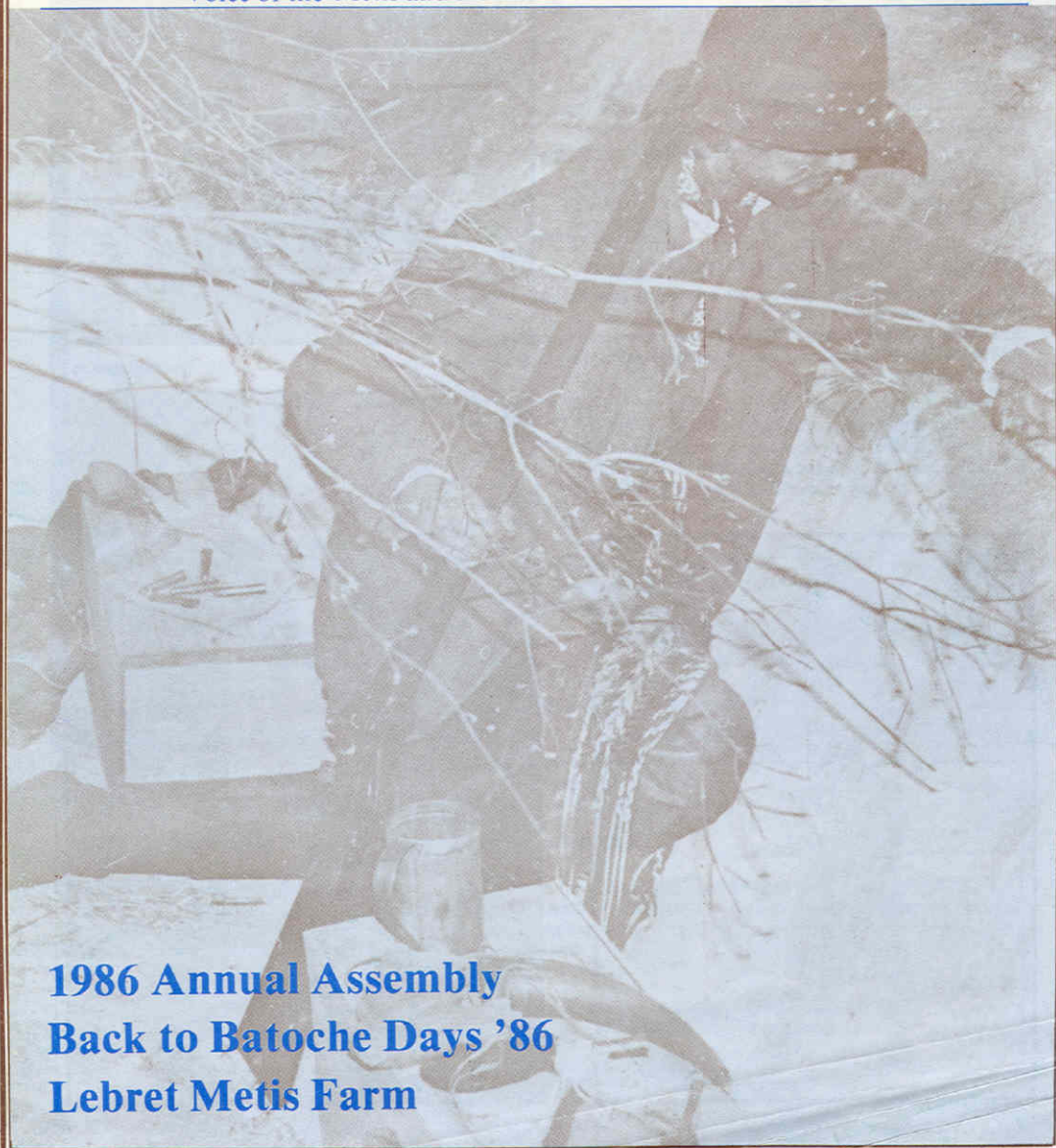


Aug-Sept 1986

Vol. 17 No. 8

# NEW BREED

Voice of the Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan



**1986 Annual Assembly  
Back to Batoche Days '86  
Lebret Metis Farm**

Photo by Jean-Paul Claude

## Touch Of Class Classy Cool Casuals

Something different is happening in fashion this fall. Heads will turn while wearing knock out co-ordinates like those featured on this page. The simplicity of denim and corduroy are the latest in fashion classics.

1....A revelation! An irresistible approach to dressing, day and night, focusing on a complete look composed of black denim, with snake-skin intertwinning. Underneath, a hot pink, oversized, cotton top sets off the universal appeal of this seductive approach to casual wear.

