by the province, except where such hunting is virtually absent.

19. All persons shall report each kill of big game to their Local licencing authority.

20. No persons shall take more than their lawful limit of big game, fish or migratory birds.

21. Tribunals consisting of one Elder and two members appointed by the Local shall be established for the purpose of adjudicating violations of the Act or regulations.

22. Sentencing circles may be employed in determining the sentence to be imposed in the event of a conviction being entered.

23. A three person Judicial Committee of the MNS Senate shall be responsible for hearing appeals, which decision is final and binding.

24. The Minister, or his/her designate shall be responsible for having charges preferred and conducting the prosecution.

25. Persons accused of violating the Act or regulations are permitted to engage legal counsel.

26. The procedure for conducting the hearings and appeals shall be those established by the Provincial Metis Council.

27. The Minister shall provide identification documents for wildlife guardians.

28. The Minister may develop policies and guidelines for the protection of wildlife habitat, including clear-cutting practices and areas where clear-cutting may be allowed.

29. These regulations come into force upon ratification by the Provincial Metis Council.

*Sundays and Good Friday No hunting*

**Norman Hansen, Area Director  
Northern Region II  
METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN**

**ACTIVITY REPORT Presented at Batoche 1994**

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The main issues which I dealt with in the past twelve months have to do with developing the groundwork needed to build a stronger Metis Nation. These are in Education, Training, Economic Development and Metis land and resource management.

There is a need to continue discussing Metis self-determination and to explain Metis self-government. People have to understand these ideas and work together to make them happen. We have to have a basic infrastructure of institutions and programs through which to work on this. I am pleased to report that we are still on the course we set out to establish and maintain some of these important developments.

**TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

For training, we have established the Churchill Metis Labour Force Board in conjunction with Northern Region IIA (Max Morin - Ile a la Crosse) and we maintain that as one Pathways Board representing our two Areas. Our mandate was to look for ways to improve access for our people to training and employment. We immediately faced two great challenges: First, we were to provide training for employment in one of Canada's most underdeveloped regions with a persistent and extremely high rate of unemployment. Second, we had to work with a small training budget further restricted by legislated regulations.

I have served as Chairman of the Board of the Churchill Metis Labour Force Board for two years now. We have expanded our mandate to include regional developments in business and industry. We have established the North West Metis Development Corporation through which we are stimulating business and industrial activity and inviting investors and developers to work with us. We have incorporated two subsidiary companies at this time, Keewatin Business Services in a joint-venture with a Chartered Accounting firm, and Northern Metis Site Services in a joint-venture with Canada's largest mine site catering and housekeeping operator. Our Business Services will give a boost to regional entrepreneurs and tradespeople to establish their own businesses and create local employment. Through our camp site service business we will begin searching and securing contracts for which we will train and employ our people. Through our Business Services company, we have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Certified General Accountants of Saskatchewan to begin training at least ten Metis students to earn their professional accounting designations within three years. These accountants will then establish their practices within our communities, work within our institutions, or step into the management of regional governments, businesses and industries. Our partner will establish a branch office of his practice within our region thereby giving us another boost in regional economic development by this access to professional management and advice. We are working with other investment, legal and management people to implement a larger regional economic development plan. This expansion of our mandate was necessary if we were to use our money to provide meaningful training for our people and to provide employment and entrepreneurial activity for them to participate in within our region.

**Norman Hansen, Area Director ACTIVITY REPORT - BATOCHÉ 1994****Page 2.**

Our Metis people have always insisted on a meaningful participation in the development of the region. Through our training and employment program, we are assisting them to access the necessary training, the work experience, and the professional development that will assist us in the on-going development. The resources which we are able to work with through the Pathways program have enabled us to expand and develop beyond the provision of training and employment services.

To deal with the low levels of funds available to purchase training, we have again sought innovative methods to provide practical training at reduced costs. We have developed the idea of Distance Education and we will be implementing a pilot project this fall in conjunction with the Government of Saskatchewan and regional educational institutions. The need for access to a wider range of training, reduced training budgets, the availability of educational and training programs through Distance Education methods, and ready access to those programs through new technologies are all factors which make this a practical solution at this time. Through delivery of training by Distance Education methods, we can provide a wider range of training at greatly reduced cost to people in their home communities.

To provide information and assistance to Metis people on this training, employment and other developments, we maintain four Metis OutReach offices throughout our two Areas.

In our purchase and delivery of training courses, we have emphasized training leading to immediate employment and training for on-going development. Our money has been invested in training workers for the forest industry, in heavy equipment operation and maintenance as well as in community development, management and University credit programs. We have trained and graduated thirteen students in Integrated Resource Management, persons who are now fully employed and will be the key planners and technicians in our resource management plan.

**METIS LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

I am Minister of Lands and Resources for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and in recent times, I have been particularly busy working on developments in this sector. With Clement Chartier, who donated his time and efforts, I worked on issues related to Metis land claims and in developing the Metis Hunting Act. A draft of the Act was given to Metis elders and Local Presidents who provided feedback. The final draft of the Metis Hunting Act is in your kits.

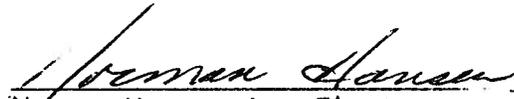
I continued my work with the Aboriginal Resource Users and had this group incorporated and they are now in the process of leasing land at Palmbere Lake. As in the past, I have arranged to have the Aboriginal Resource Users annual assembly at Palmbere Lake to receive funding from the Government of Saskatchewan. This year, they will receive \$10,000.00 from the Saskatchewan Indian and Metis Affairs Secretariat to help pay for the costs of their meetings. The Agenda for this year's meeting is attached to this report.

