

# New Breed

MAGAZINE



March/April 2001



# New Breed

MAGAZINE

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## The Front Page

Photograph by  
Kathy Hodgson-Smith

The cover of the magazine displays the work of a Métis woman from La Loche, Saskatchewan. The moccasins were made from hand tanned moose hide and beaded as a gift from one grandmother to a godmother. An identical

set of moccasins was made for the special child whose life is such a blessing, a beautiful baby girl who brought two families together. The cover of this issue is made to remind us that it is the heart that binds us together as Métis people and gives us the courage and strength to be open and kind to all others. It is our children and grandchildren that are the most powerful teachers of all in this way of life. It is also meant as special thanks for a grandmother and a celebration of a gifted artist, Albertine Herman.



## The Back Cover

Photograph by  
Kathy Hodgson-Smith

This photograph was taken to represent the past and the present brought together by the work of artists and craftspeople. The background is hand-tanned moose hide displaying the beautiful craftsmanship and bead-

work of Cecile Bouvier of Beauval, Saskatchewan. The photograph displays the back of a beaded wrap moccasin. Upon it lies various arrowheads and tools found over the years on the land sheltered on one side by the Nesbit Forest. They have been collected over many years and are reminders of the intricate and amazing strength that they portray, and the beauty that they now add to our world. The tanned hide and beadwork is the same, still fresh with the smell of the smoke that preserved them. The past and the present brought together through a gifted artisan, a tradition of uniqueness.







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# GREETINGS

## Clem Chartier

It is an honour to hold the position of President of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan for another term and I thank you for your confidence and support in carrying out the work of the Métis Nation. We continue to face many hardships and to face those hardships with integrity and pride as one people. We are so very rich in our youth and our Elders and in our knowledge of the land that has provided for us for so many generations. The words of Elder Louis Morin echo through my mind in the most difficult of times, reminding me of the importance of land to the Métis, to strive for our rights to it and our access to the resources it provides. In this vein we will find our way as a nation of people.

Of this I am confident and I will continue to advance our Métis harvesting rights on this front. For our youth, I am working towards the establishment of the Rights of the Métis Child conference where we can bring our concerns and our wisdom forward and find our way into the future building strong families and healthy futures for our youth. I look forward to celebrating again at Batoche this year, celebrating our strong culture, heritage and language. I hope you can find your way there this summer. It is in the qui-

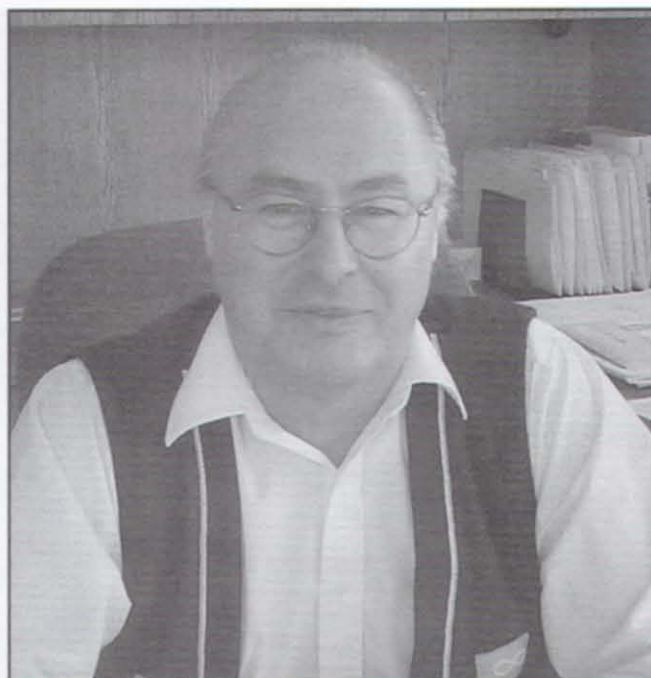


PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

etest of moments that I remember the words of our Elders for the future of the Métis Nation. It is in the most hectic of moments that I must carry them out. I thank you for this second term to make a contribution.

## Lorna Docken

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who helped me achieve my dream of being the Vice President of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan. You are too numerous to mention by name, however, you know who you are. I am very excited to be back at “home” here in head office and look forward to the challenges of the next three years. I reiterate that I will take a balanced approach to leadership. As your VP, I will work to advance the Métis Rights Agenda, while enhancing programs and services we all need as human beings. I believe that our rights include not only the right to carry out traditional activities, but also the right to our institutions. In short, we have the right to



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

govern and support ourselves and our families in a way that is appropriate to us as Métis in the year 2001. My priority areas include: Métis Governance; a land base for Métis; advancement of our Métis rights; promotion of Métis identity and culture; and enhancing

the lives of Métis families and communities through programs and services. I will offer the energetic, common sense, committed leadership I have shown in the past to represent the MNS citizens in all areas of my responsibility.



## Allan Morin

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to serve you for another term as Provincial Treasurer for the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan. I am invigorated at the challenges that we face as a Métis Nation and proud of the distance that we have traveled since the early days. As an important part of the province of Saskatchewan, I will continue to work towards advancing our government-to-government relationships with both the federal and provincial governments through our Intergovernmental Affairs Unit. The northern governance, urban governance and the increased involvement of our women and youth are central to our work in the next three years. The department is also advancing to include issues of rural governance as part of the discussions. I am excited to

announce the future establishment of a northern office to promote better communication and access to information across the Métis Nation, including the north where we have faced situations of isolation from mainstream opportunities and information. We are working hard on preparing the Métis Land Claim for the courts and I continue to oversee this work as Chairperson on behalf of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan. Further, I sit on the national Métis Rights Panel where the issues of the rights of Métis across



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

Canada are deliberated and developed. I wish for you and your families a restful and safe summer and leave you with my commitment to work for the advancement our collective needs as a Métis people in this rich province of Saskatchewan and ensure financial integrity in all endeavors.

## Dave Ross

I wish to bring greetings to all of our citizens. As your provincial Secretary, I will work toward greater empowerment for our Locals and more involvement of our citizens at every level of our government. Accountability is the responsibility of all and is an important part of our future as a Métis Nation. In preparation for the future, I will focus on the paperwork and the processes that need attention to prepare the Local organizations for future control through self-government. If our communities are to see more significant devolution, we must plan and prepare for this. This is the commit-

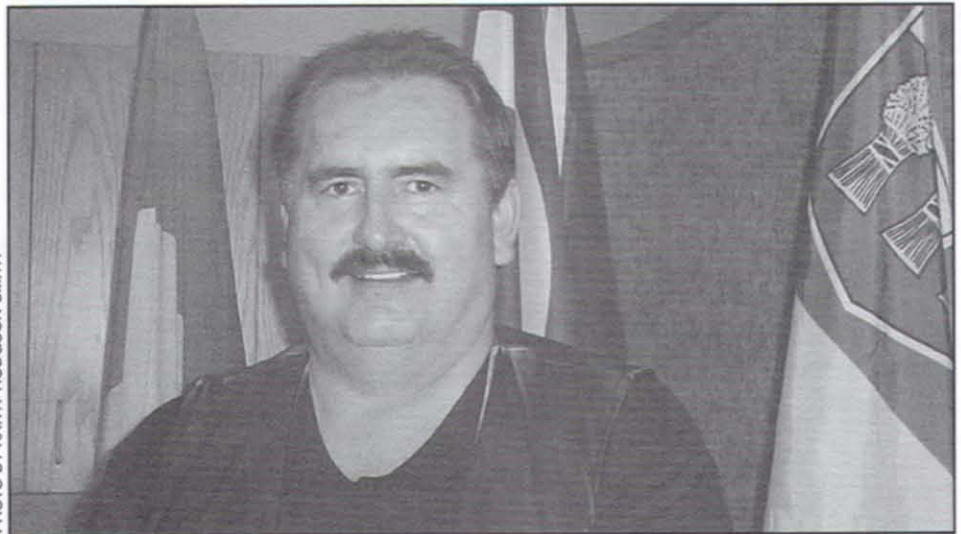


PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

ment I make to you. With summer just beginning, I move into my term with excitement and confidence that together we can build the future that we all dream of – a future where we are united as one people; a future where we are

proud of our heritage and our accomplishments; a future where there is an important role for each of us, regardless of where we live in this province. I look forward to working with each of you as I carry out this work.



# PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL

## First Meeting of Métis Leadership

Story By Kathy Hodgson-Smith

Since the final results of the Métis Elections 2001, the Provincial Métis Council had its first face-to-face meeting to attend to the business of the Nation. While those Council members with renewed mandates continued to the issues of their regions, and the new members got acquainted with the work to be done, the portfolios for areas of provincial responsibility remained to

be announced by President Clem Chartier. As set out in the *Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Constitution*, it is the responsibility of the President of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) to assign portfolio and Ministerial responsibilities to members of the MNLA. Further, it is the responsibility of the Provincial Metis Council to work in good faith to address the issues of the Metis in Saskatchewan, a responsibility sworn

to by oath. The meeting began with discussions between the Provincial Métis Council and Minister Ethyl Blondin Andrew, the Secretary of State for Children and Youth. Other items discussed were the Final Report of the Métis Elections Commission, presented by the Chief Electoral Officer Isabelle Impey and Senator Nora Ritchie, with recommendations for the next election. Some of the recommendations included: proper training for elections staff, immediate attention to the establishment of complete membership lists and reviewing the Elections Act and Regulations, providing clarification for candidates on their roles and responsibilities, funding of advance polls, code of conduct and the establishment of a permanent Election office. The Provincial Metis Council set the date for the next Métis Nation Legislative Assembly for November 23rd and 24th, to be held in North Battleford.

The Provincial Métis Council is as follows, followed by the list of portfolio assignments and Ministerial responsibilities.



