



February 27, 1996

Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Senate:

Please be advised that I am submitting the attached proposal for funding a Constitutional Consultation Process on behalf of the Senate and Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Secretary's Office.

As Secretary of the MNS, I undertook an inventory of our locals and conducted random spot checks of membership. There have been some problems identified. According to our MNS Constitution the Senate is in charge of a citizenship registry, therefore I am turning the following information over to you for your careful consideration. I am willing to assist you in any way possible on this matter.

Sincerely,

Lorna Docken
Provincial Secretary
Metis Nation of Saskatchewan

cc: All MNS Regional Councils



February 28, 1996

Mr. Donovan Young
Assistant Deputy Minister
Saskatchewan Indian and Metis Affairs Secretariat
2151 Scarth Street
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3V7

Dear Mr. Young:

Re: Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Constitutional Reform

Please find attached a funding request in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$ 10,000.00) to conduct a Consultation Process regarding the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Constitution and Electoral Process.

Should you require further clarification and or details please contact the undersigned at (306) 343-8285.

Sincerely,

Lorna Docken
Provincial Secretary
Metis Nation of Saskatchewan

attachement

METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

REQUEST FOR FUNDING

**Submitted to: Saskatchewan Indian and Metis
Affairs Secretariat**

Submitted by: Metis Nation of Saskatchewan

February 28, 1996

PROPOSAL FOR METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

INTRODUCTION

The following is a request for funding a Consultation Process regarding the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan (MNS) Constitution and Electoral Process. We are requesting the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$ 10,000.00) for the purpose of legal and consulting fees as well as travel costs associated with the project.

BACKGROUND

The MNS adopted December 1993, the present Constitution which serves as the basis for all operations of the organization. The constitution replaced existing By-Laws in an effort to make the organization more "government like". At that time, the name of the organization was changed from the Metis Society of Saskatchewan (MSS) to the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

Because the old By-Laws were for the MSS, the new Constitution for the MNS and the name was not changed at the corporations branch from MSS to MNS in an effort to assert nationhood, much confusion exists. Although we are confident that a court of law would find that the new Constitution governs both the MNS government structure and the MSS administrative structure (purposely left at the corporations branch as such) we need to eliminate the confusion held by the great majority of our citizens. A great example of this situation is the use of the old MSS By-Laws by one of our Regions to impeach and replace a Regional Director. This is not called for in the governing MNS Constitution.

In addition there are areas of the Constitution which need work. For instance there is a definite lack of safety valves to allow for accountability. Once again the above example comes to mind. We propose to conduct a review which will address the problems cited above.

WORKPLAN / TIMETABLE

Month One (April 1996) - A committee consisting of two (2) MNS Senators, the MNS Constitution Committee and a legal consultant will review the Constitution after calling for recommendations from the MNS Locals. This will consist of a two (2) day workshop where full debate occurs.

Month Two (May 1996) - The suggested amendments will be distributed to the MNS Locals for further comment.

Month Three (June 1996) - The MNS Provincial Secretary, along with the legal consultant will prepare for presentation, the proposed amendments, to the Metis Legislative Assembly or Annual General Assembly for ratification. The full MNS Senate will preside at the workshop.

**METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM
PROPOSED BUDGET**

BUDGET	
WORKSHOP	AMOUNT
Travel Costs for Committee (from La Ronge, North Battleford and Prince Albert)	\$ 900.00
Travel Costs for 2 MNS Senators	600.00
Honorarium for 2 MNS Senators	400.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,900.00
DISTRIBUTION	
Printing	\$ 100.00
2 Mailouts	300.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 400.00
ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR METIS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WORKSHOP	
Honorarium for MNS Senators (14 x \$100.00 x 2 days)	\$ 2,800.00
Lunch for workshop participants (\$6.00 x 100 participants)	600.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 3,400.00
LEGAL / CONSULTATION FEES	\$ 3,000.00
ADMINISTRATION COSTS	\$ 1,305.00
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 10,005.00
TOTAL REQUEST	\$ 10,000.00