

## **Bouvier, Victoria May. (b. 1979)**

Vicki Bouvier completed her MA at University of Calgary. Her thesis is entitled “Re-Storying Métis Spirit: Honoring the Lived Spirit” (2016). She is also a children’s book author of *Nipin and the Rocks*, (illustrated by Samantha Pratt) Winnipeg: Pemmican Publications, 2012. Her roots are in the Michif community of Boggy Creek, Manitoba. She is the daughter of Ephram and Theresa Bouvier. Ephram (1945-2011) was active in Métis Nation of Alberta and was a Vice President of Region III.

Victoria is currently working on her Ph.D. at the Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary. She recently presented at the *Rising Up – Indigenous Research Conference* at the University of Manitoba on March 10, 2018. Her paper was entitled “Exploring how Métis Individuals Practice and Express their Self Understanding in the City Through an Oral Methodology and Visual Media.”

Vicki is a descendant of Antoine Bouvier. Antoine was born on June 4, 1853 at St. Francois Xavier. He was the son of Antoine Bouvier Sr. (b. 1828) and Genevieve Breland. Antoine married Elise Laviolette (b.1855), the daughter of Jean Baptiste Laviolette and Nancy Paul on July 3, 1875 at St. François Xavier. Elise died on August 20, 1879 at St. François Xavier, age 23. He then married Elise Martin (b. 1862), the daughter of Abraham Martin and Marie Anne Gervais on February 15, 1881 at St. François Xavier. Antoine died on March 29, 1925 at San Clara, Manitoba. His wife Elise Martin died on June 5, 1943 at San Clara, Manitoba.

This was a Métis family that was once members of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Band at Belcourt, North Dakota and then moved to the Boggy Creek, San Clara area of Manitoba. Antoine and Elise with their children were enumerated at Turtle Mountain in both 1888 and 1889. Antoine’s older brother Casimir and his family were also enumerated at Turtle Mountain in 1889.

Children of Antoine and Elise Laviolette:

- Joseph Emilien, born September 14, 1877 at St. François Xavier.

Children of Antoine and Elise Martin:

- Elzear born 1882 at Belcourt, N.D.
- Marie Genevieve, born 1884, at Belcourt N.D.
- Jean Antoine, born 1886 at Belcourt N.D.
- Henri, born 1889 at Belcourt N.D.

Scrip affidavit for Bouvier, Antoine; born: 4 June, 1853; father: Antoine Bouvier; mother: Genevieve Breland. St. François Xavier, No. 6505.

DOMINION OF CANADA, } I, *Antoine Bouvier*  
 PROVINCE OF MANITOBA, } of the Parish of *St. Francois Xavier* -- in  
 County of *Selkirk* } the County of *Marquette* -- -- in the  
 City of *Winnipeg* } Province of Manitoba, *Farmer* -- -- make  
 oath and say as follows :

1. I claim to be entitled to participate in the allotment and distribution of the 1,400,000 acres of land set apart for Half breed children, pursuant to the Statutes in that behalf.
2. I was born on or about the *4<sup>th</sup>* day of *June* A.D. 185*2*, at the Parish of *St. Francois Xavier* in said Province; and am now of the full age of *23* years
3. *Antoine Bouvier a half breed is* my father  
*Genevieve Beland* " " was my mother;  
 my said *father* was the half-breed head of a family resident in the parish of *St. Fr. Xavier* in the said Province, on the fifteenth day of July, A.D. 1870.
4. I was not the head of any family at the last named date and I have not made any claim other than the above in this or any other parish, nor have I claimed or received as an Indian any annuity moneys from the Government of said Dominion.

*Antoine<sup>his</sup> Bouvier*  
*mark*

Sworn before me at the *City* Parish and County aforesaid on the *31<sup>st</sup>* day of *October* A.D. 1875 having been first read and explained in the *French* language to said deponent who seemed perfectly to understand the same and *affixed his mark* in my presence.

*Smala Ladd*  
 Commissioner.  
*Agent for Lands*



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Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell  
 Coordinator of Métis Heritage and History Research  
 Louis Riel Institute