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH



PHOTO BY LISA MCCALLUM

**Back (left to right): Myles Pelletier, Dale McAuley, Guy Bouvier, Alex Maurice, Dave Ross, Al Rivard, Ralph Kennedy, Allan Morin, Helen Johnson, Trevor Kennedy, Peter Rudyck. Front: Vince Folk, Clem Chartier, Lorna Docken, MaryAnn Gagnon, Norman Hansen, Curtis Charney, Albert Delaire.**



# PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL

## MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN PORTFOLIO ASSIGNMENTS

<b>Finance</b>	Minister	Allan Morin
<b>Northern Affairs</b>	Minister	Al Rivard
	Associate Minister	Alex Maurice
<b>Employment and Training</b>	Minister	Al Rivard
	Associate Minister	Dale McAuley
<b>Education</b>	Minister	Dale McAuley
	Associate Minister	Al Rivard
<b>Intergovernmental Affairs</b>	Minister	Allan Morin
	Associate Minister	Lorna Docken
	Associate Minister Responsible for Participation of Métis Youth	Trevor Kennedy
	Associate Minister Responsible for Participation of Métis Women	MaryAnn Gagnon
<b>Economic Development</b>	Minister	Guy Bouvier
	Associate Minister	Peter Rudyck
<b>Justice and Family Services</b>	Minister	Alex Maurice
	Associate Minister	MaryAnn Gagnon
<b>Agriculture, Tourism and Game Farming</b>	Minister	Guy Bouvier
	Associate Minister	Peter Rudyck
<b>Community Relations and Veterans Affairs</b>	Minister	Dave Ross
	Associate Minister	Myles Pelletier
<b>Health</b>	Minister	Albert Delaire
	Associate Minister	MaryAnn Gagnon
<b>Housing</b>	Minister	Norman Hansen
	Associate Minister	Curtis Charney
<b>Environment and Natural Resources</b>	Minister	Norman Hansen
	Associate Minister	Myles Pelletier
<b>Youth, Sports and Recreation</b>	Minister	Ralph Kennedy
	Associate Minister	Trevor Kennedy
<b>Rural Affairs</b>	Minister	Peter Rudyck
	Associate Minister	Vince Folk
<b>Urban Affairs</b>	Minister	Albert Delaire
	Associate Minister	Ralph Kennedy
<b>Communications Committee</b>	Chairperson	Lorna Docken
	Members	Clem Chartier Allan Morin Dave Ross
<b>Treasury Board</b>	Chairperson	Allan Morin
	Members	Dale McAuley Guy Bouvier Curtis Charney Albert Delaire
<b>Culture, Heritage and Language Committee</b>	Co-Chairs	Ralph Kennedy Clem Chartier
	Members	Norman Hansen Dave Ross Vince Folk
<b>Batoche Committee</b>	Co-Chairs	Peter Rudyck Dave Ross
	Members	Vince Folk Terry Boyer, Batoche Local Trevor Kennedy
<b>Internal MNS Governance Committee: Legislation; Regulations; and Constitutional and Electoral Reform</b>	Chairperson	Clem Chartier
	Members	Lorna Docken Allan Morin Dave Ross



# PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL

## Provincial Métis Council Meets With Secretary Of State

Story By Kathy Hodgson-Smith

The Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council were invited to a meeting with Minister Ethyl Blondin Andrew, Secretary of State Responsible for Children and Youth on May 2nd, 2001 in Saskatoon. The meeting was a result of a request by President Clem Chartier to renew commitments between Canada and the Métis Nation on the matter of the Aboriginal Human Resources Development Agreement (AHRD). Minister Blondin Andrew, and senior HRDC officials from Ottawa and Saskatchewan Region, heard from President Chartier, along with the Minister of Employment and Training, Al Rivard and Minister of

Intergovernmental Affairs and provincial Treasurer, Allan Morin, on the need to support the partnership between Canada and Aboriginal people. President Chartier spoke to the need for cooperative relations between Metis and HRDC regional staff, to establish an open and consistent system of communication built on mechanisms and policies that can be relied upon. He went on to state that the staff of Métis Employment and Training and the regional Local Métis Management Board offices require clear written understandings of the new rules and regulations. The Métis Nation – Saskatchewan requested a dispute resolution mechanisms to ensure all matters are given full consideration and opposing policy inter-

pretations can be considered fairly, with equitable representation in such discussions. Clem Chartier reminded the Minister that the AHRD is part of a national process, under which a National Accord was signed by Canada and the Métis Nation at the beginning of the initiative, a process which allowed for many relationship building activities. National Accords were signed by then Minister Pierre Pettigrew with each of Canada's three Aboriginal Peoples: Indian, Inuit and Métis. Métis Employment and Training of Saskatchewan is the service delivery arm of the Métis Nation on matters of employment and training and the AHRD agreement. The organization has faced tremendous scrutiny as part of the Grants and Contributions



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

**MNS President Clem Chartier, Secretary of State Ethyl Blondin Andrew, MNS Minister Al Rivard**



# PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL

activities of HRDC. In the process, the five-year agreement has been replaced with an interim agreement, with the terms of a new agreement in the process of negotiation.

Minister Blondin Andrew renewed Canada's commitment to the Aboriginal peoples and to the Metis Nation – Saskatchewan. She began by stating that HRDC respects its government-to-government relationship with the Metis Nation – Saskatchewan, acknowledging the long hard battle that was fought constitutionally in Canada for this eventual and intentional relationship. The Minister went on further to discuss the eventual development of the *Inherent Right to Self-Government* policy of the federal government and how it is the responsibility of all parties

to promote accountability and unity on matters of self-governance. Public confidence is an

important part of the future of these government-to-government agreements such as the AHRD. Guy Bouvier, Area Director for Meadow Lake Region, spoke to the need for all government employees to respect the Constitution of Canada and of the Metis Nation – Saskatchewan. It is about respect. He said further that we need to count the successes of the Metis AHRDA in employing and training Metis in this province, of which there are many and which remains unstated in public record. The Clearwater Clear Lake Area Director, Norman Hansen, also stated his commitment to the AHRD process, wanting to ensure our people get the jobs that are available in our communities. He, too, has seen many successes over the years through the Pathways, RBA and AHRD initiatives. It is "All for One and One for All", Minister Blondin Andrew stated. And on that note, the meeting ended with the promise of future meetings and continued efforts to resolve all matters of concern.



**"All for One and One for All"**

important part of the future of these government-to-government agreements such as the AHRD. Guy Bouvier, Area Director for Meadow Lake Region, spoke to the need for all government employees to respect the

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# VETERANS ASSOCIATION

## Métis Veterans Form National Organization to Continue Lobby for Outstanding Compensation

Kathy Hodgson-Smith

In December of 2000, the inaugural meeting of the National Métis Veterans Association (NMVA) took place in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Representatives were there from across the Métis homeland and support was given to the formation of provincial groups to guide the work nationally. The lobby of Métis Veterans for compensation for their contribution to Canada through wartime activity remains unanswered. While the number of Métis Veterans, living and gone, who hold outstanding claim for those provisions, set aside by the Federal Government in recognition of all of Canada's Veterans, remain untallied, the NMVA is focused on the compensation needs of each individual as they become known.

The first beginnings of the lobby for compensation for Métis and First Nations veterans were seen under the



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

umbrella organization of the National Aboriginal Veterans Association, a result of which saw the round table meetings of the Department of Indian Affairs and the Assembly of First Nations. This was a specific process

for First Nations veterans to address the issue of and receive outstanding compensation. The Métis veterans were not included in these discussions. In response, along with the Métis veterans themselves, Métis National



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

Top photo: Ed Borchert and Maurice Blondeau entering the Meeting. Bottom photo: Delegates and guests.



# VETERANS ASSOCIATION



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

**Top photo: Earl Cook, Secretary, Linda Camponi, Canada, and Frank Tomkins, Metis Veteran. Bottom photo: Delegates of the December meeting of the National Metis Veterans Association.**

Council President, Gerald Morin and Metis Nation - Saskatchewan President, Clem Chartier, approached the federal government for action for the Métis veterans. This request was met and the negotiations for compensation have begun through this new organization, NMVA.

The fight for compensation of the traditional resource users of northwest Saskatchewan over the establishment of the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range in 1953 has brought forward similar questions by Canada on exactly who the Métis are and what numbers of Métis were affected and are due compensation. Unlike the First Nations, Métis veterans were not registered prior to their participation in the wars. In light of this, the NMVA has proposed an information gathering exercise to bring forward a response to Canada on these and other matters. Other outstanding issues are related to the amount of compensation now due in light of the years between service and compensation. The children of those veterans who did receive benefit at the end of the war are now the leading citizens of our country. They are the lawyers, teachers, bankers and farmers and business people that make our communities and nation strong, NMVA President Bruce Flamont, stated. Canada must somehow now weigh the loss for the veterans and their families, and determine the cost of reparation that would be required to correct this injustice. Canada has verbally agreed to fund the establishment of a permanent office to carry out this work, a task that will begin possibly as early as mid May. No funds have been received to date on this project. Flamont also stated that along with the receipt of full compensation, a formal apology to the Métis veterans in Canada for this treatment will also be sought.



## Ode To The Métis Veterans

<p>A Métis won't tell you The horror he's seen As comrades were facing That horrible scene</p> <p>And yet he could tell you Just what he fought for Your and my freedom Was the price of that war</p> <p>Instead he is thankful For good things in life And glad he has lived through The sorrow and strife</p> <p>He remembers his comrades</p>	<p>Each day he's been home And just for a moment His memory will roam</p> <p>To the time when they found them "Killed in Action" they said Two of his Metis But now they were dead</p> <p>They laid them on stretchers And moved to the rear He helped with the carry To a truck waiting near</p> <p>Did he do the wrong thing? Did he lead them astray?</p>	<p>Did he give the wrong order? It still haunts him today</p> <p>He clearly remembers How can he forget The last chance to see them Is a life long regret</p> <p>As they loaded the bodies He waved his Goodbyes But how could he see them Through the tears in his eyes</p> <p>Claude Adams</p>
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### Saskatchewan Métis Veterans Association (SMVA) AGM

As the vast majority of us (as a result of our age and culture) are more comfortable with oral dialogue as opposed to the written text, this written portion of the report will identify the pertinent events of this past year and will be verbalized in detail.

- Founding meeting (purpose)
- Organizing and meeting - Federal Minister (Batoche)
- Preparing and hosting founding meeting of National Métis Veterans Association (NMVA)
- Negotiating and signing off of (6) months research and compensation development project
- Next year (6 months) - Negotiating compensation package

In the event that we have enough time we may be able to discuss other issues such as:

- uniforms
- Legion - Métis vets relationship
- Wall of Honour

- other issues brought from the floor
- Funeral fund
- standardize protocol

In closing, I would like to say that notwithstanding our best efforts this last year that time is slipping by very quickly. It has been a very busy year and I am very proud and pleased to have worked with all of you this past year.