2....A riveting new way to dress for relaxed and casual dressing. A narrowly-cut denim skirt with slit back under a mid-thigh fuchsia pink, billowy blouse. Underscoring this raciness...a black hipster belt, worn with a different approach.

3....What comes across this fall is a unique affinity of clothes that are almost sculpted to the body. The long, lean, polished look of stone-washed, stretch denim jean and jacket, set the pace for a new season. Underlining this essence of perfect proportions is a comfortable, yellow, cotton top.



1

2



1







# NEW BREED

"Voice of Saskatchewan Metis and Non-Status Indians"

## Contents

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Jean-Paul Claude

#### Administrative Assistant:

Yvonne Nagy

#### Reporter:

Karen LaRocque

#### Typesetter:

Jo-Anne Amyotte

Sandy Ouellette

#### Graphic Artist:

Edward Poitras

### Contributors:

Jim Sinclair

Wayne McKenzie

Allan Morin

Dona Desmarais

Leon McCauley

Thelma Foster

Lani Rope

Sharon Oullette and Peggy

Merasty

Bertha McKay

Lionel McKenzie

Bonita Beatty

Leah Bitternose

### Media Apprentices:

Tom Twist

Don Devine

Letters	Page 2
From The Desk of the Editor	Page 3
Constitutional Update	Page 4
Non-Status Questions: Hot Topic	Page 5
AMNSIS President Jim Sinclair's Annual Report, 1986	Page 6
AMNSIS Vice-President, Wayne McKenzie's Annual Report, 1986	Page 8
AMNSIS Prov. Sec., Allen Morin's Annual Report, 1986	Page 10
AMNSIS Ex. Dir., Donna Desmarais' Annual Report, 1986	Page 12
Liberals Seek Grassroots Direction	Page 14
Ladies Shove Over: Man Crowned	Page 15
Bannock Baking Queen	Page 15
SNCC Camp; A Booming Success	Page 16
Champion Canoe Racer: Solomon Carrier	Page 17
AMNSIS Annual Assembly:	Page 19
Sinclair Weathers Batoche Storm	Page 19
Dance Competition Well Attended	Page 20
Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Proposed	Page 21
Regina Friendship Centre Opens New Doors	Page 21
Batoche Welcoming Committee	Page 21
Children of Batoche	Page 22
Back to Batoche Days 1986:	Page 24
An Annual Success	Page 26
Batoche Competition Results	Page 28
P.C.s Recognize Metis Land Claims	Page 32
Native Service Workers Conference	Page 32
What's Ahead	Page 34
Poetry	Page 36
News Briefs	Page 38
Recipes	Page 43
Book Review - Louis Riel	Page 43
A Touch of Class	Inside Front and Inside Back Cover

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**Editor, New Breed**  
210-2505-11th Avenue  
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Articles submitted to New Breed and subsequently used for publication shall be paid for at the rate of \$2.50 per column inch (10pt., 13 pica). All articles must be signed, however, your name will be withheld upon request. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Wehtamatowin Corporation and free expression of opinion is invited. We reserve the right to publish whole or parts of articles submitted.

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## BATOCHÉ GESTAPO

### Dear New Breed:

Please hear my concerns about the 'Back To Batoche Days' celebrations.

This summer, I had visitors from Norway. They were very interested in our Native history. I told them about Batoche. They were very keen about a trip to see what I assumed would be a look at Metis and Native history, tradition handicrafts.

When we drove to Batoche on 'saturday, July 26, we decided to look at both the 'Back to Batoche Days' celebrations and the Batoche historic site.

We drove into the 'Back to Batoche' grounds. Before I could ask about the displays and events, the attendant poked his head into the window and said gruffly, "One, two, three, four, five. That will be \$25.00. Pull your car to the right, open the hood and get out of the car."

I was embarrassed and my visitors were uneasy about going in. I did ask what was happening, and the events sounded kind of interesting. We decided however, to leave and go to the historic site first.

After a very impressive visit to the Batoche historic site (the film was great), we talked about going back to Batoche Days. My visitors felt that we should pass, feeling that would probably be Disappointing.

It is a shame that such a negative feeling was projected to tourists who were eager to learn more about North American Natives. I wonder

if there really is any concern for improving the way Natives are perceived.

