

**BY-LAWS OF THE METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**ST. LOUIS LOCAL #28**  
**(As of April 27th, 1998)**

**BY-LAW 1: Name of Organization**

1. Metis Nation of Saskatchewan St. Louis Local #28

**BY-LAW 2: St. Louis Local #28 Head Office**

1. The head office shall be at the Community Centre in St. Louis with a designated office within the Community Centre.

**BY-LAW 3: 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:
  - i) Can provide proof of his/her ancestry.
  - ii) Declares himself/herself to be Metis.
  - iii) Meets one of the following tests:
    - a) Is accepted as a Metis by the community.
    - b) Has traditionally held himself/herself out to be a Metis.
    - 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 member shall only belong to one (1) Local.
4. Members shall be issued a membership card.
  - a) This card shall provide lifetime membership in the organization.
  - b) Membership cards shall be numbered and a register maintained by the Executive in the head office and along with the local. Replacement cards shall retain the original number.
  - c) There shall be a fee for membership cards. This fee shall be governed by the Membership.
  - 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 Assembly, the decision of which shall be final and binding.
6. A person applying for a membership card shall come in person to a meeting with proof of family history.

#### BY-LAW 4: Executive

1. There shall be four Executive members which will be voted on at the Local.
2. The Executive shall be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
3. The term of office for the Vice-President and Secretary will expire in 1996 and the term of office will then be for three years. The term of office for the President and Treasurer will expire in 1997 and with terms of office for three years there after.
4. a) The President of Local #28 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 Executive.
5. If needed the Executive will meet once a month and three Executive members will constitute a quorum. Either one of the four will be able to call the meeting.
6. The Executive shall give a report on any meeting affecting Local #28.
7. Where a vacancy is created for any reason, the Executive will call an election from the Local membership at a monthly meeting and an interim Executive member shall serve until the next election.

#### BY-LAW 5: Locals

1. a) The Local shall be made up of at least nine members.  
b) Nine members shall constitute a quorum.
2. New members will be accepted by the Constitution of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and by the Local Executive.
3. The Executive will adopt rules pertaining to the admission and expulsion of non-metis people.
4. Each Local shall be governed by an elected leadership as determined through the By-Laws of the Local, which may be by ballot box or conducted at a General Assembly of the Local membership.
5. a) Any Metis who is sixteen years of age or older and is a member of Local #28 shall be entitled to vote.  
b) Prior to elections to be a member in good standing a member must attend a minimum of six (6) meetings in the twelve months prior to elections for Executive and committees.

6. Local #28 shall enact By-Laws which are not inconsistent with the Provincial Constitution, including the establishment of portfolios, committees or other bodies required to address community and other issues and such Local By-Laws shall be registered with the Regional and head offices of the organization.
7. The Locals shall provide yearly updates of their membership to the Regional and head offices, separating those members who are under sixteen years of age and over.
8. a) Local #28 will have committees consisting of:
  - Finance
  - Training and Employment
  - Education
  - Justice and Social Services
  - Human Resources, Labour and Administration
  - Youth Recreation and Culture
  - Health
  - Environment, Natural Resources and Land
  - Economic Development and Trade
  - Communications
  - Intergovernmental Affairs and Urban Development
  - Community Affairs and Electoral Reform
  - Housing
  - Point Membership
- b) Each committee shall have a chairperson and this person must attend a minimum of six (6) meetings in the twelve months prior to the election of committees. The committee members shall serve two (2) years in their positions.
9. Local #28 may seek the necessary finances and resources to carry out their programs, services and objections.
10. A Point System will be put in place for all members. These points will determine eligibility for benefits to these recipients.

#### BY-LAW 6: Elections

1. Any member who is sixteen years of age or older may vote within Local #28. Any person who is running for an Executive position in Local #28 must be a member for at least twelve (12) months.
2. a) Elections for Local #28 of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan shall be held on the date set by the Local #28 Executive, at the annual meeting.  
b) At that time, the President will hand the chair to the Elder. At that time nominations will be announced and seconds. Time limit will be Elder's choice. After the election for the Executive, the Committee members will be nominated and elected.
3. Elections for Local #28 shall be held with one month posted notice.