As you will appreciate, the next year promises to be more active and exciting, for it may be possible to bring the issue of Métis Veterans Compensation to a closure.

I thank you all for your support and look forward to the challenges that are before us.

In Solidarity

Bruce Flamont  
President



# Opening Ceremonies

## Indigenous Peoples Summit of the Americas, March 29, 2001



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MNC

### *Transcript of speech given by Gerald Morin*

Good morning - Elders, Leaders and Distinguished Guests,

On behalf of the Métis Nation in Canada, it is my sincere honour to welcome you all to this very important international Summit. We are here over the next couple of days to work together on issues of extreme importance to all of us.

Until the late 19th Century, the Métis were a self-sufficient people.

We created our own economy, and played an important role in the economy of Canada as well. Historically, the Métis have always been free traders and nation builders. We were well established in Canada and by the standards of the day, were prosperous and self-governing peoples.

Since the late 19th Century, we have descended from a prosperous, self-sufficient and self-governing people, to a dispossessed people whose lands have been swindled away, despite the fact that our title to the land was never extinguished. Like

many Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, we too are a landless people.

As a matter of fact, often times we find ourselves playing 'catch-up'. For us in the Métis Nation, as is the case with many Indigenous nations in the world, we are engaged in a battle for fundamental human rights for the Métis Nation nationally and internationally. We are not only engaged in a struggle for rights, but we are also engaged in a struggle for recognition and respect as a nation of people in Canada and as an indigenous nation in the



world community. Governments seem to be in denial. And hopefully next time in a forum like this the Minister will stick around long enough or we will have a minister of the crown, who will hear out the interests and the aspirations and indeed those of various nations throughout the Americas.

We have played a significant role in the building of this country, but have never reaped the benefits afforded to other Canadians. Because we have no land, we have

no control over the development of the natural resources on those traditional territories.

Our people are being arrested for practicing our traditional harvesting rights to hunting and fishing. Our people have been forced for many years to hide in the bush just so that they can feed their families, be Métis, exercise their culture, and exercise those rights. Our only recourse unfortunately, has for addressing our rights has been through the courts. Most recently,

in the highest court of this province has recognized for the first time, the Métis as a people. Legally, that we exist as a people. Our rights exist and that they are affirmed in the highest law of the land which is the Constitution of Canada. And those courts have ordered the governments to negotiate with us to implement our rights in this country.

Unfortunately, the negative backlash we receive when we do win a court case reveals the level of ignorance of average Canadians towards our issues and our rights. Governments, and the dominant society they represent discuss our issues and our rights amongst themselves as though we are inconsequential to the decisions being made.

And it is this concern that I share with many of you here today. That when the Organization of American States meets next month in Quebec City that our issues and our concerns will be inconsequential to any decisions being made. We need to send a clear message to the OAS – that ALL of the Indigenous Peoples in the Americas will stand in solidarity against aggression upon our peoples and our rights. We need to send a message that we will support each other by applying international pressure on governments and that we will use every international instrument, including international judicial bodies to protect our rights. All decisions being made without our input no matter how well intentioned, cannot simply be tolerated.

The Métis Nation understands also, the importance of promoting and nurturing the relationships we form at such international forums. The



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MNC

**Inuit Elder Maria Brazeau signs declaration.**



social and economic issues for all of us are so varying – and it may appear that we in Canada may be better off than some Indigenous Peoples in Central and South America – and indeed that is true, in some cases. But we can help each other. For example, we need your help pressuring Canada to sign such declarations such as ILO 169. And we can form united bonds that apply international pressure to the nation states for the protection of all of our rights.

A month from now, the Organization of American States (OAS) is about to propose a new trade and economic regime in Quebec City. As the host, Canada has an important role to play. Canada's ability to assert influence in the Americas will continue to depend on Canada's credibility with Indigenous Peoples here at

home and abroad.

In 1991, the OAS entered in force the International Labour Organization's (ILO) # 169 *Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples*. Thus far, 13 other countries have ratified this convention; Canada is not one of them.

In addition, the *U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity. Article 8(j)* of the Convention obligates states to protect and maintain indigenous peoples' traditional ecological knowledge and resource-management practices and traditional land uses of living resources – This refers to hunting, fishing and other harvesting rights, and the knowledge we may have on our traditional medicines, plants or animals which we use for medicinal purposes. Canada has not implemented these provisions of the

Convention legislatively, nor is there a proper process in place to involve Aboriginal peoples in drafting the legislation here at home.

Canada's creditability in this Hemisphere increasingly depends on its ratification and implementation of ILO Convention 169, as well as effective steps to implement Article 8(j) of the *Convention on Biological Diversity* through domestic legislation.

In regards to free trade:

As I said before, the Métis have historically been free traders. Indeed in the Sayer trial of 1849 we successfully challenged the Hudson's Bay Company in Rupert's land which for all intensive purposes was the government at the time where we won a court battle and a hundred of our people surrounded



Tony Belcourt, President of the Metis Nation of Ontario.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MNC



the court house with rifles and ammunition and the court unfortunately had to convict Mr. Sayer, but very wisely, gave him an absolute discharge. We have seen this as a tremendous victory for free trade rights for our people in North America. Yet we have not benefited from the contemporary version of Free-trade outlined in NAFTA. From Mobility rights, the cross border movement of our people is still not recognized by the Governments of Canada or the United States even though there is a the Jay Treaty in place. We continue to be a marginalized and excluded from Government and Corporate interests. And we find it unacceptable to have the rest of society grow and prosper as the dispossession of our peoples and our cultures continue to exist.

As the OAS proposes to bring about

a free trade agreement of the Americas — we are in an important position as the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. We demand that any new agreement will not continue — unless fundamental human rights including the right of self-determination are not only recognized but also put into real and practical terms.

Free trade agreements cannot only accommodate the multinationals. We need to put into practical terms how Aboriginal business and trade can be accommodated. And how our intellectual property rights and traditional knowledge can be protected and enhanced.

Nation States are not generous towards the Indigenous peoples in the recognition of our rights. Anything we have today is because we had to fight to retain it.

Finally we are encouraged and are willing to work with the Indigenous Peoples and the Nation States in putting in place the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; in the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples within the UN; and of the draft Declaration of the OAS as well.

In this new millennium, its time we the Indigenous Peoples are included and are treated fairly and justly especially when it comes to our right of self-determination. We are optimistic that our meeting here will not be in vain, that we can work together, forge new friendships with each other and put in place something both our elders and our children can be proud of for generations to come.

Macsi



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MNS

**The President of the Metis National Council Youth Advisory Council, Lute Calder, meets delegates.**



## Prince Of Wales Visits Saskatoon

Story By Kathy Hodgson-Smith

On Saturday, April 28th, the His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, Prince Charles, visited Saskatoon as part of his sojourn in Saskatchewan. As part of his visit, Clem Chartier, President of the Métis Nation, received an invitation to attend a supper in Regina on April 26th, hosted by the Lieutenant Governor Linda Haverstock, and the Premier's Luncheon in Saskatoon. One of the objectives of the Royal Visit was to visit with Saskatchewan, to connect with Aboriginal people, to promote youth development and to support the development of environmentally-friendly landscapes and communities. President Chartier was traveling home from a Métis National Council Board of Governors meeting in Kananaskis, Alberta during the Lieutenant Governor's engagement in Regina but did attend the Premier's luncheon held at the Renaissance Hotel in Saskatoon. There were about 300 guests present from various walks of life, including the Premier and Mrs. Calvert, Leader of the Opposition Elwin Hermanson, past Premier Roy Romanow, Aboriginal Affairs Minister Pat Lorje, Police Chief Lorne Scott and Mrs. Scott, and many others. The Métis were officially represented by Métis Nation - Saskatchewan President Clem Chartier, with Education Minister Dale McAuley and Mrs. McAuley also in attendance from Cumberland House. Prince Charles and guests were entertained by Métis singer and actress Andrea Menard who sang two songs from the Batoche Musical that was premiered at the Batoche 2000 event. She proudly wore



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

**Métis singer Andrea Menard, President Clem Chartier, Prince of Wales, with Jack Walton and Premier Lorne Calvert in the background.**

her Métis sash and her beautiful voice brought a hush to the room as she sang about the fear and pride of a young Métis girl who mourned for her loved one who went off to fight in the Battle of Batoche, to fight for the rights of the Métis. She sang without musical accompaniment. Other entertainment was provided by the Ukrainian Dancers and various musicians. The Prince had to leave the luncheon early without any dessert, most notably, to attend to a gathering at the weir and then on to a two-hour visit at Wanuskewin.

It was a very formal engagement, "business attire" the invitation read. The Métis were a visible presence displaying the rich beadwork of our Elders and the vibrant sash. Upon entrance to the luncheon, the Premier brought the Prince forward to introduce him to President Clem Chartier who shared brief words with him, presenting him with a gift of a sash for his

lapel. There was time for one photo only. President Chartier, as part of his attire, wore a beaded jacket and pair of beaded moccasins earlier received as a gift from Métis Elder George Larivière, one of the few remaining living Elders still awaiting compensation for displacement from the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range. A copy of the Métis Veterans book published by the Gabriel Dumont Institute was also inscribed and left as a gift for Prince Charles noted "As a memorandum of the contribution of the Métis Nation to the betterment of the world," an issue which remains as well unsettled. I couldn't help but think that perhaps, if the work is continued and Métis are successful in finding recognition of the constitutionally-protected Métis rights as Aboriginal people in Canada, on the next visit of Royalty, they could make one final stop at Batoche and share with us in celebrating the beauty of Saskatchewan and the contribution of the Métis in this achievement.