**Yours Truly**  
**Bruce Kell**  
Saskatoon, Sask.

## PRISON JUSTICE DAY

### Dear New Breed:

On behalf of the inmate population at Pinegrove Correctional Centre, we would like to inform society of our most recent actions concerning National Prison Justice Day on August 10, 1986.

National Prison Justice Day began in 1976 to pay tribute to two prisoners who committed suicide while in solitary confinement at Millhaven Penitentiary in Ontario.

One third of the population in Pinegrove Correctional Centre participated in this one day work stoppage and twenty-four fast.

At 1:00 P.M. a Native Elder came and shared with us his thoughts and feelings to help give us a better understanding of ourselves. A ceremony was performed for us to pay respect to our sisters and brothers who had fallen behind prison walls.

A deep and meaningful poem and speech was written by Sharon Oullette and Lisa Pelletier which reflects our feelings and concerns of what is happening behind prison walls today.

This was the first year that Pinegrove participated in this affair.

We feel that our first time being involved with the National Prison Justice Day was a very understanding and emotional experience for all.

We are hoping that next year, all other correctional centres in Saskatchewan will participate in this event also.

As sisters and brothers behind walls, we can become strong and unite together for a better tomorrow for ourselves out there in mainstream society.

In Sisterhood  
Sharon Oullette  
Pinegrove Correctional Centre

*Editor's Note: See poem in poetry section of this edition*

### Dear New Breed:

Since tax time has just passed us by and we are already looking ahead to the next one, I thought you might like this little poem, I recently found.

Please withhold my name as I am not the author of this piece.

**Editor's Note: Check through your old Beatles' album for the tune that goes with them...**

## DEATH AND TAXES

*Tax his cow, tax his goat.  
Tax his pants, tax his coat.  
Tax his crops, tax his work.  
Tax his tie, tax his shirt.  
Tax his chew, tax his smoke.  
Teach him taxes are no joke.*

*Tax his tractor, tax his mule.  
Teach him taxes are a rule.  
Tax his oil, tax his gas.  
Tax his notes, tax his cash.  
Tax him good and let him know;  
AFTER TAXES HE HAS NO DOUGH.*

*If he hoolers tax him more,  
tax him till he's good and sore.  
Tax his coffin, tax his grave.  
Tax the sod in which he's laid.  
Put these words upon his tomb:  
"Taxes drove me to my doom."  
And after he's gone he can't relax,  
they'll still be after  
his inheritance tax!*





# FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR

by Jean-Paul Claude



The biggest newsbreaks since our last edition would have to be the motion at the AMNSIS Annual Assembly to accept in principle the draft of a new constitution for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, the final acquisition of the Lebrez Metis Farm and of course, Mr. Devine's less than subtle suggestion that he may be planning an October election.

As far as the first two items are concerned, you will find major stories in respect to them within the pages of this edition of NEW BREED. Both the new constitution and the Lebrez farm news were expected and welcomed by some, while at the same time being met with surprize and scepticism by others.

While AMNSIS community people and organizers were jubilant about the conclusion of the Lebrez Farm negotiations, other AMNSIS people were concerned that it would somehow weaken the Ottawa constitutional deal if smaller community groups began negotiating their own smaller deals, especially when they are in respect to issues specifically being negotiated at the constitutional level.

I would hope that any land settlements (or whatever you want to call them), granted by the provincial / territorial governments can be included and protected by any future constitutional deals. If not, I would question that effectiveness and long-term value of such a deal. I would also expect that if a provincial / territorial government is prepared to set a precedent by granting anything which can be perceived as a land claim, than this could only serve as an incentive to both the Federal government and the Metis negotiating team to include such provisions in any eventual constitutional deal.

While the general details of the new Metis Nation of Saskatchewan proposal and other related position papers are provided inside, the final chapter won't be written for quite some time. While the entire AMNSIS membership knew that the Metis and Non-Status Indian people

would eventually have to travel different roads to seek out and obtain the individual answers to their own unique problems, the logic or necessity of such a drastic and permanent divorce has to be painful for all parties involved.

The Non-Status people are still unsure of their eventual fate and this no doubt, has added an element of apprehension in their accepting the fast paced changes within the organization at this time.

I have no doubt that things are probably developing and unfolding as they must for the betterment of both groups, but until the final constitutional pages are written and their stated provisions put into effect, it's going to be a rough road for everyone involved.

Grant Devine has been watching the polls closely this past year and he must have seen something that I missed. While they have shown the P.C.'s drastically behind for some time now, Devine was reported as saying there has been a change of heart recently and indications are that his P.C.s are in a position to win an election now.

