



MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 29, 1997
TO: Metis Nation Legislative Assembly
FROM: Jim Durocher, Provincial President, MNS
SUBJECT: METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN CONSTITUTION

The Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Constitution is a living document which must evolve as we move towards self-governance. Further to this we have seen some areas which require revision to reflect present realities since its inception in 1993. We have established a Commission for the purpose of reviewing the MNS Constitution. This will allow for community input into a document to be presented to the Provincial Metis Council, the MNS Senate, Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, Annual General Meeting and Metis Women of Saskatchewan.

The duration of the Commission will be short (February 1 - 28, 1997), so it is incumbent upon you, the members of the MNLA to contact your constituents and be prepared to represent their views at the hearing in your region. Please note that there are no funds available for travel, so you are on your own for expenses.

Commission members include: Lorna Docken, MNS Provincial Secretary and Earl Pelletier, Clerk of the MNS Senate. They will act in an impartial manner in an attempt to solicit as many viewpoints as possible. Please cooperate with them and offer your assistance as participants.

We have enclosed for you a Mission Statement, Goals of the Commission, Terms of Reference, Schedule, Consultation Survey Questions and an MNS Constitution. Please circulate these as widely as possible so that your constituents are ready when the Commission visits.

Sincerely,

Jim Durocher
Provincial President
Metis Nation of Saskatchewan

enclosures



CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMISSION

MISSION STATEMENT

The Metis Nation of Saskatchewan (MNS) Constitution Review Commission is an independent body, which was established by the President of the MNS to review the MNS Constitution. The mission of the Constitution Review Commission is to seek, obtain, and record the views of the Metis People of Saskatchewan and make recommendations on the MNS Constitution which was adopted December, 1993.

GOALS OF THE COMMISSION

1. To meet with Metis People in their communities.
 2. To obtain the views of community People through the use of consistent survey questions.
 3. To record the views of the Metis People through the use of consistent survey questions.
 4. To analyze the results of community consultations to show what Metis People say about the Constitution: what works and what does not.
 5. To develop a report to the MNS Provincial Metis Council, MNS Senate, Metis Women of Saskatchewan, Metis Youth and the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, Annual General Meeting in July, 1997.
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CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMISSION

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan has struck a Constitution Review Commission to review the MNS Constitution. The Commission is comprised of MNS Provincial Secretary, Lorna Docken and Earl Pelletier, Clerk of the MNS Senate.

The schedule of hearings will be conducted from February 1 - 18, 1997.

Hearings and meetings will be held in all of the MNS Regions and will seek out as many views on the MNS Constitution as possible. These views will be sought through community consultations, public meetings, personal interviews, mail solicitation, and questionnaire responses. Questionnaires will be sent to all of the MNS Locals and each Local is requested to respond to the questionnaire. The questionnaires and feedback will be documented and analyzed to prepare a report for the Provincial Metis Council, the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly, the MNS Senate, Annual General Meeting, and the Metis Women of Saskatchewan. The report will also form the basis for more discussion and potential amendments, changes, and/or ratification at the Metis Nation Legislative Assembly.

**METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN
CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMISSION**

SURVEY QUESTIONS

- 1. Do you feel that the Metis People of Saskatchewan should have a single Constitution which determines how self government will be regulated in all Metis communities?**

Yes

No

If yes, why?

If no, why not?

- 2. Are you aware of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Constitution, adopted December, 1993?**

Yes

No

If yes, how are you familiar with the Constitution?

- 3. What does this Constitution mean to you as a Metis Person?**

- 4. Do you feel that this Constitution should form the foundation of Metis governance in Saskatchewan?**

Yes

No

If yes, how?

If no, why not?

5. What do you see as the BENEFITS of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Constitution regarding:

(1) Metis Nation Legislative Assembly:

(2) Executive

(3) Urban Councils

(4) Elections

(5) Senate

(6) Amending Formula

(7) Provincial Metis Council (PMC)

(8) Regions

(9) Locals

(10) Annual General Assembly

(11) Affiliates

(12) Other

6. What do you see as the PROBLEMS in the way that the Metis Nation Constitution is working now regarding:

(1) Metis Legislative Assembly

(2) Executive

(3) Urban Councils

(4) Elections

(5) Senate

(6) Amending Formula

(7) Provincial Metis Council

(8) Regions

(9) Locals

(10) Annual General Meeting

(11) Affiliates



CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMISSION

CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY		REGION	COMMUNITIES
3rd	10 a.m.	Northern Region 2	Turnor Lake
3rd	7 p.m.	Northern Region 3	Ile a la Crosse
4th	2 p.m.	Western Region 1	Meadow Lake
6th	2 p.m.	Northern Region 1	La Ronge
9th	2 p.m.	Western Region 1A	North Battleford
10th	7 p.m.	Western Region 2 and Metis Women of Saskatchewan Inc. President	Prince Albert or St. Louis
11th	7 p.m.	Western Region 2A / Locals close to Kindersley	Kindersley
12th	7 p.m.	WR2A & MWS Senator / Locals close to Saskatoon	Saskatoon
19th	2 p.m.	Western Region 3	Regina
20th	9:30a.m	Provincial Metis Council	Regina
21st	7 p.m.	Eastern Region 3	Sintaluta
22nd	2 p.m.	Eastern Region 2A	Yorkton
24th	2 p.m.	Eastern Region 1	Cumberland House
25th	2 p.m.	Eastern Region 2	Chelan

The above has been formulated with the aim of accommodating the MNS Senators who cannot afford to travel. As we are under time constraints we have to stick to this schedule.