**Norman Hansen, Area Director ACTIVITY REPORT - BATOCHE 1994**

As Associate Minister of Housing for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. I have been involved in working to get more money for the Housing sector and to implement Agreements. We now have the Emergency Repair Program (ERP) and Residential Repair Activity Program (RRAP). Our General Agreement allows us to develop Addendums for other activity such as for Client Counselling and Recycling Housing Units.

In summation, this has been an especially challenging year for me as an Area Director. We have established great plans and although we have maintained our direction, difficulties persist. I know the demands of leadership and I will continue serving the Metis Nation as long as I am able. Your understanding and cooperation will be appreciated.

Thank you.

  
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Norman Hansen, Area Director  
Metis Nation of Saskatchewan  
Northern Region II

**Tentative Agenda**  
**Palmbere Lake Annual Assembly - Aug 5, 6 & 7**

**Friday - August 5, 1994**

- 10:00 am Aboriginal Resource Users - General Meeting
- 1:00 pm Opening Prayer - TBA  
Opening Remarks - Louis Morin, President - ARU  
- Norman Hansen, Treasurer - ARU
- 1:30 pm Hon. Berhardt Weins, Minister  
Environment and Resource Management
- 2:30 pm Saskatchewan Indian & Metis Affairs Secretariat  
- Hon. Bob Mitchell, Minister  
- Marv Hendrikson  
- John Reid  
- Margaret Eagle
- 3:00 pm Metis Nation of Saskatchewan  
- Gerald Morin, President  
- Phillip Chartier, Treasurer  
- Clem Chartier, Metis Lawyer
- 4:00 pm Cultural events
- 9:00 pm Old Time Dance

**Saturday - August 6, 1994**

- 10:00 am Hon. Carol Carson, Minister  
Municipal Services - (Sask Housing)
- 11:00 am Metis Housing - Leon McAuley
- 11:30 am Fred Thompson, NDP MLA  
Athabaska Constituency
- 1:00 pm Gordon Kirkby, Liberal MP  
Prince Albert/Churchill Constituency
- 2:00 pm Linda Haverstock, Leader  
Saskatchewan Liberal Party
- 3:00 pm Ray McKay, Executive Director  
Saskatchewan Education, Training & Employment  
Northern Division
- 4:00 pm Closing Remarks
- 4:30 pm Cultural events
- 9:00 pm Old Time Dance

**Tentative Agenda**  
**Palmbere Lake Annual Assembly - Aug 5, 6 & 7**

**Sunday - August 7, 1994**

- 11:00 pm Church Services - Father Bill Stang, Roman Catholic Church
- 1:00 pm Elder's Address to the Gathering
- 3:00 pm Church Services - Ron Ward, New Fellowship Church
- 4:00 pm Cultural Events
- 8:00 pm Old Time Dance

## REPORT ON METIS LAND CLAIMS COURT ACTION

July 20, 1994

Throughout the years, Metis people and organizations have been seeking the recognition of their right to a land base. In the 1930s, the Metis Society of Saskatchewan was very active in pursuing their Aboriginal rights to land and resources. They were unsuccessful at that time. In the 1970s, the Metis Society of Saskatchewan again began to focus on land issues, which witnessed extensive research between 1976 and 1980. The claim to land however was rejected by the federal government in 1981.

With the constitutional process between 1983 to 1987 and again with the Charlottetown Process in 1992, the Metis Nation pressed for the constitutional recognition of the right of the Metis to a land and resource base. These efforts were not successful.

With the rejection of our land rights in May 1981, the Manitoba Metis Federation began court action for the recognition of their land rights under the Manitoba Act 1870. That court case is still on-going, as the government of Canada has been using procedural tactics to prevent the case from being heard. However, in 1990 the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the Metis of Manitoba have the right to bring their case to court. It is likely that the case will begin in the next few months.

That case however only affects the Metis of the original province of Manitoba which in 1870 was only about 1/20th of the current province. The rest of the Metis outside the original province of Manitoba are not affected by that case, unless they are descendants of those Metis who were living in that postage stamp province in 1870. The rest of the majority of the Metis Nation was covered by the Dominion Lands Act, a piece of federal legislation. That Act provided for scrip to be distributed. (See the attached article from the New Breed Magazine for a more detailed description of this legislative history.)

Because of the failure to have our rights recognized through the political/constitutional process a decision was reached by our people to launch court action. This action has been undertaken and is being participated in by the MNS/MSS and the Metis National Council (MNC). In order to be more effective in preparing the case, and to ensure the best factual situation, it was decided that only a small area of the Metis homeland should be used in order to set a precedent which would benefit everyone.

Based on the facts, it was decided that Northwestern Saskatchewan would be the best place to proceed with, as it contains a number of Metis communities and scrip was issued there as recently as 1906/07. In addition, there are five Metis Elders still alive

whose parents received money scrip on their behalf. Two other contributing factors were that the Metis in the area were still dealing in furs as a means of exchange (therefore not being familiar with money) and if they in fact wanted land, they would have had to move about 300 miles south.

This court action was filed in Court of Queen's Bench in Saskatoon on March 1, 1994. The action is against both the federal and provincial governments. Against the federal government because it is the level of government that passed the legislation dealing with our rights, and against the provincial government because the crown lands were transferred to the province in 1930.

Basically, we are asking the court to make a declaration (ruling) that the Metis still have existing Aboriginal rights and title, which have never been extinguished or surrendered and that those rights and title include the right to land and resources, the right to hunt, trap and fish and the inherent right of self-government. It also is seeking a declaration that the federal and provincial governments have an obligation to negotiate a mutually acceptable land claims agreement within the meaning of s. 35(3) of the Canadian Constitution.

The federal government filed its statement of defence on April 29, 1994 denying the claim, stating that the Metis never had any Aboriginal rights or title, and even if they did, that such rights and title had been extinguished. They also state that we have no right to bring this case forward as we have waited too long to do so (statutes of limitation). On May 13, 1994 the province filed its statement of defence and basically takes the same position as that of the federal government.