# A Hidden Home-grown Success in Métis Publishing

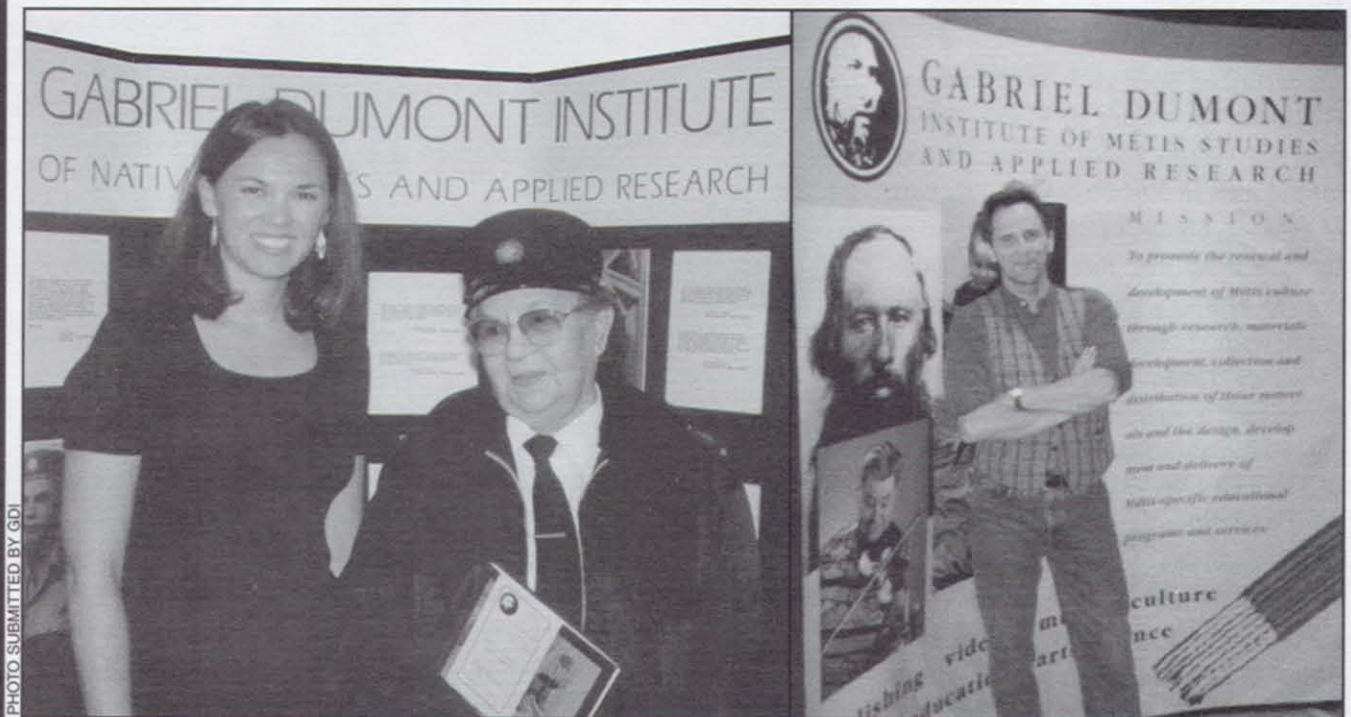


PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GDI

Left: Leah Dorion-Paquin and Edith Merrifield at Métis Veterans book launch. Right: Don Freed at Cumberland House.

Story By Leah Dorion-Paquin

Few people in Saskatchewan know that since 1985, the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) has developed Métis-specific resources for teachers, Métis programs, communities and organizations. Our Publishing Department arose because very few resources accurately portrayed the role Métis people played in building Canada. Calvin Racette remembers the early challenges facing the Department when he stated that, "We had very little funding so we took a chance and approached Saskatchewan Education to do a series of small booklets about Métis people and the success of this pilot project helped get the Institute started in

the publishing field." The Institute has now produced over fifty publications and continues to release new resources every year. Eleven of our publications have been evaluated by educators and placed on Saskatchewan Education's recommended resource list for Saskatchewan schools. Our publishing mandate is:

- To inform the public about Métis history and culture in an accessible manner.
- To provide the public with a culturally appropriate overview of Métis history and culture by producing audio,

audio-visual and multimedia resources, books and posters from a Métis perspective.

- To promote and publish the works of emerging Métis artists and illustrators.
- To build partnerships with like-minded educators, community groups, non-profit agencies, government departments and to ensure a strong Métis presence in decision-





making bodies affecting book publishing, education and heritage issues.

- To put all sales revenues back into our non-profit publishing program.

We have always been proud of the quality of our resources. Nevertheless, it has always been a struggle to be recognized by society as a bona fide publisher. Our recognition as a publisher has continually grown in 1997 we were accepted as a member of the Saskatchewan Publishers Group. Since that time, two books, *Remembrances: Interviews with Métis Veterans* and *Changes* were nominated for Saskatchewan Book Awards. In many ways our publishing program contributes to the development of the Métis writing community as we have employed numerous contract workers such as external reviewers, editors, researchers and translators. Maintaining connections with the



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GDI

**Don Freed working with Students at Cumberland House.**

to us and we continue to operate a community display program. During the past year, you may have seen us at events such as the AWASIS Education Conference, Back to Batoche Days, and the Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival.

This past year we had great success with accessing grants to improve the Institute's publishing program. In fact, creative fundraising has allowed many of our projects to successfully come to fruition. For

enced major productivity due partially to the Michif Language Initiative and the Métis Cultural Centre Initiative which is granted through the Privy Council Office of the federal government under the direction of the Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Natural Resources and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians.

This initiative had a major impact on our publishing program resulting in financial support for several of our projects. Some of the projects that have emerged from this initiative include the production of a traditional Métis fiddle music compact disc and book. This book will have sheet music, biographies, a few stories, and a history of the Métis fiddle tunes. This resource will be useful for teaching traditional Métis fiddle tunes and dances. This resource will be available in the fall and we hope to see you at one of our future release parties.

Department staff are developing a new study prints series to follow up on the success of our first set. A vast assortment of images have been col-



SUBMITTED BY GDI

Métis community is very important instance, this year we have experi-





lected from institutions such as the Hudson Bay's Company Archives, the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, and the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The first set of prints on Métis material culture, developed with the assistance of artist and writer Sherry Farrell-Racette, will be released in the fall of 2001.

Another one of our priorities is to develop Michif language resources for the K-12 educational system and for the Métis community as very few educational resources exist in Michif. To fill this void the Department has previously completed the first known Michif video entitled, *Li Michif: Kakee-Payshee-Peekishkwaiwuk-Oma*. To follow up on the success of the first video work has started on a second tenta-

tively entitled, *Our Life on the Road Allowance*, which will feature the Michif-speaking community of Crescent Lake near Yorkton. We continue to work on the post-production, narration, translation and editing of this video footage. The video footage collected to date will form the basis for many future projects such as books, instructional materials and video vignettes. We have also printed a Michif poster to raise awareness about the importance of this language. The Department will also continue to identify and interview Michif speakers.

Another of our main priorities is to develop and promote Métis-specific children's books for K-4. We have significantly improved in this area

with resources such as the *Sasquatch Exterminator*, *Changes*, *The Turtle's Teachings*, and *My Family*. As a result of these activities, the Institute has become the most active Canadian publisher of Métis-specific children's books.

The Department also continues to publish educational and informative Métis-specific books for youth, adults and the Métis community. One of our on-going major projects is the Métis Oral History book, which was started with developmental funds from the Métis Cultural Centre Initiative. The goal of this project is to develop an oral history tentatively entitled, *Stories of Our People*. This book will be a unique and important contribution to Canadian historiography (or the



Book launch at Cumberland House.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GDI





corpus of history books and essays) because it will be the first comprehensive oral history of the Saskatchewan Métis.

A major joint initiative between the GDI and the Louis Riel Institute is the *Métis Legacy* book project, which will be released in July. *Métis Legacy* is the most comprehensive annotated bibliography of Métis secondary sources available and is the expanded version of *Resources for Métis Researchers*. It will contain numerous original research essays explaining key aspects of Métis history that are not represented in Canadian history books.

We are continuously striving to accomplish our goal of creating a diverse body of multimedia and visual resources for the K-12 system and for the Métis community. The Department has developed a new poster series called, *Learning for Generations to Come*, which is a tribute to the role GDI has played in supporting and developing Métis education during the past twenty years. In addition, we now distribute the 1885 Resistance Standard

that was raised during the Battle of Batoche.

Forthcoming Department projects include a proposed virtual museum of Métis history and culture. This unique resource will allow our community to access our many valuable collections through the Internet. Another project that is being developed is entitled *Bulrush Helps the Pond*, by Ken Carriere. This resource will synthesize Traditional Knowledge with western science and will be in both Swampy Cree and English. The Department continues to liaise with the Métis community and educators about future projects. We have received suggestions to develop a book on the Métis scrip system and an anthology of Métis academic readings to replace the *New Peoples: Being and Becoming Métis* published by the University of Manitoba Press, which is currently out of print.

Sales for this past fiscal year were at an unprecedented all-time high. This can largely be attributed to our many new products such as the full colour catalogue, and the Institute's

ecommerce/website site, which had over 100,000 hits during the past twelve months ([www.gdins.org/ecom](http://www.gdins.org/ecom)). Our biggest milestone this year was the completion of the *Metis: Our People: Our Story* CDROM, which was officially launched at the Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival on September 1, 2000.

The current staff of the Publishing Department include Leah Dorion (Coordinator), Darren Préfontaine (Curriculum Developer), and Blanche Gerigher (Clerk-steno). We are also pleased to have the following three students work with us this summer as research assistants: Cheryl Troupe, Herb Lafferty, and Lilah Morin. Book publishing, while the most important aspect of our operations, is not the only activity that the Department specializes in. We collect and assess photographs, and various forms of primary and secondary documents relating to Métis history and culture.

Since 1985, the Department has moved away from being a curriculum development unit into being a full-fledged professional book publisher dedicated to ensuring a strong Métis voice in the book publishing industry. The future should continue to be positive for the Department and we anticipate many challenges, and will continue to produce a fine compliment of timely resources. Come a visit us in June when we move to our new location at 917-22nd Street West, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7M-0R9. Check out our website at [www.gdins.org](http://www.gdins.org) to view our new products or give us a call to set up at display at one of your community events this summer.