Whether that is true or not, it

looks like we are going to be seeing an election in Saskatchewan before Christmas. So get set to accept the flurry of empty election promises disguised as gifts, which traditionally pour forth from never otherwise generous hands of vote hungry politicians.

Regardless of who is destined to win that election, the New Breed will still be here. We want you to be with us. If you have a friend who wants to borrow this edition of your New Breed. . . by all means lend it to him. Then tell him how easy and inexpensive it is to have his own edition delivered right to his door each and every month. Direct his glance to the subscription form page and help us to keep the New Breed Magazine going, regardless of the political climate of the day. Only you can make it happen. We need your help.

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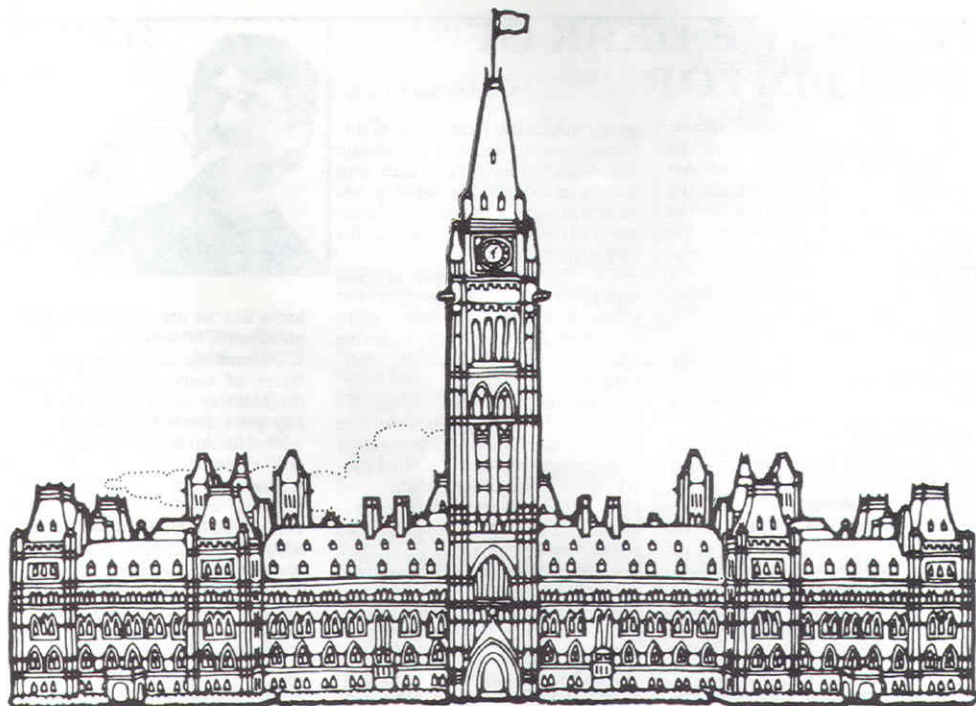
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# CONSTITUTIONAL *up date*

## Annual Report of Constitutional Co-ordinator in Respect to Non-Status Issues

*As Submitted To The Association Of Metis And Non-Status Indians Of Saskatchewan's 1986 Annual Assembly*

by Bonita Beatty  
Coordinator of Non-Status Issues

*The following are excerpts of the annual report given at the assembly by Bonita Beatty, Non-Status Co-ordinator.*

At the March 25th meeting in Prince Albert, we were given a job to do the following:

- (1) Explore options and Policy analysis*
- (2) Identify Land and Self-Government issues*
- (3) Identify funding and formulas*
- (4) Establish a smooth and painless Transition*
- (5) Assist in the Creation of New Bands and Membership Codes.*

A. Preparation for a proposal that is being submitted to the Federal/-Provincial Governments is completed.

The proposal has been submitted to the Provincial AMNSIS Board for approval. Jim Sinclair has also

discussed the work that has to be done with the Federal Indian Affairs Minister (Crombie, now McKnight) and with the Saskatchewan Premier.

Basically, the purpose for the proposal is to give means to the people to mobilize themselves in their communities for their particular Plan of Action. This can be done through:

*(1) Communicating information and support services directly to the communities. Right now, we are restricted with lack of educated staff who are from and familiar to the areas and communities.*

*(2) Educating individuals and communities to mobilize them to make their own choices about reinstatement. Right now, we cannot keep track of all the individuals that need practical help with gathering documents for proof, how to fill out forms, what's involved in register-*



ing and so forth.