The legal lines have now been drawn, unless the governments decide to proceed with negotiations, the case will proceed and deal with narrow technical (procedural) grounds as happened in the MMF case in Manitoba.

# MÉTIS LAND CLAIM LAUNCHED

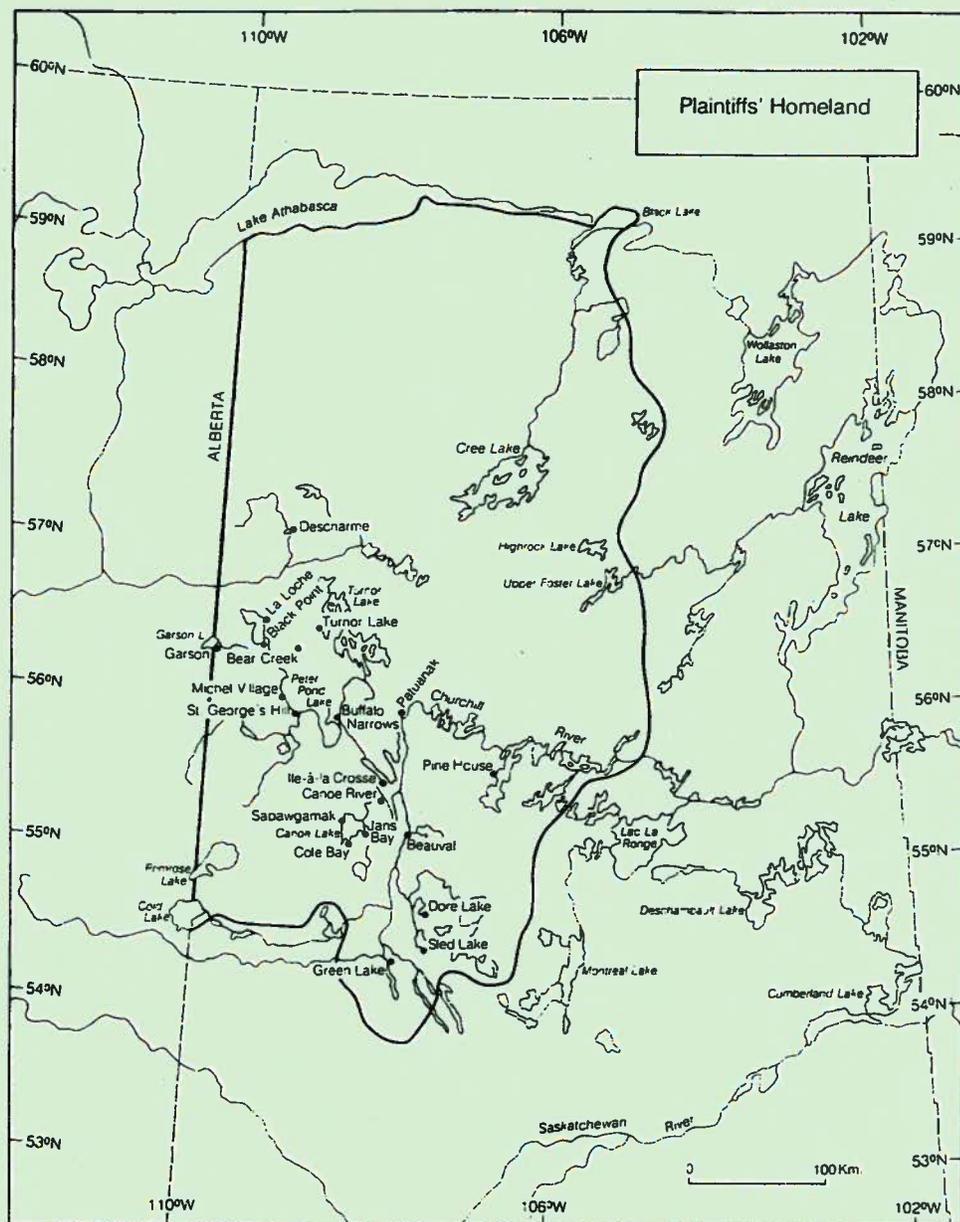
Throughout the years, the Métis have sought, without success, various and constructive ways to assert their inherent rights as one of Canada's distinct Aboriginal peoples. The Statement of Claim filed with the Court of Queen's Bench in Saskatchewan, March 1994 is the culmination of years of struggle by the Métis Nation in an attempt to right historical wrongs and reclaim traditional Métis Homeland.

By the time the fur traders penetrated into the interior of the territory that is now known as Western Canada, the Métis Nation was already forming. Initially a product of the fur trade, the Métis way of life developed into a separate Nation, a blend of Indian and European cultures, distinct from both and unique in character.

The Métis Nation began to assert itself through a series of events from the Battle of Seven Oaks in 1816 to the Red River Resistance of 1870. Through the assertion of Métis nationhood in 1870, Louis Riel's provisional government demanded recognition of Métis national rights and control over lands and natural resources throughout the Métis Nation Homeland.

During the negotiation process, the latter goal was set aside in favour of the grant of 1.4 million acres of land. This land, an area close to the size of Prince Edward Island, was reserved for the exclusive use of the Métis under Section 31 of the Manitoba Act, 1870. The Métis believed they would retain the lands they had occupied before the transfer to Canada, along with the 1.4 million acres, thus providing for a land base to ensure the survival of their language and culture against the onslaught of settlers.