**Darren Préfontaine and Leah Dorion-Paquin at the PA Metis Fall Festival display for the publishing department.**

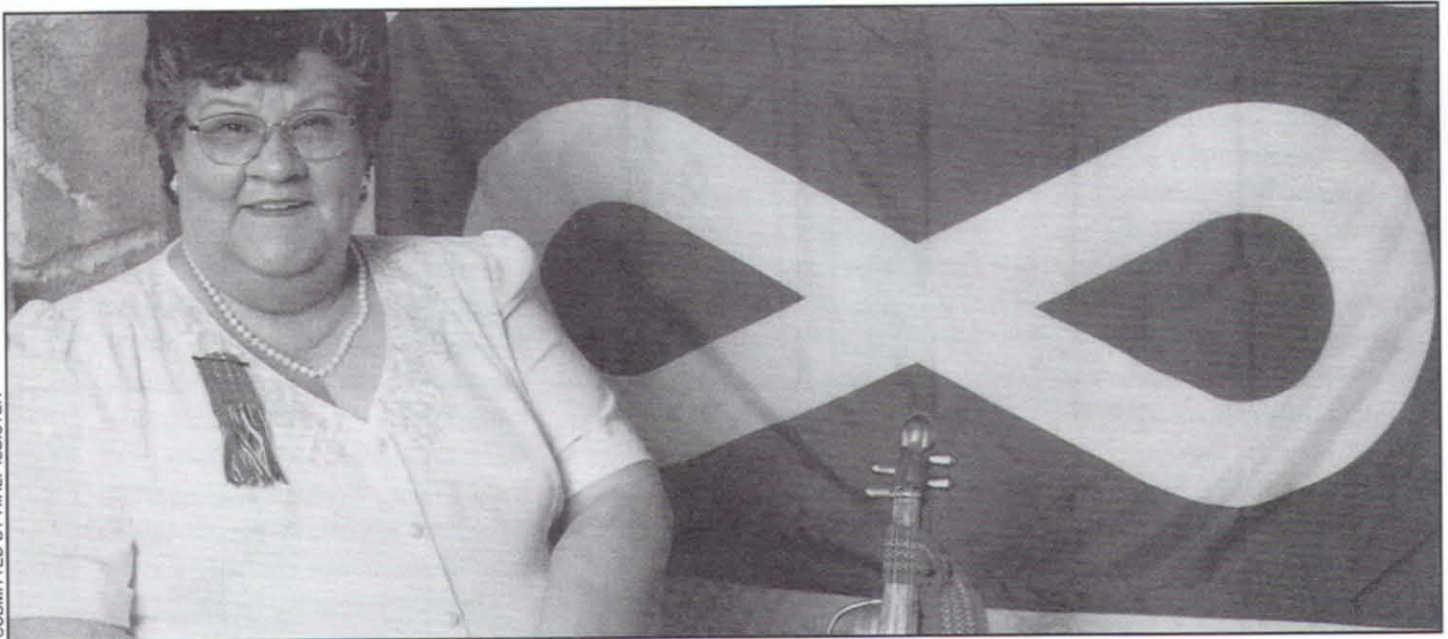
[www.GDINS.org](http://www.GDINS.org)





# RECOGNITION

## Congratulations to Emilie Zaritsky: Educator of Distinction



SUBMITTED BY HIRLY ISBISTER

Story By Shirley Isbister

Emilie Zaritsky was honoured with the Educator of Distinction Award on March 16th, 2001, presented by the Saskatoon Pre-School Foundation. Emilie has been a foster parent for 15 years. She spends much of her time on activities with her children. Emilie is on the Board of Directors for Western Region Métis Women IIA and is a member of Central Urban Métis Federation Inc (CUMFI) Local 165. Emilie has two grown children, Michelle and Jason, and two grandchildren. Her four girls - Keleigh, Chrystal, Lindsay and Brittny - keep her life active and fulfilled. What makes this award so special is that she was nominated by Dawn, the mother of three of the girls who had also been a member of Emilie's foster family. Emilie feels that foster parents should welcome natural parents as much as possible. This creates harmony between foster parents and natural parents and creates a true sense of belonging for the children. Congratulations to Emilie!

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## Lorraine Hessdorfer Wins Sterling Award for Volunteers

Story By Shirley Isbister

**L**orraine Hessdorfer was the recipient of the Sterling Award at the 11th annual Silver Spoon Dinner on May 7th, 2001, at the Centennial Auditorium. The award is given every year by the Agudas Isreal Congregation and the Hadassah Wizo Charitable Organization for volunteer service to the community. Lorraine is the secretary of Central Urban Métis Federation Inc. (CUMFI) Local 165 and Western Region Métis Women IIA in Saskatoon. She volunteers at every Local event and for many other charitable endeavors. Lorraine Hessdorfer has been married to Cliff Hessdorfer for 47 years. They have three daughters - Janet, Debbie and Lorie - six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She helps instill pride in our Métis community, demonstrates leadership and is a role model for all of us.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY SHIRLY ISBISTER

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For further information,  
 please contact Jack Walton  
 (306) 668-8514

## Jeff Schaefer: Honouring Our Métis Youth

Story By Shirley Isbister

**J**eff Schaefer is a Métis youth who stood as Honour Guard for Prince Charles during his tour of Regina. Jeff is a member of the H.M.C.S Unicorn. He is a fourth year student at the University of Regina, taking social work. He plays fast-ball for the University of Saskatchewan Misfits and is a member of the Central Urban Métis Federation Inc, Local 165. Jeff completed his first practicum at Kilbourn Hall in Saskatoon. In the future he hopes to work with young offenders. Jeff feels that family is the most important thing in his life. He is the primary caregiver for his grandparents, Anthony and Theresa Schaefer. In the summer, he roofs with his dad, Bernie. Jeff is a role model for all youth and we wish him continued success in the future.



# MANITOBA ASSEMBLY

## 2001 Manitoba Métis Federation Annual General Assembly

Story By Will Goodon

The Manitoba Métis Federation 2001 Annual General Assembly was a positive and information-packed experience for Métis delegates from across Manitoba. On March 23 - 25, 2001, Métis people descended upon Winnipeg to discuss the direction of the MMF and the vision of the Métis Nation.

"I appreciated meeting new friends and getting reacquainted with old friends," said MMF President David Chartrand. "The 2001 Annual General Assembly was an exercise in self-government. It was one of the most important opportunities for the Métis people to provide guidance to the Board of Directors, MMF Staff, and to myself."

PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH



Manitoba Metis President David Chartrand speaks at Batoche July 1999.

Workshops and other interactive seminars were hosted to allow the exchange of ideas to flow. Issues such as justice, children & families, housing, economic development and employment training were key topics for the three-day meeting. Other areas of discussion included Michif language, education, natural resources, health, sports & recreation, and youth. Metis definition was also a topic that saw much discussion.

One of the Assembly highlights from the past few years is the Métis Family Night, which was held on Friday, March 23rd. This year's event was filled with many activities as Métis people were jigging, fiddling, singing and taking part in some good, old-fashioned Métis fun.

During the past few months, the MMF Constitution Committee has been traveling throughout Manitoba speaking and listening to concerned Métis citizens. Discussion about the MMF Constitution, how it serves the Métis Nation and issues of improvement was on the agenda at this Assembly. The MMF urged all Métis to think seriously about building a Constitution that will not only serve us, but will bring hope to the next generation.

The 2001 Annual General Assembly was an opportunity to get to know our Métis brothers and sisters from across our great province. It also allowed us to provide direction and guidance to the MMF Board of Directors as they

seek to lead us down a path that will bring the Métis Nation to its rightful position in Manitoba and Canada.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Métis Federation, I thank you for participating fully in the 2001 Annual General Assembly," stated President Chartrand. "Let's all begin this new century like true Métis. This Assembly laid the foundation for our children and grandchildren. So many issues are at stake as we step into the next chapter of the Métis Nation. I thank you for your advice on the direction of YOUR organization. For the causes our ancestors fought and died for, let's not let them down. Let's not let our children down."



# NATIONAL METIS WOMEN

## Changes on the horizon for the Métis Women Secretariat



Story By Christi Belcourt

Ottawa — Métis women met in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan April 7 & 8th, and elected Lisa McCallum, Métis activist and businesswomen from Saskatchewan as their new spokesperson for the Métis Women's Secretariat of the Métis National Council.

The following is an excerpt from part of the presentation she made to the assembly:

*"When I was a little girl I remember the 'out of towns' people coming to our land and setting up camp. They were getting ready to go fishing or hunting. The families would settle in for a month or so. Our land was on the bay, and the families would set up their tents on the land next to the water.*

*My grandmother would help the women settle in and prepare their workspace such as the smoke shacks. I remember the women would prepare all the fish and meat to can. They would store them in a cooling pit until it was time to travel in the boats back home. The day of return of the men the women were all prepared for a big feast before traveling back to their communities. As the season's changed the families continued to come and gather on our land.*

*My grandmother would tell me stories of our people needing to be strong and working together so we are not relying on the white man's ways. One day a white man with one of the town's people came to talk to my grandmother. When the men left my grandmother became very sad. She talked with her kids and told them that the men requested that she move*

*to a house right in the community. This would mean we did not have a garden and no families that lived with us throughout the different seasons. She said the town was going to build a park on the land and a swimming area for the children.*

*The day of our move I remember standing in the doorway viewing the house with my grandmother and thinking these people are crazy to think we can live in this house. This house was small and had no upstairs and no lake to look at as you ate your meal waiting for company to pull up with the boats or snow bugs. This was a sad day.*

*After moving in my grandmother told me of my grandfathers words, they went like this: 'we need to keep our land and rights as a people and not allow the newcomers to tell us what we can't do and what we can do. We need to continue to fish, hunt and trap as a people this is our livelihood. It is our land, our traplines, each family has their area for fishing'. My grandmother continued by telling me of the medicines she would pick for the family. And she said the women would go and pick the medicines together.*

*Back then we had our roles defined. But the times have changed and women's roles have become more active in many ways. We as Métis women today have stated we want to be involved with the regional, provincial and national level. Now we need to define our role as a women's organization and our role in Métis self-governance.*

*The Métis have always had strong*

*family values. We need to remember that Métis self-governance is not about dollars and programs. Self-governance is about cultural values, our relationship with the land, how we grow food and sustain and feed our families".*

Lisa will be a strong proponent of Métis Women's issues nationally, and as Maryann Gagnon, President of the Métis Women of Saskatchewan puts it: "Knowing the history and background of Lisa's work and what she had done for the Métis Women of Saskatchewan, she has been able to move the Métis Women of Saskatchewan forward a lot faster than we had anticipated. She has the ability and skills to bring people together, and we are going to need that experience in order to move the Secretariat and the Métis Nation Agenda forward."