(3) Policy analysis experts to draw up workplans for medium and long-term planning for communities. Right now, the communities who are ready to begin land developments don't have access to legal and consultant help to organize.

(4) Development Officers who will pull together the government negotiators and the community negotiators, and who will identify financial resources to help the communities individually and collectively.

#### **B. Information Workshops in Communities:**

The information was basically limited to what was involved in registering for Indian Status and how AMNSIS is trying to deal with the Bill C-31 legislation.

The communities and area meetings attended included Fort Qu'Appelle, Patuanak, Chelan, Yorkton, Hudson Bay, Prince Albert, Stanley Mission, La Ronge, Sandy Bay, Cumberland House and so forth.

We also met with the Indian Affairs Minister three times to try to set up a negotiating process that would tie in the government and the communities without getting caught in regional bureaucracy. The previous page 40

## **Non-Status Question Hot Topic At Assembly**

**Batoche**-The liveliest part of the recent AMNSIS Annual Assembly centered around the Metis and Non-Status issue and how it's going to affect the structure of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

In his report to the Assembly, AMNSIS President, Jim Sinclair, said it's not a question of whether the two groups are going to separate, it's a question of when it's going to happen. However, he said this has to happen "smoothly based on co-operation, not on bad feelings or else we'll both lose." He said that it was important the Non-Status people have the political support of AMNSIS and that it should not only be left to the Non-Status to do the work themselves. "The onus should not only be on Non-Status but the organization should help both groups."

He said when the time comes for Non-Status people to form an orga-

nization, it is imperative that it is established through a democratic process when people feel they need such an organization. "We don't want to form an organization that will be formed from the top down, through the delegate system, where people appoint themselves."

With the passage of a new Metis constitution at the Assembly which will see the present AMNSIS constitution dissolved in 1988, it is anticipated by Sinclair that a Non-Status organization will be formed this coming year to make way for Metis self-government and to represent those Non-Status Indians who don't qualify for reinstatement under Bill C-31. Also those who want to form new bands and identify new lands and don't necessarily want to join existing bands and reserves will need someone to lobby for them.

Sinclair said AMNSIS was able to obtain \$100,000 from the Department of Indians to provide information on Bill C-31 and it's implications to the AMNSIS membership. The funding runs out in August. AMNSIS has submitted another proposal to both the federal and provincial governments to provide more information and to develop policy and a work plan to facilitate a smooth separation of the two  
Con't on page 40

## **Annual Report Of Constitutional Co-Ordinator In Respect To Metis Issues As Submitted To The Metis National Council**

**By Leon McCauley/Co-ordinator of Metis Issues**

New Breed/Aug-Sept/1986

### **INTRODUCTION:**

I started my position as the Provincial Co-ordinator with the Metis National Council in February, 1986 and a lot has happened since then.

My first Ministerial Meeting was in March at Ottawa. It was an eye opener for me in the sense of what happens at these meetings.

I was very pleased with the representation that the Metis had at the constitutional table under the banner of the Metis National Council.

### **MARCH 25-27, 1986 MEETING:**

It was frustrating to see some of the Aboriginal Groups, the AFN in particular, totally bog down a very important meeting on the issue of sovereignty for Indians within Canada.

It was clear that the Federal and Provincial Governments were not prepared to discuss the sovereignty question, since this issue was dealt

with by the First Ministers' Conferences that were held earlier.

The Metis National Council finally got the meeting back on track when they tabled the four essential elements that will be required for an amendment to the Canadian Constitution.

The four essential elements are:

1. The Constitution requires amending in order to recognize the rights of Aboriginal Peoples to self-government;
2. The amendment must commit governments to the extent that each has authority to negotiate the jurisdiction and powers of self-government and land;
3. The Constitution must provide protection for negotiated self-government agreements;
4. The amendment must not prejudice the rights of the Aboriginal

Con't on page 41

# AMNSIS President Jim Sinclair's Report To The Annual Assembly July 24 and 25, 1986

By Jean-Paul Claude

## REVIEW OF THE STRUGGLE OF THE METIS

Prior to the patriation of the Constitution in 1982, the Metis Society of Saskatchewan and, later, A.M.N.S.I.S., was built around organizing people to take economic and political control over those matters directly affecting their lives on a daily basis. The Metis were unemployed; lacked decent housing and suffered terrible unemployment. They lacked the basic opportunity to compete equally with all other Canadians for jobs. Other social problems abounded - alcoholism and an economy built on welfare. The Metis suffered at the hands of the police and mindless government bureaucrats.