The granting of a land base was far from a philanthropic gesture on the part of the Canadian government. A strong identity and culture had clearly formed within the Métis Nation and the Government of Canada felt that it had to act to calm the resistance, and to defuse



Appendix A

a politically organized and influential nation. Métis Aboriginal title was formally recognized and provisions were purportedly made to extinguish it within the new province of Manitoba in exchange for protecting the old settlement belt of the Métis, and enlarging it by the additional 1.4 million acres. Despite this, Métis hopes for a brave new beginning were almost immediately dashed.

Government delays imposed on the Métis, competition with settlers for their lands, the process of scrip grants, and acts by the government which facilitated the operation of land speculators undermined the creation of a Métis land and resource base. The implementation of this system ultimately resulted in the dispos-

session of their lands.

The program under the Manitoba Act was characterized by delays, the seriousness of which were compounded by the pressures imposed by incoming settlers. Dating from the passing of the Act, two years were taken to set aside the land for the individual allotment, three years were required to decide that only children of Half-breed heads of families were eligible to share in the grant, five additional years were wasted to decide on a course of action in issuing patents, and four more years were taken to complete the issuing of patents.

In addition, acting under an amendment to the Dominion Lands Act 1879, the Government

*continued on page 19*

of Canada, after the 1885 Resistance at Batoche, began to issue land and money scrip to Métis people outside the original province of Manitoba redeemable for 250 acres of open and surveyed Dominion Land (the claim area at the time of scrip issue was not available to the Métis). The Commissionaires who issued this scrip refused to negotiate with the Métis people collectively, but rather dealt individually using a divide and conquer approach. Métis people were given only two choices - accept scrip or give up their identity as Métis and take Treaty as Indians.

This attempt to unilaterally extinguish Métis Aboriginal title did not provide a sufficient land base or resources to allow for a collective future in their Homeland. The Métis were pushed to the margins and the proud economic, cultural and political achievements of the Nation began to fade away.

The marginalization occurred in the face of opposition from generation after generation of Métis. Distinct Métis culture, collective aspirations and political organizations, including a continued relationship with the land and reliance on resources such as hunting, trapping, gathering and fishing, formed the core of Métis rights from view.

This purported unilateral extinguishment of Métis rights violated the principles articulated by King George III in the Royal Proclamation of 1763. This Proclamation set the standard by which governments were to deal with Aboriginal peoples. The Royal Proclamation provided that the land of Aboriginal peoples must not be allowed to dismembered piecemeal by encroaching settlers and formally assumed Crown responsibility for protecting the rights of Aboriginal peoples.

The divide and conquer technique of the scrip system was a breach of the principles of fair dealings set out in the Royal Proclamation and in other Government dealings with Aboriginal peoples. Scrip destroyed, rather than secured, the base of land and resources that Métis culture relied upon and which the Métis needed in order to continue to live as a distinct Aboriginal people. This system was used against Métis people in the claim area in Saskatchewan and is the focus of this lawsuit.

The marginalizing of the people of the Métis Nation was cemented as the federal government continued to distance itself from the Métis

population. The inevitable result of the federal government's refusal to live up to its obligations has left the Métis in a jurisdictional limbo, where neither level of government, federal or provincial, will act.

The Métis have been forced to resort to legal action after countless years of petitioning both levels of government for redress. The loss of

their Homeland has challenged the social fabric of the Métis who continue to struggle for equal treatment and a fair chance to develop a dynamic and productive community. The governments of Saskatchewan and Canada have now filed their statements of *claim defence*.

Contact: Clem Chartier (306) 343-8285

Marc Leclair (613) 232-3216

# 1993/94 REPORT SUMMARY

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*Alphonse Janvier*  
*Executive Director*  
*MFCJS*  
*219 Robin Cres.*  
*Saskatoon, Sask. S7L 6M8*

## INTRODUCTION

Metis Family and Community Justice Services (MFCJS) was incorporated in August 1992. Its function, consistent with our principles of self-government, is to oversee and coordinate the design, development and administration of all social and justice services for Metis in the province. Ownership and responsibility for our own services and programs is essential if the lives of Metis are going to change for the better.

Our goal over the next five years is to establish a comprehensive array of social and justice programs, under a holistic agency, to serve the Metis of Saskatchewan. Our primary focus will be on prevention and early intervention services designed to keep adults, children and youth out of the social and justice systems. However, until we achieve that goal, other programs and services will need to be developed to address the immediate needs of our people.

The programs available to our people are currently administered by provincial government departments and non-government agencies. We maintain that while these agencies are well meaning in their aspirations to assist, they cannot fully appreciate the issues and difficulties the Metis encounter and as such cannot be as effective. We in no way wish to discredit their efforts and work but do believe that such programs need to be administered by the Metis people if substantial and lasting changes are to be made.

As Metis, we believe assisting individuals and communities to become stronger within the context of Metis and tradition and values will eventually result in a greatly reduced need for social and justice services. In order to bring hope and optimism to the next generation of Metis in Saskatchewan, we have taken the first step toward finding solutions to these problems. The first step was the establishment of the Metis Family and Community Justice Affiliate. The next step is the development of an effective local/regional infrastructure to develop and deliver these services and programs. This is where we will require your full participation in the process.

## BACKGROUND

There is considerable documentation available with respect to aboriginal involvement in the federal and provincial justice and social services systems. To date, there has been little success in reducing the disproportionate number of Metis children who are made wards of the province and Metis youth and adults in conflict with the law. Given the demographic and socio-economic situation facing many of them, there is little reason to expect this trend will be reversed or even halted unless immediate steps are taken to begin addressing these issues in a way that provides increased opportunity for Metis control.

Overall, the Saskatchewan Metis population is comparatively young. An estimated 40% are currently under the age of 15 with only 8% over the age of fifty-five. Numerous studies have determined that aboriginal communities (including Metis) have the highest rate of suicide, substance abuse, and unemployment, the lower level of academic achievement and the poorest housing conditions in Canada. Those who are employed tend to hold poorly-paid seasonal or part-time jobs. Available demographic, employment, income, education and other information indicates a large percentage of aboriginal are economically and socially disadvantaged.