Since being elected only four weeks ago, Lisa has already secured several meetings with key federal Ministers and departments to discuss possible funding and projects for the MWS. She is determined and carries with her a positive outlook on life. One can only expect to hear more and more from the MWS in the upcoming year.

If you would like to become involved with the Métis Women's Secretariat or for further information on the MWS, please contact:

Lisa McCallum, National  
Spokesperson  
Métis Women's Secretariat  
c/o 350 Sparks St., Suite 201, Ottawa,  
ON, K1R 7S8  
Phone: 613-232-3216  
Fax: 613-232-4262



# INTERVIEW

## Remembering Our Community Members: An Interview With Warren Goulding

Story By Kathy Hodgson-Smith

Warren Goulding, a career journalist from Saskatoon, has recently published a book on the issue of Aboriginal women who have gone missing or have lost their lives as victims of violent crimes. Although the count remains unofficial, it is suspected that as many as 500 Aboriginal women are listed as missing persons in western Canada alone. As part of his work as a reporter in 1996, Goulding covered the trial of John Martin Crawford and the matter of the three Aboriginal women who died at his hands – Shelley Napope; Calinda Waterhen; Eva Taysup. Just the summer before, Goulding recalled the intense media coverage of the Bernardo trial in Toronto where victims Leslie Mahaffy and Kristen French, two middle-class non-Aboriginal women were mourned. The national media coverage of this earlier trial brought Goulding to wonder what was different from the Saskatchewan trial which was not picked up by any television stations. Crimes, he says, are private until the media picks them up and then they become public domain. Crown Prosecutor, Terry Hinz, in Goulding's book, explains that the media responds to victims it can empathize with. Goulding says that mainstream public is not given a chance to empathize with these Aboriginal women because of the portrayal they are given in what little

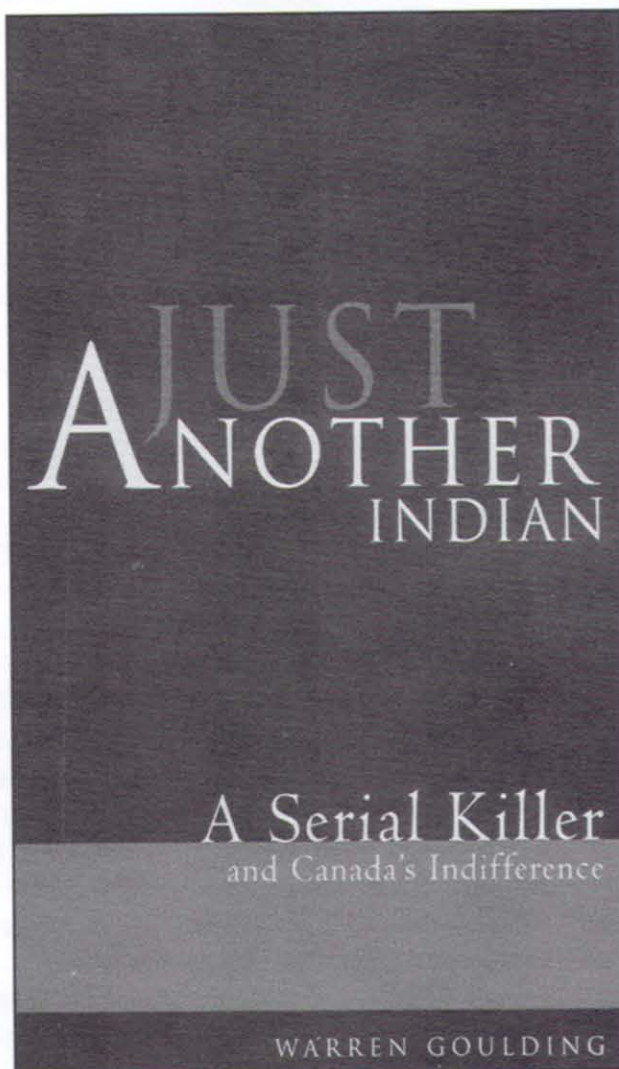
media coverage they receive.

As a veteran journalist, Goulding believes that the issues of Aboriginal people in the media should be front and center, should promote unity not dissention between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. There is comfort in the public domain that the vio-

crimes are a threat to all women, regardless of race and circumstance. Goulding hopes that his book will give media a wake up call to the stories of Aboriginal women who deserve more respect and attention as members of our communities. "We cannot have two communities in this world where the residents of one are not valued as is the other. We need to build one community that has room for all," he says. The media can play an important role in this task of bringing the public together.

This book finds its way to the bookshelves at an important time in Saskatchewan's history, with the call for a Justice Inquiry by the Métis Nation and Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations leadership. The violent crimes of this past winter, with the freezing deaths of Wegner and Naystoos, have brought public awareness to the struggles of Aboriginal peoples to find safety and security in our communities. Saskatchewan Justice Minister Chris Axworthy has begun talks with both Aboriginal governments to determine how the issues can best be addressed.

Along with others in his book, Goulding remembers Pamela George from Regina, Helen Betty Osborne in The Pas, Mary Jane Serloin, Fort MacLeod, Shelley Lonethunder from White Bear First Nation, Cynthia Baldhead of One Arrow First Nation and Janet Sylvestre of La Loche.



Warren Goulding's new novel.

lent crimes against these women were because of a dangerous lifestyle as opposed to the fact that these violent



# Tripartite Progress Report of the Métis Women of Saskatchewan

Story By MaryAnn Gagnon

The MNS Tripartite Unit Sub-committee on Métis Women's perspectives (SWP) met as a full sub-committee on January 4th and 5th, 2001 in Saskatoon to receive full updates on the activities undertaken to date and to provide feedback and direction on the future. As the Métis Women's Tripartite Coordinator (TC), I reported on the MNS Tripartite Management Committee meeting held in Prince Albert, Sask. on December 4th and 5th, including sharing my thoughts on the positive progress at the Tripartite Management Committee (TMC) meetings. I was pleased that I was able to give a two fold report on the Métis Women's Perspectives activities, as this allows the TMC the opportunity to see progress with the Métis Women's move forward on the governance initiatives. As well I gave a brief update on the progress of the ongoing community consultation with respect to the tripartite process utilizing the developed working tool to educate the Métis women at a community level.

A consultant was retained by the SWP to undertake the community consultations across the province and provided a presentation to the full sub-committee on the final report in regards to the tripartite process. She talked about the process and how do we as Métis women fit in with the governance initiatives such as Métis governance, Northern Project, urban gover-

nance, justice and economic development. A final report of the findings was distributed to the full sub-committee for feedback. We also reviewed the proposed 2001 - 2002 Métis Women's Perspectives Tripartite Workplan. There was detailed discussion of the workplace deliverables and how the Métis Women's Perspectives would meet these deliverables, a discussion that ended in the ratification of the Workplan. There was great discussion around the governance initiatives.

The executive members of the SWP held a meeting on March 24th and 25th in Prince Albert. As the TC to receive an update on activities since the last executive sub-committee meeting. We reviewed the 2001 - 2002 Métis Women's Perspectives Tripartite Workplan that was submitted to the MNS Tripartite Unit. The executive had productive discussions and also found that the review of the Workplan gave the sub-committee a better understanding of the deliverables in each of the quarters. As an ongoing process the SWP will be developing a strategic plan that will be attached to the Workplan that assist the Métis Women in meeting the deliverables.

## Northern Project:

Bev Laliberte is the representative of the SWP for the Northern Project initiative. Bev has reported that there was a meeting held in Ile-a-la-Crosse on January 9th, 2001. At this

meeting Bev put forth the question of what is the role of the Métis Women on the Northern Project, and requested further information from the representative of the Northwest Saskatchewan Municipalities Association, one of the two partners in the Northern Project along with the Northwest Saskatchewan Metis Council. It was suggested that the Métis women might be interested in the current justice programs and committees. Bev also indicated that the SWP would like to work with the Northern Project to get involved with the police boards. It was also suggested that the SWP may need to consider having two representatives participate in the Northern Project initiative. It was suggested that possibly there should be a women representative from each of the two regions on the northwest side. Bev also stated that the women are not interested in the political level of the Northern Project, but rather are more interested in educating themselves and looking for employment.

## Métis Urban Governance

Kim Laliberte is the SWP representative for this initiative. Kim expressed a concern over the lack of communication at the women's level. Kim feels that as far as a role for the women on this initiative there has been no impact for the women as there has been no inclusion for participation. Kim feels that the women need to go back and look at the goals of the Métis urban gov-



ernance, then look at how the SWP can participate in a meaningful way, perhaps by lobbying the Ministers responsible for the Métis urban governance initiative to allow SWP to become more actively involved. We need to make it clear to the urban councils that the Métis women only want the opportunity to represent Métis women within the province and to ensure equitable participation. Back in December 2000, I had the opportunity to speak to the Minister of the urban governance initiative and expressed the women's concerns of not being fully included. The then Minister Wayne Trotchie assured the women that the Métis Urban Council of Saskatchewan would work with the Métis Women representative and that it was important to work together.

**Métis Rural Governance**

The Métis Women's Perspectives representative for this initiative is myself, MaryAnn Gagnon. There has been no sub-committee meeting for this initiative in this quarter. As the representative of this initiative I will need to engage in more discussions with the SWP to look at how we will participate in this initiative.

**Justice Stand Alone TaskForce**

Karen Trotchie is the Métis Women's Perspective representative on the Justice Stand Alone Taskforce Initiative. Karen has indicated that there has been no movement in this initiative. There has been no sub-committee meetings scheduled during this quarter. Karen made contact with the Minister responsible for this initiative and feels that this initiative is very important. She has expressed the need to implement justice programs



PHOTO BY CLEM CHARTIER

**Photo taken at National Metis Women conference, showing women leaders from across the Metis homeland.**

and services for our women and youth. We need to address some of the justice issues that are presently effecting our youth.