4. The Executive for Local #28 shall be elected by the majority of vote of the Local #28 at the Local polls by secret ballot.
5. a) A Metis Elections Committee composed of three Local #28 members is empowered to oversee and conduct the general elections and by-elections of Local #28.
  - b) The terms of office of the Election Committee shall cease at the first regular meeting of Local #28.
  - c) The Election Committee shall be named by the Elder or Elders and shall be appointed at the same meeting as the General Election and at the same meeting where nominations for Executive take place.
  - d) When the election or by-election date has been set and the election called by the Local #28, the Election Committee shall have sole authority and responsibility to conduct the Election and shall be independent and answerable only to the Elders or Elders.
  - e) The Elder or Elders shall appoint the Chief Electoral Officer and other required personnel.
  - f) The Elder and Election Committee shall be solely responsible for official recounts and appeals. The decision of the Elder shall be final and binding.
6. When nominations close and until candidates are officially elected, the Elder shall be solely responsible for conducting the affairs and activities of the Local.
7. All defeated or retiring candidates who were on the Executive prior to the Election shall be entitled to receive their monetary salary to date and any records pertaining to the Local #28 shall be handed over.

#### BY-LAW 7: Annual Meeting

1. An annual meeting, composed of the members of Local #28, shall be called by the Executive every year.
2. The Annual Meeting shall provide a forum whereby the members of Local #28 will receive information, review developments and provide guidance to the Executive and discuss, clarify, amend, vote on and ratify amendments to the By-Laws.
3. That Local #28 has a yearly financial audit done by an independent auditor. The report shall be made available to the Local members at the Annual meeting and the said report shall be presented by the Local Treasurer.
4. The By-Laws of the St. Louis Metis Local #28 shall be handed out at the monthly meeting prior to the Annual meeting.

#### BY-LAW 8: Elders, Women and Youth

1. The Local #28 shall make these items a priority and shall involve the Elders, Women and Youth in the determination of their role responsibilities with the Local #28.

2. The Metis Women of Local #28 shall be designated one (1) seat in the Annual Meeting. This provision shall cease to apply when women have achieved equitable representation in the Local #28 Executive in Local #28.
3. That appointments to vacancies as an Elder/Elders be made at Local #28 meetings. Further, that Elder appointments be for a lifetime. If in the event that one of the Elders is unable to fulfill his/her duties, another Elder shall be appointed by Local #28.
4. That the Elder/Elders be given power to resolve disputes occurring in Local #28. The decisions of the Elder or Elders shall be final and binding.
5. That the Elders be represented by male and/or female and not to exceed three (3) Elders.

#### BY-LAW 9: Metis Independence

1. Whereas the Metis are seeking self-government as a third order of government within Canada, the organization shall be non-secretarian and non-partisan.
2. The loyalty of the members of Local #28 must be to the Metis People and Nation. The Executive members shall swear an oath of Allegiance prior to taking office accepted by the Elder on behalf of Local #28.
3. The Executive shall be held responsible and accountable to the members of Local #28.
4. Members of Local #28 are not precluded from joining political parties of the two other orders of government, being the Federal and Provincial levels of government.
5. Any local Executive member of Local #28 who chooses to seek the nominations of any Provincial or Federal political party in any provincial or federal election shall take a leave of absence from his/her position.

#### BY-LAW 10: Amending Formula

1. The Constitution shall only be amended by the majority of two thirds (2/3) of the members present at the Annual Meeting.

#### BY-LAW 11: Implementation

1. The By-Laws shall take effect upon its adoption by the Annual Assembly subject to the amendments validly passed by two thirds (2/3) of the members present and the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. Upon the happening of these two conditions all previous By-Laws of the Local #28 are invalid and this By-Law shall constitute the sole By-Laws of the Local #28, until otherwise determined by the Local #28.

**BY-LAW 12: Dissolution**

1. Should the Local #28 dissolve, the Executive in power at that time will call a general membership meeting to determine what will be done with all monies (including all accounts) pertaining to Local #28. All monies raised from any bingos, including nevasdas, shall have to go through the Gaming Commission.