Compounding these problems is the lack of educational and employment opportunities for aboriginal youth. Our Metis Nation members maintain that, unless real and meaningful steps are taken to deal with existing conditions, a high percentage of our Metis youth will become involved with the child welfare and justice systems, including custody, residential and foster care.

Many of our Metis Nation members live in poverty. The stress related to living within the constraints of poverty-level income with little hope for improvement often results in dysfunctional behaviour. In order to bring an end to the destructive cycle of abuse, neglect, addiction, violence, poverty and dependence, each individual, family and community within our Metis Nation must be afforded the opportunity to participate in the healing process.

Many of the circumstances and conditions which led to the current situation began many decades ago and continue today. Healing the wounds from the past will not occur instantly. It will take time; in the case of some individuals, families and communities, the time required will be considerable.

Within our Metis Nation, the family and the community are the centre of holistic development. It is through the family and the community that healing will take place and harmony and balance will be achieved.

As Metis, we believe that assisting individuals and communities to become stronger within the context of Metis tradition and values will eventually result in a greatly reduced need for social and justice services. In order to bring hope and optimism to the next generation of Métis in Saskatchewan, we have taken the first step toward finding solutions to these problems.

### Intent

Our goal over the next several years will be to establish a comprehensive array of social and justice programs, under a holistic agency, to serve the Metis of Saskatchewan. Our long term goal will be to focus on prevention and early intervention services designed to keep parents, children and youth out of the social and justice systems. In the short term, however, we need to develop programs and services that will address the immediate needs of our people.

### Current Status of Development

Since the inception of Metis Family and Justice Services, several years ago, we have accomplished a number of different services and programs. These have included:

1. **Consultation:** Extensive consultation was held throughout Metis communities to determine their position with respect to the development and delivery of social and justice services to Metis. The information obtained through that process has served as the basis and foundation for Metis Family and Justice planning.
2. **Child Welfare Conference:** In conjunction with Social Services the Metis held a conference on family, children and youth services. This was a successful conference in bringing to light the issues facing our people and in providing options and opportunities for the creation and development of our own services. Numerous recommendations were made at this conference of which very few have been implemented to date. We are hopeful that these recommendations can be revisited through a joint consultation process.
3. **Justice Conference - Getting It Together:** In conjunction with Federal and Provincial Justice Ministries the Metis and First Nations held a conference to identify and propose strategies for the evolution of Aboriginal Justice Services. The impact of this and ongoing consultations. We are concerned that unless specific follow-up actions are established the results will be minimal and the potential for change will be shelved as has been the case with previous conferences and reports.
4. **Justice 2000 Conference:** Participated in identifying alternatives for the future. Once again, the conclusions were of great interest and we await the future results of the recommendations and conclusions. In Saskatoon, one meeting has been held with those who attended the conference from this community. Continued follow-up meetings are being planned.
5. **Saskatchewan Indian and Metis Justice Review:** Participated as a member of the Review. While the conclusions and recommendations were not fully acceptable to us we agreed to its release. We once again await the results of the findings.
6. **Courtworker Consultations:** Continue to participate in developing a strategy and model for the provision of much awaited and needed services. Consultations are currently underway involving Metis. This has been a most frustrating process as we attempt to arrive at a consensus as to administrative responsibility and control of the services. While the services are intended for Metis and First Nations people the government seems most intent on wanting to retain control. We suspect the reason is that officials are not satisfied as to the capability of Metis and Indians to deliver an effective and accountable service. Obviously their perception stems from the experiences with the previous program. We strongly disagree with that perception and believe a change in attitude needs to occur. The current status of the Aboriginal Courtworker Program is as

delivery of the program with an advisory committee consisting of one representative of Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, one from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, two from Saskatchewan Justice and a chairperson from the public, selected by the committee. The Executive Director position has been internally advertised and expected to hire personnel by the beginning of August. The program is expected to be in full operation by the end of December 1994.

**7. Tripartite Discussions:** We continue to be involved in the social and justice tripartite discussions. While some advancement has been made considerable work needs to be completed.

**8. Development Plan:** Developed a plan which outlines the direction and action plan for the development of justice and social services for Metis.

**9. Regional Consultation and Development:** MFCJS has undertaken considerable consultations with Metis regional offices and communities. Currently, activities are underway in the communities of Pinehouse, Archerwill, Fort Qu'Appelle, Regina and Saskatoon. In Saskatoon a local Authority (Board of Directors) has been established to oversee the development and delivery of services to that community.

**10. Brighter Futures:** We are involved as a member of the provincial planning and approval committee. We have put forward proposals for the development of prevention programs within the province.

**11. Committees:** We sit on a number of committees including the Chief's Advisory Committee in Saskatoon and the National Chief's of police advisory committee.

**12. Family Connections and Family Services:** Established a Saskatoon Family unit to provide family and children's services in Saskatoon. This program has been very successful.

We also made available the Family Connections program throughout Saskatchewan with one staff person. We have also had many success stories involving Metis through this program.

In addition, as a result of the Family Connections program we became involved in providing services to families from a broader perspective. Having published several stories in Aboriginal journals about the program resulted in requests from across Canada and the United States for assistance in searching for and reuniting families with each other and their communities. Several families that had been separated for many years were successfully reunited. However, there is a sad side to these stories. One search that was undertaken ended with the aunt being reunited at a grave in Prince Albert with her deceased niece. We have now become aware of the magnitude of this issue and believe that considerable efforts must be devoted to assisting these families to be reunited.

13. **Training Program:** We are currently in the process of setting up an on the job training program in partnership with Canada Manpower. The program will provide experience to Metis who are interested in pursuing a career in the Human Services field. In addition, we have provided opportunities for Aboriginal completing their Justice or Social work degrees to complete their practicums at MFCJS. This project has been successfully completed on June 24, 1994. Three people completed the project.