**Economic Development Stand Alone Taskforce**

MaryAnn Gagnon is the representative on the Economic Development Standalone Taskforce initiative. There have been no sub-committee meetings called yet. Again the Métis women feel this initiative is a very important initiative. We feel that women play an important role in the economics of our communities and should have full participation at the discussion tables.

The topic of ongoing education tool being utilized by the SWP needs ongoing attention and support. As I mentioned in the past there needs to be more education given on a community level to gather feedback from the women at a community level. Increasing awareness and understanding remain the challenge. The negotiations must be ongoing. The Métis Women have put a lot of energy into this work and are becoming more and more clear of their roles within each of the governance initiatives. We are pleased with the work that has been accomplished to date and, most importantly, to have the support of the Tripartite Management Committee.



## Working in the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Tripartite Unit

Story By Tristan K Zachow

I have seen and learned a lot working in the Intergovernmental Affairs Unit for the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan for one year eight months now. The Métis Nation - Saskatchewan holds agreements with both levels of government - federal and provincial. My responsibilities to the tripartite and bilateral agreements are to work for the inclusion of the perspectives of both Métis Women and Métis Youth. As part of the work of the bilateral plan, we focus on developing increased involvement of the Métis Nation in matters of health, housing and social development. A lot of my time and efforts are spent reading federal, provincial, legal and policy documents.

I work closely and diligently with the portfolio's I have been assigned by the

MNS Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Allan Morin. Minister Morin provides consistent guidance as we advocate with the provincial and federal departments towards self-governance for Métis. In our unit we make a conscious effort to address the governance issues, and not to get involved in program and service matters. We consider issues such as: how we can get involved with policy development involving Métis or how we can implement the Métis perspective.

Through our two agreements with government, we have work plans with detailed deliverables which must be achieved in order for our portfolio's to continue to receive funding. The deliverables in each work plan are defined in each quarter of the fiscal year; and must be achieved in each respective quarter. To ensure that the provincial

and federal partners, as well as the Intergovernmental Affairs Unit are kept up to date, each portfolio is required to submit reports on their activity for the past three months. These reports are submitted to our Unit and presented to Minister Morin. Once Minister Morin approves the document, it is presented to the Tripartite Management Committee (TMC) at the quarterly meeting. The TMC consists of three partners, 1) Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, 2) Saskatchewan Department of Aboriginal Affairs, and the 3) Government of Canada, Federal Interlocutor, represented by the Privy Council Office.

For more information on the Tripartite Unit e-mail me at [tzachow.mns@sk.sympatico.ca](mailto:tzachow.mns@sk.sympatico.ca)

## MNS Tripartite Process

Story By Roger Parent

Allan Morin, MNS Treasurer, continues to lead the tripartite process as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs. The 2000 - 2001 Tripartite Work Plan closed out March 31, 2001 with initiatives well under way in the Northern Project, the Métis Urban Council of Saskatchewan, as well as ground work on the Provincial Governance strategy, and tripartite internal development.

With representatives from the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, and the gov-

ernments of Canada and Saskatchewan, Tripartite initiatives have made excellent progress to date. Regular discussions are held, which lead to the development of practical results for Métis citizens across the province.

The Northern Project (NP) successfully developed a five-year Blueprint For Devolution which has been accepted by Canada and Saskatchewan as the plan under which future work will be conducted in this governance initiative for North West Saskatchewan. Other

work developed included a new Tripartite two-year strategic work plan for the north west which best meets community needs. The Northern Project started the 2000 - 2001 year with Gerald Regan as NP Coordinator. Gerald left his duties in the spring of 2000 to pursue a career with the forest fire management. After several months of searching the northern project committee hired Yvonne Vizina as the new Northern Project Coordinator. Since Yvonne has been working in this capacity a revised workplan has been implemented which more closely



# TRIPARTITE

meets the needs of the northern communities.

The Métis Urban Council of Saskatchewan is continuing its developmental process. Local presidents and Area Directors representing Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Regina, and North Battleford meet to discuss issues facing urban Métis people. A two-year Tripartite work plan has been devel-

oped and plans are in the works to solidify the structure of the Council, and develop long-term plans with practical, achievable results. The past Associate Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs responsible for Urban Governance, Mr. Wayne Trotchie, played a large role in the development of the federal government's aboriginal homelessness initiative. Since Mr Trotchie's departure

urban Métis Local presidents have been working hard at writing proposals that will meet the criteria set out by the federal government in accessing federal Aboriginal homelessness dollars. Mr. Albert Delaire will assume the role of Minister responsible for Urban Governance on behalf of the Métis Nation, assisted by Mr. Ralph Kennedy.

## GRADUATION

### Ten Métis Graduate From University Of Saskatchewan Law Program

Story By Lorna Docken

At the Aboriginal Law Students graduation, ten Métis were honored with sashes presented by Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Vice-President Lorna Docken and Metis lawyer Marc Leclair. Among the graduates is Michelle Harding, deputy speaker and past Minister of Education for the MNS.. Harding served on the Provincial Métis Council as Regional Director for Northern Region I (La Ronge) from 1995-1998. She has been a busy lady with her studies and two active children as well as being the President of

the Law Students Association (LSA). The LSA had a productive and fun year under her leadership. Harding is the first Métis to have served as leader of the student body.

The graduates were relieved to have the University part of their studies behind them and look forward to their articling positions and careers in law. Master of Ceremonies Albert Angus entertained the crowd with his great sense of humor and brought back memories of the struggles of law school to the crowd of family members and lawyers in attendance. He stressed the

importance of lawyers in the Metis community.

The Métis Nation is proud to congratulate the following law school graduates:

<b>MaryAnn Barker</b>	<b>Marlene Lumberjack</b>
<b>Laurent Bartleman</b>	<b>Christine</b>
<b>April Cook</b>	<b>MacDonald</b>
<b>Lori Gollan</b>	<b>Jayne Mitchell</b>
<b>Sonya Guiboche</b>	<b>Josef Riche</b>
<b>Michelle Harding</b>	<b>Darryl Royer</b>
<b>Lori Johnstone-</b>	<b>Nicole Sawchuk</b>
<b>Clarke</b>	<b>Colin Webb</b>
<b>Bev Lafond</b>	<b>Chris White</b>



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MICHELLE HARDING



## Batoche National Historic Site Of Canada: Shared Management Board

Story By Yvonne Vizina

November 6, 2000 saw the coming together of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the Government of Canada at the Batoche National Historic Site for the first meeting of the Shared Management Board.

Murray Hamilton, Dale McAuley, Peter Rudyck, Yvonne Vizina, Leon McAuley, and John Dorion make up the six-member board that will "assist in ensuring the Commemorative Integrity of Batoche by protecting and presenting the site for the benefit, education, and enjoyment of this and future generations, in a manner that respects the significant, irreplaceable and historic legacy represented by Batoche"<sup>1</sup>. The Board has been established as a result of the Batoche Management Agreement signed by Clem Chartier, President, Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and the Honourable Andy Mitchell, Secretary of State (Parks), Government of Canada on November 8, 1998.

With the establishment of the Board, both organizations look forward to a productive working relationship that will honour this very special place. Batoche was declared a national historic site in 1923, by the Government of Canada, on the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. It has been a place of great importance to the Metis for many generations

A Batoche National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan was created

and tabled by Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps and will form the basis of future developments at the site. The Management Plan replaces the first management plan which was implemented in 1982. That plan directed the development of the facilities, services, and programs which are seen today. The new plan was created for three main reasons:

- to incorporate the new shared management role of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan at Batoche National Historic Site of Canada (NHSC)
- to ensure that the objectives for commemorative integrity at Batoche NHSC, confirmed in the site's 1996 *Commemorative Integrity Statement*, are represented in the site Management Plan; and
- to ensure that site management direction is consistent with the principles and practice in the *Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy*, approved by the Minister of Canadian Heritage in 1994.

The revised Management Plan has been prepared so that future activities and decision-making ensure proper protection, presentation, and use of the site as a place of national significance. Among other things, the Plan provides strategic direction concerning historic buildings, heritage message delivery and outreach, management of the west side lands, and shared management at Batoche NHSC.<sup>2</sup>

The Batoche NHSC is set in an impressive cultural landscape in a natural setting of aspen forest, remnant fescue prairie, marsh, and abandoned farm properties. The landscape bears evidence of the Métis river lot system on the South Saskatchewan River, the cellars and foundations of buildings in the village of Batoche, historic trails, and the 1885 military entrenchments and rifle pits of the Métis and the Canadian North-West Field Force. Historic buildings at Batoche NHSC include the restored and period furnished St. Antoine de Padoue Church and Rectory, and several 19th and early 20th century Métis houses.<sup>3</sup>

The Batoche National Historic Site of Canada commemorates:

- a site of armed conflict between the Métis Provisional Government and the Canadian Government in 1885;
- The Métis community of Batoche;
- Métis river lot land use patterns; and
- the national significance of this place to the history of Canada.

Key objectives of the Management Plan are:

- to determine the appropriateness of unimplemented proposals identified in Phase II of the 1982 site management plan;
- to make the public more aware of the legacy of what took place here and its impact on our national identity;
- to present the public with the "many voices of history". History



# BATOCHÉ

will be presented with integrity. This will include the presentation of differing contemporary views. Parks Canada will not play the role of arbiter of Canada's human history. Through participation of partners, programming will provide various perspectives on the history and events of national significance at Batoché;

· to present the site as a whole and integrate more of the cultural resources and landscape of

Batoché NHSC into the site's presentation. The VRC will continue to serve the role of orientation while programming on the site will vary according to length of tours of different cultural resources;

· to make Batoché NHSC a significant place for all Canadians, and provide the local community with a place at Batoché (supporting the World Heritage Convention to give heritage a function in the life of a community);

and

· to communicate the family of national historic sites.<sup>4</sup>

4 Batoché National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan, 2000

3 Batoché National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan, 2000

2 Batoché NHSC Management Plan

1 Batoché Management Agreement, 1998



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# ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

## Sakitawak

### Ile-a-la-Crosse Celebrates 225th Anniversary

July 1 – 8th, 2001

The event will kick off with Canada Day celebrations followed by a full week of events and activities. All kinds of activities are being planned: Métis Cultural Activities and First Nations Initiatives; Edmonton Square Dancers; Métis Voyageur Games; Bike and Float Parades; Family Gatherings; Elders Feast and Pig Roast; Children and Youth Workshops; Arts and Craft Displays; Fireworks; Drama Presentations; Singing and Dancing; Bands coming in from Edmonton and Winnipeg; Slow Pitch and Fastball for the Weekend; Midways Start on the 5th to the 8th; Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Archival Material and Photos on Display; Canoe Racing; Fish Derby and much much more.