As a result, the Metis organized themselves to take more control over their lives. Government funding was obtained for both programming and political development. The Metis were criticized by some who felt the organization would become subservient to government bureaucrats; strangled by government regulations and dependent upon a system of government which oppressed the Metis. Yet the Metis remained vigilant in the struggle for their rights. The organization did not become a buffer between the Metis and governments. The organization took government dollars and worked with the people. We took the people to the governments to force changes upon governments.

It was difficult at that time to rally people around Metis nationalism, and around the struggle for a Metis land base and Metis self-government when for many life was an



*Sinclair addresses criticisms in local newspaper for delegates*

empty promise never to be fulfilled. Yet, I believe, the organization never lost sight of both the immediate and the long-term needs, goals, ambitions, aspirations and dreams of the Metis. The organization never lost sight of the need for the Metis to have a fair and just settlement of their rights so that the Metis could take their rightful place in society.

## PATRIATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Our organization was faced with a unique opportunity following patriation of the Canadian Constitution. A marvellous opportunity prevailed upon the Metis to further define and entrench their rights through meetings involving the Prime Minister, the Premiers and the leaders of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. Since 1982, the leadership of the organization has placed great priority upon entrenching in the Constitution the right of the Metis to a land base and to self-government. And with what results?

## THE CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS

In 1984, the Government of Canada proposed a constitutional resolution which would commit governments to negotiate self-government rights, but lacked a mechanism for entrenching rights. In 1985, a proposed amendment now included a mechanism for entrenching agreements reached on self-governments, but lacked a commitment on the part of governments to negotiate. However, this proposal did receive the support of the federal government; seven provinces (including

Saskatchewan); the M.N.C. and the Native Council of Canada.

The agreement failed because the Assembly of First Nations and the Inuit Committee on National Issues failed to endorse or support the amendment.

## THE TRIPARTITE PROCESS

In June of 1985, the federal government announced that it was prepared to enter into negotiations with aboriginal organizations and provincial governments. The purpose of these negotiations was directed to concluding agreements on self-government at the community or regional level. These agreements would then be brought forward to the First Ministers' Conferences for constitutional protection. Thus - and it is important to remember - there would be a shift from negotiations with all aboriginal organizations and all governments exclusively at the national level for a self-government amendment, to tripartite negotiations at the community or regional level aimed at agreements on the form and substance of self-government.

The struggle at the national level was not to be forgotten or ignored. However, major emphasis was to come from the "bottom up" where the focus would be on land and on practical matters, especially service delivery, at the community and regional levels. This offered the potential for the development of institutions of self-government for the Metis off a land base. In the tripartite process the organization continues to push for a Metis land base. The organization is seeking to devel-



op a model for the practise of autonomy by urban Metis. The organization is attempting to expand existing institutional models (like the Gabriel Dumont Institute and SNEDECO) on a provincial and regional scale in order to implement strategies for education and training; job creation; housing and economic development. The development of the Batoche lands has also been raised as a priority.

#### WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Our Agenda remains the same - entrenchment of a Metis land base and Metis self-government. Unless these basic rights are entrenched, the Metis will remain subjected to the legislation, policies and guidelines of other governments. Governments develop and terminate programs and services without our input or control. They control funding levels. There is no mechanism for governments to deal with the Metis, and no guarantee of fiscal autonomy. As long as the rights of the Metis are not entrenched, the Metis will lack economic and political control over their own lives.

#### THE ROLE OF PEOPLE AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL

Earlier in my report, I noted our organization got people together and brought them to meet with governments as an essential element in the struggle for Metis rights. We should, at this juncture, ask whether, during the constitutional negotiations, we have strayed too far from involving the people in these negotiations. Have we, as leaders, spent too much time with our officials at negotiating sessions without community involvement. Does not the impetus for settlement come from the communities rather than in meetings with government leaders or officials? I raise this issue because of the ownership negotiations on the Lebret Farm, a matter of some internal debate and disagreement within the Board of Directors of the organization.

#### A NEW BEGINNING - THE LEBRET FARM OWNERSHIP NEGOTIATIONS

Later this month, the provincial Cabinet is to approve the transfer of approximately 5½ sections (1,760 acres), mostly all prime agricultural

land, to a land-holding Foundation created by the people of the Southeast Area. This land is in the heart of the agricultural belt of Saskatchewan and is in an area where our people are a tiny minority, and where many non-aboriginal people look upon our membership in unfriendly terms.