14. **Child Care and Youth Consultations:** We participated in the consultation process regarding Childcare and the recent initiative for development of community based alternatives for youth in conflict with the law. The latter consultation is still in progress.

15. **Central Research, Development and Coordination:** During the past year we have prepared documentation for the following:

- human resources manual
- revised MFCJS bylaws
- guidelines for the development of Regional Authorities
- model for a Family Services agency
- developed separate banking and accounting system
- various funding proposals
- planning and action plan document

Considerable work needs to be carried out in each of these areas toward finalization and implementation. In addition, we will be undertaking to do further research and development in regard to:

- compiling justice and social services statistics
- training
- protocols
- administrative procedures and policies
- program policies and standards
- job descriptions
- evaluation models
- Board training and development
- courtworker program implementation
- Brighter Futures initiatives
- legislative development
- planning, training and developing local/regional Authorities
- others to be identified

16. **Infrastructure Development and Implementation:** Central Office - The existing central core staff of MFCJS is limited as to what can be accomplished. Additional positions are required to undertake the immense workload. Funds for a position from Justice has been put on hold pending the completion of the Audit. In effect, other than the Courtworker consultations very little has been achieved respecting justice development. Considerable efforts need to be directed toward this endeavour. With additional positions we will be able to begin to undertake the necessary planning and development. With current staffing this

**Regional/Local** - At this time we have had consultations with several regions and communities regarding the development of Authorities, administrative structures and program development and planning. Three areas are active and include Saskatoon, Archerwill and Pinehouse. Saskatoon is the first area to have developed an Authority. Considerable work remains to be undertaken in order that appropriate structures can be developed throughout the province.

Appendix A contains a model for family and children's services throughout the province. An immediate area where implementation can begin is Saskatoon. In other areas the size of the Agency will vary depending on population size and services needed. The model will also require the addition of justice and corrections services to reflect our holistic approach. Those costs are not included.

**17. Advisory Committee:** We had intended during this past year to establish an Advisory committee to assist in developing our plans for social and justice services. Costs, unfortunately, prohibited the development of such a committee. While we nevertheless managed to accomplish a number of activities, we do believe an Advisory group would have enhanced our planning and ensured that our ideas thoroughly reflected what the communities desire as a model. Our intent is to still develop such a committee to be made up of a representative from each of our regions comprised of elders, women and youth. Their input is essential to our success in creating a meaningful and effective system.

**18. Human Resource Development and Training:** Planning, developing and implementing a model for social and justice services will require considerable involvement from the Metis communities. It is not possible to simply wish that a major development such as we are proposing can be implemented without a process of training and educating. We will require the assistance of many Metis to achieve our vision and dream. In this regard we will need to develop appropriate training and development packages that will facilitate local people in carrying out our mandate and the means to provide the requirements.

These items listed above represent just a small portion of the work being undertaken by MFCJS. We note that most of this has been accomplished primarily by two staff, the Executive Director and the secondment from Social Services. From time to time to keep up with the workload we have had assistance from staff in the Saskatoon Metis Family program. However, it is not feasible to continue this arrangement as carrying other duties detracts from their work with families.

**The Present Status:**

The present status of the Metis Family and Community Justice Services of Saskatchewan, Inc. is at a stand still due to financial shortfalls. Development proposals have been submitted to the Federal and Provincial Government to continue to carry out work for the 1994-95 fiscal year. Unfortunately, due the present situation within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan our funds have been held up by the Government of Saskatchewan. Our office is presently closed and is expected to re-open with new funds from Governments.

*Metis Family and Community Justice Services Inc.*

*Martin Aubichon - Minister of Social Services and Justice*

## **METIS FAMILY and COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES INC.**

Metis Family and Justice is funded through the Dept. of Justice and the Dept. of Social Services, and has been operating for approximately the past two years. We have enjoyed a number of successful programs over the past couple years and regretfully have had to suspend our services because of the problems with funding. A listing will appear in my report along with a description of each program that we have delivered since inception.

- Programs offered by M.F.C.J.S.
- A description of each program.
- Minister's analysis.

### **PROGRAMS OFFERED BY M.F.C.J.S.**

Family Services.  
Court advocate.  
Family reunification.  
Court worker Consultant.  
Community Development Coordinator  
Various training programs.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS:**

#### **Family Services:**

We have had three family workers to assist Metis people in various communities. Two were hired through the Dept. of Soc. Ser., and one worker was seconded to us from the dept. of Soc. Ser. who acted as supervisor. The clients were either referred from soc.ser., or self referral.

The duties of the family workers were to act as advocates on behalf of their clients with soc. ser., assist in assessment of clients, act as advocate for education, supervise trainees, initiate community based projects and services. Assist in policy and administrative development.

#### **Court Advocate:**

Employee acted as advocate for Metis people attending court for various reasons. Sat in on sentencing circles with the court and other agencies. Assisted in assessments of clients for the Justice system.

*Metis Family and Community Justice Services Inc.*      *Martin Aublechon - Minister of Social Services and Justice*

### **Family Reunification:**

We started a family reunification program as a practicum student project, and it was so successful that she remained of long after her practicum was over. The program was 99% successful, and the only reason that it wasn't 100% successful was because one person could not be reunified was because of death.

The student continues to volunteer with the program, and we are getting more and more requests for reunification assistance. We are getting calls from other provinces for assistance in reunification, but unfortunately at this time we may not be able to assist without some type of funding assistance. Once funding is secured we can increase our staff and provide a wider range of assistance.