Some of the Invited Dignitaries for the Opening Ceremonies will be: MNS President Clem Chartier, MLA and Minister of Environment and Resource Management Buckley Belanger, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs Pat Lorje.

Thank you to the Committee of Volunteers organizing the event: Mike Bouvier; Margaret Morin Desjarlais; Dorothy Roy; Sandra Pelletier; Allan Morin, Gerald Roy; Max Morin, Felix Merasty; Gordon Morin; Lawrence Corrigan; Yvonne Daigneault; Raina Pelletier; Jeremy Laliberte; Mark Durocher; Becky Belanger; Jocelyn Koochicum. For more details contact Becky Belanger or Jocelyn Koochicum at 306-833-2004.

Help us to commemorate the last 225 years of Ile-a-la-Crosse, remembering the contributions of times and peoples past and celebrate our future as a rich and vibrant northern community!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLAN MORIN



# TRAPPER'S CONVENTION

## Northern Fur Conservation Area Trappers Association Holds Annual Convention in Prince Albert

Kathy Hodgson-Smith

More than 130 traditional land users and members of the Northern Fur Conservation Area Trappers Association (NFCATA) met in Prince Albert to discuss matters of common concern around the north affecting trapping and fishing. Six representatives from each of the 37 fur blocks were invited to participate, covering traditional land users from across northern Saskatchewan. The group, once represented by the Saskatchewan Trappers Association, formed the new NFCATA in the early 1980's to give Aboriginal traditional land users a representative organization. The organization has had Metis leadership since that time, with Euclid



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PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

### Minister Buckley Belanger speaks to delegates.

Boyer, Louis Morin, Louis Chartier and now-chairperson, Ivan Morin.

The purpose of the trappers convention is to bring traditional land users together to present their concerns, issues and resolutions to government and political leaders. President of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, Clem Chartier spoke to the assembly on behalf of the Métis Nation, with Lands and Resources Minister Dale McAuley speaking also. Member of Parliament Rick Laliberte, Saskatchewan Environment Resources Minister Buckley Belanger and Northern Affairs Minister Keith Goulet spoke on behalf of Canada and Saskatchewan.

The main issues of the traditional land users in the north



# TRAPPER'S CONVENTION



Conference Delegates: Art Tinker, Louis Chartier, Clem Chartier.

were the serious affect of forestry and mining activity on trapping and fishing. Traditional land users live off a meager yearly income. Dropping fur prices, road development, deforestation and other interruptions in the natural way of the land from season to season. Many Elders addressed Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management officials with their observations of the changing northern landscape and the impact of forestry and mining on the lands and the resources that live upon it. One Elder witnessed the slow recovery of trees through reforestation, returning year after year to the same stand of trees to observe the growth and animal activity in the area. She raised concerns as to what would be left to her grandchildren. Another woman stood up and spoke, her voice full of emotion and concern. Her concern was that the traditional land users cared for deeply the health of the land, made their living by respecting and knowing the

environment, the behaviour of the animals, the cycles and rhythms that rejuvenate the earth. Many of the people in the room were born on trap lines and were born to families who for many generations lived on the land in northern Saskatchewan. They witnessed the declining populations of fish and fur bearing animals. They witnessed the changing water levels and temperatures. And yet, they often find out about forestry and mining activities once they are done or committed to be done. They feel they ought to be consulted about such activity and in the event that their livelihood is destroyed or damaged, compensated for their losses.

There is the story of the trapper in northwest Saskatchewan who walked in early winter to set his traps and found that most of his trapline had been forested. Only one tree stood in his view and on it hung a single trap. The trees were now gone, all but one.

The rights of the trappers are not respected, said Marlene Nichols, secretary for the NFCATA and granddaughter to Elder Ross Cummings. She teaches at the Buffalo Narrows school where they initiated a cultural camp where the young people could learn about traditional land use, about muskrat, about setting snares and were taught to ice fish with a net. She teaches the young people about the land so they will carry the concern and knowledge into the future.

Minister Belanger said that he recognized the trapping industry and the issues with fur sales. He said he also recognized forestry, commercial fishing and tourism as important activities in the north. He sought a balance between the resources and the economy. He asked the trappers to join with all the groups who have an interest in the north and to find a unified front. He encouraged the traditional land



# TRAPPER'S CONVENTION

users to work alongside the Ministry of SERM. Minister Buckley Belanger spoke of the need to undertake the land use plans and encouraged the traditional land users to participate in the planning and in doing so take back control of the land. The Ministers words were respectfully received, with a quiet settling over the room. Philip Chartier supported the Ministers request to work in unity and to plan together. He suggested, however, that SERM needed to work directly with the people through their organizations. At the present time, SERM meets with the Mayor and Councils of the various villages in the north. NFCATA members were concerned that the municipal structure did not represent those interests and individuals and organizations who live and survive off of the land outside of the village boundaries. The request to SERM was to recognize that the governance and responsibility for the lands and resources in northern Saskatchewan went beyond the corporate boundaries of the villages and that the Elders represented here today had serious concerns about the process for decision making and the timelines

imposed for the process. The Minister agreed to extend the timelines and

seek broader consultation.



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH

**Top: conference delegates. Bottom: Mr. and Mrs. Bekatia, conference delegates.**



PHOTO BY KATHY HODGSON-SMITH



# TRIPARTITE PROCESS

## Northern Project

Story By Yvonne Vizina

Hello everyone, and greetings from North West Saskatchewan! My name is Yvonne Vizina, and I am the Northern Project Coordinator. For those of you who are unfamiliar with our work, I hope that you will take a few minutes to read about this initiative. It is a complex process, but important to understand when considering Aboriginal governance, and Metis self-governance in particular. For the people of North West Saskatchewan, it has been an opportunity to come together in unity and build a cohesive team that draws on the strengths of all.

In order to understand what we are doing now, there is a need to look back over the years to see what others have worked to accomplish, and why. The Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MNS) is the official governing organization of Métis people living in this province. A provincial affiliate of the Métis National Council, the MNS is part of this larger representative body that connects our people across Canada. The Metis in Saskatchewan have unique lifestyles, histories, and experiences that elected MNS leaders understand. As such, the MNS exists because there is a need to carry on the work begun by previous generations of Métis. For many years, the MNS has sought to honour the existence of Métis people by achieving recognition, rights, and the tools that will allow the culture to flourish.

Métis people do not have treaties. Métis people do not have a land base in Saskatchewan. Yet, Métis people are recognized in the federal government's *Constitution Act*. This leaves our peo-

ple in a very difficult situation. How do we remain connected, and ensure that the needs of our people are met? Several years ago, it was agreed that establishing Tripartite Process would be a good place to begin. Our Tripartite Process includes the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan, the Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan. Under this Process, the MNS is able to select specific work for development. Currently, the Tripartite Process for the MNS is focussing on Northern Governance, Urban Governance, and Provincial Governance. The Northern Project of North West Saskatchewan is our Northern Governance initiative.

In 1996, a Protocol / Partnership Agreement was established between the North West Saskatchewan Métis Council and the North West Saskatchewan Municipalities Association. It was felt that the two organizations had many common goals. It was felt that this would be a productive relationship.

The Northern Project has sought to find a method of uniting the people within North West Saskatchewan by developing a governance model that is beneficial to Métis residents, and to find ways of devolving programs and services to local Métis. This is done by creating and negotiating an annual work plan and budget with the Tripartite partners (MNS / Canada / Saskatchewan). Once approved, work is carried out to achieve the deliverables set out in the work plan.

Over the past few months, I have spent time assessing the status of the Northern Project, and building a strategy to revive the work and the vision that originally created it.

The Northern Project is just into the first quarter of the new year, and is looking forward to a busy productive time in the months to come. A 2001-2003 Northern Project Work Plan has been developed and submitted to the Tripartite Process partners. The main work areas of our plan include: Regional Governance Development, NP Organizational Development, Lands and Resources, Economic Development, Education / Training / Employment, Public Education (about the NP), Community Cohesion and Social Cohesion, and Cultural Development.

A draft governance model is being developed that will be workshopped later this year with the Northern Project representatives. Devolution of programs and services needs a great deal of planning, but will be part of the proposed governance model.

The Northern Project has been very active in developments relating to the Alberta oil sands opportunities, and forest industry discussions in North West Saskatchewan. Both oil sands and forestry have the potential to have a significant impact on local economies, and we have been working diligently to ensure that all North West communities are considered in the planning.

Most of all, our work has involved building relationships. The Northern Project provides an opportunity to collaborate on building a plan that will benefit all North West residents. We need to take advantage of this opportunity. Building a solid regional plan takes time, but if we work together, it can be done.



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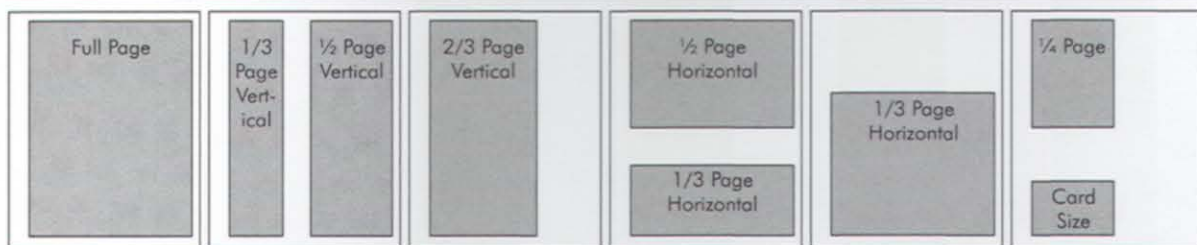
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