How did they do it when in other communities the Metis people are the majority; they control local governments and there is plenty of Crown land available? I believe the answer to this is critical. Negotiations have succeeded because the people at the community level organized themselves. They developed their own leadership. They developed their own agenda. As leader of the organization, I supported this struggle. My role was to support the people of the Southeast Area, as instructed by them. I took my direction from them. They provided me with their advice upon the support role they required from the organization. The negotiations were concluded from the "bottom up," not from the "top down."

Accordingly, when ownership is transferred to their Land Foundation, the people of the Southeast Area will control the land. They, themselves, will make decisions affecting its use and control of the land. This is the essence of self-government - people making decisions for themselves over matters which directly affect them. Already aboriginal and non-aboriginal people in the Southeast Area are coming forward with development propos-

als for the Farm. People are approaching the Land Foundation. The people do not have to go to anyone. And, importantly, the people are involved in discussions and negotiations for present and future land use without government interference.

I heartily commend the people of the Southeast Area for the leadership they have provided. The Southeast Area has opened the door for ownership negotiations on all the other Farms. I fail, completely, to understand how some Board members are opposed to the community-inspired leadership of the Southeast Area which has resulted in the first land base agreement for our people.

It is my view that tripartite negotiations must continue, particularly on those issues with provincial impact and appeal. But I believe we must inject more of an emphasis of community input into the process. The Lebret Farm ownership negotiations heralds a new beginning for the Metis. I embrace the approach taken and challenge the other communities and Areas to follow the leadership of the Southeast Area.

For my part, I will continue to support and work with those communities, like Cumberland House, who are ready to hit the table and conclude an agreement to transfer ownership of the Metis Farm there to the local people. It is time we affirm that direction comes from our communities. It is time we supported the efforts of the communities and regions, such as in the Southeast Area, to take economic and

*Con't on page 8*



*Max Morin questions Sinclair on Non-Status issues*

political control over their own lives. We must commend and follow the leadership provided by the Southeast Area, rather than condemn them.

Mr. Sinclair's general remarks were followed by a brief presentation of the position of the AMNSIS' Non-Status members, the unique options facing them now and in the future as well as initiatives which AMNSIS is making to facilitate those options.

The specifics of these initiatives were presented by Bonita Beatty, AMNSIS Constitutional Co-ordinator for Non-Status Issues and is presented in its' entirety elsewhere in this issue.

Referring to the well discussed proposal of separating the Metis and Non-Status Indian membership of AMNSIS into two organizations which could better represent each groups' unique and individual needs, Sinclair suggested that the AMNSIS split is no longer a question but rather a foregone conclusion with only the best time to make that move yet to be decided.

"The question is no longer will the Metis and Non-Status split," Sinclair explained, "but rather when they will separate. When is a good time to ensure a smooth transition? When can we set up our separate organizations at a time when it serves the entire membership best?"

Sinclair further noted that the timing of this split is crucial because both groups, though moving in different directions will want to ensure the best possible deal for the other group. "Aboriginals are not in this (constitutional negotiations) for the gain. Rather, they are both fighting for their legal and just rights," Sinclair said.

Sinclair responded to a query by Tom Roy of Ile-a-la-Crosse as to whether or why he would support one or more politicians from different parties by saying that the party a politician belongs to is not of prime importance but rather how he responds to the needs of the Native community. "I will support any individual of any party who is in support of the issues which are of concern to AMNSIS and it's membership and is willing to work towards the realization and settlement of those issues and concerns," Sinclair stated. □

## Excerpts of Wayne McKenzie; Vice- President's Report, To The 1986 AMNSIS Annual Assembly

By Joan Beatty

(NOTE: The first portion of McKenzie's report was published in the June 1986 edition of *New Breed*. Excerpts in this issue will include his comments on SNEDFO/SNEDCO).

McKenzie began his report by saying that the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) has been operating under the Non-profit Act since 1965. He said AMNSIS is recommending changes to the organization's structure to allow them to start setting up concepts of self-government.

"We are trying to eliminate our jobs by having a more democratic system in place. Our system now reports to the governments but they have to start taking off the care taking system. We want to become self-sufficient. This means we want to make decisions in areas that affect our lives," McKenzie said.

Commenting on the last constitutional meeting, McKenzie said the Premier of this province refused to support the resolution for the rights of the Aboriginal people because he didn't know what he would be supporting. "We agreed to enter into a process to give examples of self-government so that the Premier can't say he doesn't know what we are talking about."