### **Court Worker Consultant:**

The consultant traveled the province to different communities and assisted in assessments of these communities and their needs for court workers. He also met with different sections of the Justice Department and negotiated funding for these programs

### **Training Programs:**

We had secured a family services training program through C.E.C. and Pathways to train three people in the family services field. This was a sixteen week program with different aspects of training in addictions ( gambling, alcohol & drugs), needs assessment for clients of soc.ser., young offenders, family preservation, computer basics, client/worker relationship, court worker.

### **Community Development Coordinator.**

A coordinator (Lance LaRose) was hired through the Brighter Futures Initiative C.A.P.C.. His job is to assist communities and groups that are applying for program funding, by providing information, setting up community meetings, facilitating meetings with different government agencies. He has traveled to various communities throughout the province and assisted them with funding by providing them with funding criteria and information, government contacts, and assistance in setting up meetings. He can be contacted by calling Metis Family and Justice at 242-6886 in Saskatoon.

*Metis Family and Community Justice Services Inc.*

*Martin Aubechon - Minister of Social Services and Justice*

## **MINISTER'S REPORT**

Metis Family and Community Justice Services Inc. has had a lot of success in the past with many different programs. We have been very fortunate to have hired good administrative, and support staff. We were beginning to make great strides when the funding was frozen by the Governments. We will continue to deliver excellent programs once the funding is reinstated, and we are in full operation once again. Fortunately Health and Welfare Canada still has confidence in our organization and has continued to fund our Community Development Coordinator. With what little money that they can provide through that program for administration we are able to keep our secretary on temporary staff, but we need to secure permanent funding to ensure that Metis Family and Justice doesn't fade by the wayside like so many of our programs. This is the time that we must all stand together so that the Governments can't pull us down.

## GAMING (CASINO) REPORT

July 20, 1994

On June 2, 1994 Bill 72, The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act was passed. The Act provides for the creation of a Board of Directors for the Corporation, as well as two funds from which 50% of the profits will be distributed.

The Corporation's board of directors is made up of seven persons, four nominated by the province and three by the Legislative Assembly of the FSIN. These seven persons have now been appointed (none are Metis). One of the funds is known as the First Nations Fund and will receive 25% of the profits for distribution to Indian Bands. It has a board of trustees made up of six persons nominated by the Legislative Assembly of the FSIN. The other fund is known as the Associated Entities Fund which will receive 25% of the profits for distribution to charities, exhibition associations, any organization or association representing Metis or any person, organization or association in Saskatchewan or for any purpose set out by cabinet. It has a board of trustees appointed by cabinet.

In addition, upon signing an agreement between the FSIN and the province on the issue of gaming, the FSIN received a \$1,750,000.00 signing bonus.

Certainly, the FSIN have received a good deal from this legislation, and we fully support them. However, it is felt that throughout the period February 1993 to the passing of the legislation that our people were not dealt with fairly. In fact during that period we were constantly assured that Aboriginal peoples would be dealt with in a fair and equitable manner. Based on those representations, the MSS in fact had several meetings with provincial Ministers and officials and submitted a comprehensive proposal.

Because we have not been dealt with fairly, and because the legislation does not deal with us equitably, it is strongly felt that the legislation discriminates against our people and as such is in violation of s. 15 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In this connection, we are currently examining our options with respect to court action which could have the legislation struck down as violating the Canadian Constitution.

In the meantime, a letter has been sent by legal counsel to the Hon. Robert Mitchell, along with a draft statement of claim suggesting that the province refer the matter directly to the Court of Appeal for a decision with respect to s. 15 and the constitutionality of the legislation. We have given them to August 26, 1994 to respond, otherwise we plan to proceed with filing our statement of claim in Court of Queen's Bench.

**METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN  
REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF RECREATION AND CULTURE**

**Mr. Edwin Pelletier, Minister**

Dear Constituents,

Please accept this as my report to you in regards to some of the activities that have been taking place within the Metis Nation. As many of you know, I was appointed as the Minister of Recreation and Culture by the President of the Metis Nation Mr. Gerald Morin. Since taking office, I have concentrated on trying to get something formal set up to serve the Metis people of our province.

To date, I have worked and continue to work on the following:

1. I have taken over control of the Recreation Branch, which is Sask Native Recreation Corporation. We have been working hard at setting up a Board of Directors comprised of individuals from all of the Areas throughout the province. We have also changed the name to better reflect the Metis Nation. The new proposed name is Sask Metis Sport, Culture, Recreation and Youth Inc., (in short, Sask Metis Recreation). The Batoche Planning and Development Corporation also falls under the authority of Sask Metis Recreation and I am in the process of planning the Batoche Days events for this summer and I am also working on long-term goals for the development of the site to make it an attraction year-round and to make the Metis Nation proud of "our homeland".

Also in recreation, I have developed a proposal to secure funds from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Recreation and Culture to hire provincial staff in each Region. The proposal has been acknowledged and I am now in the process of negotiating with the Board of Sask Lotteries.

I am also developing a proposal to Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association to try to set up a Metis Recreation Programs within the Urban Centres of our province. The purpose of the program would be to hire an individual to assist the Metis population of the urban centres in accessing recreation programs that are offered in the cities, because many Metis people are not accessing these programs for various reasons such as funding, social problems, etc.

I have also moved the head office of Sask Metis Recreation to Prince Albert,

because I feel that the office would be more centralized here and would better serve the Metis people.

2. I have also opened up my office and I am presently setting up office equipment including computers, a photocopier and a fax machine and the plan is to eventually move staff in. The office now houses the Regional Office, Provincial Metis Health and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation. The office is located at the GDI Building #48-12 th St. East, Phone 953-8266. Everyone is welcome to visit and view the office. I will be planning an open house/grand opening when the office is well established.
3. I have hired Paul Daigneault as the Provincial General Manager of Sask Metis Sports, Culture, Recreation and Youth Inc. I have managed to secure core-funding for the Corporation to be used for various recreation programs. As mentioned, the initial stages will consist of establishing a provincial board and then we will go to each of the regions to conduct planning sessions to find out what kind of programming people need in the communities. I have established in draft form a constitution, by-laws, policy and procedure manuals, and a code of ethics for the recreation branch. I will be working next to have in place for the next MLA a Recreation Act for the Metis Nation.  
  
