

Peter Lougheed, PC, CC, AOE, QC. (1928-2012)

(Edgar) Peter Lougheed is the first person of Metis ancestry to become Premier of the Province of Alberta (1971).

Peter was born on July 26, 1928, the son of Edgar Donald Lougheed and Edna Alexandria Bauld. His grandmother was Isabella Clark Hardisty (1864-1936), the Metis daughter of William Lucas Hardisty¹ (Metis) and Mary Ann Allen (Metis)². His grandfather was Senator James Alexander Loughheed, who married Isabella Hardisty on September 16, 1884 in Calgary.

Peter Lougheed's grandmother, Isabella, was the daughter of Chief Factor William Lucas Hardisty and Mary Ann Allen. She married Senator James Alexander Lougheed on September 16, 1884 in Calgary. Her husband, a lawyer, was appointed to the senate in 1889. This was the result of the death of Isabella's uncle, Senator Richard Hardisty. Lougheed was appointed to fill the vacant seat. He remained a Senator for thirty-six years. During his tenure, he also served as Conservative Leader of the Senate from 1906 to 1921. Senator Lougheed was knighted in 1916 and Isabella was then known as "Lady Belle." She was the first president of the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Old Timer's Association and was active in the Children's Aid Society and the Victorian Order of Nurses

Isabella's brother Richard Hardisty (1862-1885), Peter Lougheed's great-uncle is but one example of Metis men who because of their employment were fighting against their cousins during the 1885 Resistance. Richard served for the British during the Nile Expedition (1884-1885) and on his return was sent with Middleton's troops to Batoche. He was killed on May 12, 1885, the last day of fighting, at age 22.

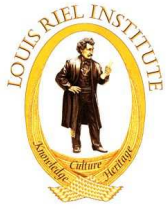
Peter Lougheed was a lawyer, a former politician and Canadian Football League player. He served as the tenth Premier of Alberta from 1971 to 1985, and is widely considered one of the great premiers in Canadian history. In 1950, he received a BA degree, and in 1952, he received an LL.B. degree, both from the University of Alberta. While in Edmonton as a student, he played football for the Edmonton Eskimos for two seasons, 1949 and 1950, and served as President of the Student's Union. In 1954, he received an MBA degree from Harvard University.

In 1965, he was elected leader of the Alberta Progressive Conservative Party. The party won the 1971 provincial election, with 49 of the 75 seats in the legislature, defeating the social Credit Party. Lougheed established a Tory dynasty in the province that has continued uninterrupted since then.

¹ Metis Scrip claim: Hardisty, William Lucas; address: Winnipeg; claim no. 2078; born: 7 Oct., 1872 at Fort Simpson; father: William Lucas Hardisty (Métis); mother: Mary Allen (Métis); married: 1896 at Winnipeg to Winnifred Heakland; file ref. 1404822.

² Metis Scrip claim: Hardisty, Frank Allen; address: Winnipeg; claim no. 750; born: 8 April, 1886 at Fort Simpson; father: William Lucas Hardisty (Métis); mother: Mary Allen (Métis); file ref. 1404822.

This article was written with contributions from Robert Lougheed, Isabella's great-grandson.



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