Also, through a pathways program, I have hired 5 individuals to work at development of the Batoche Site. I am also working on developing permanent facilities for Batoche so that it can be utilized year-round. Some of the structures that will be built are wells, log buildings, showers, a recreation office and storage, sports area/fields, lighted ball diamonds, meeting and social functions facilities and many other recreational facilities.
4. I have also initiated plans to develop the Ministry of Recreation and Culture by creating awareness with SIMAS that I will be requiring funding to establish and maintain the Ministry. The Funding will be used for maintaining an office with paid staff, office equipment, and to ensure resources are in place for any initiatives that may be identified by the people in the communities.
5. Also, to ensure accountability within the Ministry of Recreation and Culture and within the Metis Nation, I have given directions to the Batoche Days Planning Committee to have a full financial statement ready and mailed to all the Locals one month after the event.

In closing, I would like to say that I am looking forward to visiting all the regions when the recreation planning sessions are initiated and I hope that all people have their say and take an active role in delivering sports, culture and recreation programs in your communities. And remember, our theme for the Batoche Days is "Strength Through Culture and Family".

**PRESENTATION BY ISABELLE IMPEY:  
THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES,  
LABOUR AND ADMINISTRATION**

**As Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Administration for the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan, I intend to work with you to implement strategic plans that will develop our Nation's most beneficial asset: our people.**

**I will advise the Métis Nation on the following important issues:**

- ▶ the development of the human resources for the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and affiliates in light of the creation of our Métis governing institutions;**
- ▶ the labour standards and human rights of staff, students, clients and politicians of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and affiliates;**
- ▶ the implementation of a cohesive administration network for the Nation's structures;**
- ▶ improved working conditions for our people in our affiliates and in other organizations, both public and private;**

- ▶ the Human Resource Planning Project of Saskatchewan Métis PATHWAYS that will entail conducting a Labour Market Assessment to determine the needs of present and future Métis workforces, locally and provincially and, where appropriate, nationally and internationally;
- ▶ the building of a comprehensive policy-making information base for Métis employment, labour laws and human rights legislation, including a reference guide to information and strategic planning recommendations;
- ▶ coordination efforts between the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Training and Employment and the Ministry of Human Resources, Labour and Administration;
- ▶ a Métis specific collective bargaining process for Métis Nation employees;
- ▶ a Benefits Package to encompass the entire labour force of the Métis Nation; and
- ▶ continuous monitoring and evaluation of Métis human resources, labour and administrative policies, recommendations and legislation.

***MINISTER OF HOUSING***

***ANNUAL REPORT***

***JULY 18, 1994***

***SUBMITTED BY:***

***ROBERT MERCREDI***

***MINISTER OF HOUSING MNS***

***CHAIRMAN PMHC***

Provincial Metis Housing Corporation was incorporated under the non-profit corporations act May 5, 1989. Operations began September 15, 1989 with a staff of 7 including the Manager. The company decreased it's field staff to three field workers, contract bookkeeper and one manager for the remainder to 1989. In 1990 the company moved and expanded it's operations to include a receptionist/secretary and a contract RRAP inspector to it's existing staff. In 1991 the company was able to expand more to include a clerk and a full time RRAP inspector. There was a sub-office opened in Regina in July of 1991 with a staff of two to service this area. In 1992 there was another sub-office opened in Buffalo Narrows to employ two staff to better service the north west side region as well a Director of Field Operations was hired. The existing General Manager left for another position and the Director of Field Operations became the Acting General Manager. In June of 1992 the Regina office was closed after an independent evaluation was completed and showed that with budget cut backs that it was no longer feasible to maintain the southern office. In the later part of 1992 our secretary/receptionist moved and finances did not allow us to replace this position as well our clerk position was laid off due to lack of revenues we had one of our northern staff leave for another position. With the staffing cut backs it left the remainder of the staff to fill in for the positions that were no longer feasible but still needed. Once again due to budget cut backs and the transferring of the Rural and Native Housing Program (RNH) to Sask. Housing there was a decrease in revenues for the company. With this the company once again had an independent evaluation completed recommending that 3 1/2 positions be cut in order for the company to fulfil it's decreasing contractual obligations.

There were 3 1/2 positions cut effective June 30, 1993, this included the closer of our Buffalo Narrows sub-office as well the half time position was not economical for the person in the accounting position therefore they requested to be let go. A full time administrators position was created to cover all in office duties left to do for the company business. At present there is an existing staff of 3 full time and 1 temporary contract employee.

In 1994 once again there has been a transfer of programs to Sask. Housing this now being the RRAP and ERP programs. With the province already delivering the RNH program they are in charge of all Social Housing Programs that were once through CMHC and delivered by PMHC. The province is offering less and less to PMHC each year this is due to the budget cut backs as well as the establishment of local housing authorities. Our revenues have been on the constant decrease in the last two years. At the rate of decrease in revenues PMHC will have to secure more contracts to make it feasible to stay in business. Since the constant decrease in program budgets PMHC may have to look at diversifying into other areas.

	1989(8mths)	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Revenues	\$197,575	\$638,682	\$736,617	\$671,257	\$320,096	\$300,000 (projected)
Expenses	\$ 97,833	\$432,782	\$683,111	\$589,290	\$444,001	\$320,000 (projected)
Profit/Loss	\$ 99,742	\$205,900	\$ 53,506	\$ 81,967	<\$123,905>	<\$20,000> (projected)

Sincerely;



Robert Mercredi