He said the social programs and grants have to stop. "Lands have to be collectively owned by the Metis people and not be left to Dutchak to decide." McKenzie said people can select lands now but they have no power to control them. He also said

if the provincial government was serious about negotiating with the Metis people, they have the power to allocate lands back to the Metis people that originally belonged to them. I have not seen that will to transfer the land to us," he said.

Referring to the Metis and Non-Status issues that dominated the meeting, McKenzie said that this wasn't the issue but "the issue is to get the amendments in the constitution. The difference is between programs, delegated authority versus rights."

He also said that when the membership elects people, that they not do it on a popularity basis but base it on who is going to get the rights into the constitution.

### The SNEDFO/SNEDCO Concept

The Interim SNEDCO Board has now received a letter of offer from the Government of Canada to provide capital funding for certain aspects of the overall Economic Development concept tabled with the Native Economic Development Program Board (NEDP) in May of 1985. The offer includes the following elements:

a) \$3.6 Million capital for SNEDFO over a three-year period. The funding will be used as follows:

- ° a small central program and administrative staff, including an Executive Director and a Director of Field Services;

- ° five Field Staff to be assigned on a regional basis;

- ° a Human Resource Development Strategy (Training);





Wayne McKenzie addresses delegates

- planning and research services;
  - Native Women's Program;
- b) \$5.5 Million for a loans strategy over three years to be used as follows:
- operations and administration - \$500,000;
  - loans program - \$5 Million;
- c) a strategic investment strategy for which no fixed capital is earmarked but with an understanding that up to \$10 Million could be provided by NEDP for such investments;
- d) the offer does not include funding for a financial institution which is important to the long-term self-sufficiency of the strategy.

#### Immediate Tasks To Be Completed

- a) Prepare an Operational Plan - SNEDFO
- b) Revise the SNEDCO Business Plan with specific proposals for the Loans and Strategic Investment Strategy.

#### Opportunities For Economic Development Role

SNEDFO/SNEDCO has the opportunity to become a significant force in the Saskatchewan economy. The important principles underlying the concept include:

1. an institutional approach to support economic development;
2. prudent business-like management of the program activities and resources;
3. control and direction of the poli-

- cies and strategies of the institution by and for Native People;
4. a long-term self-sufficiency strategy;
5. the utilization of resources to promote the creation of a Native economy to replace the present Welfare economy. This involves the creation of jobs, economic organizations, capital accumulation and the recycl-

ing of wealth within rather than into and out of the Native community;

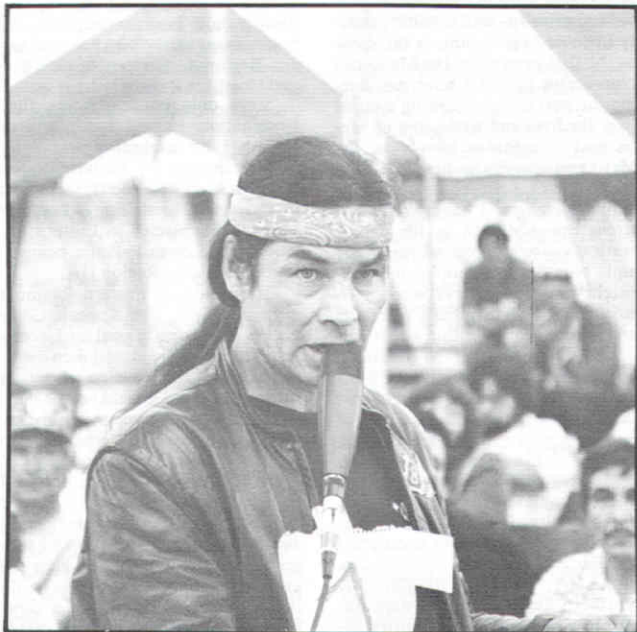
6. to place economic power under the control of Native People;

7. to retain profits and to lever additional resources into SNEDFO/SNEDCO to provide a strong economic base for growth, development and economic viability of the institution;

8. the use of all capital as an investment on which a return can be expected. Such returns will be in the form of jobs, upgraded knowledge and skills of the people, improved incomes and improvements in community infrastructure and services (e.g. Housing, Health, Recreation), entrepreneurial skills, etc;

9. loan support will be in large, medium and small business operations (individual, group and community-owned);

10. investments will take various forms, some of which will be Native-owned ventures, some in joint (Native/non-Native) ventures and some in commercial ventures which offer profits and potential jobs for Native People. □



Armand Murray voices his concerns at Assembly

# Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan Annual Report of The Provincial Secretary

By Allan Morin, AMNSIS  
Vice-President

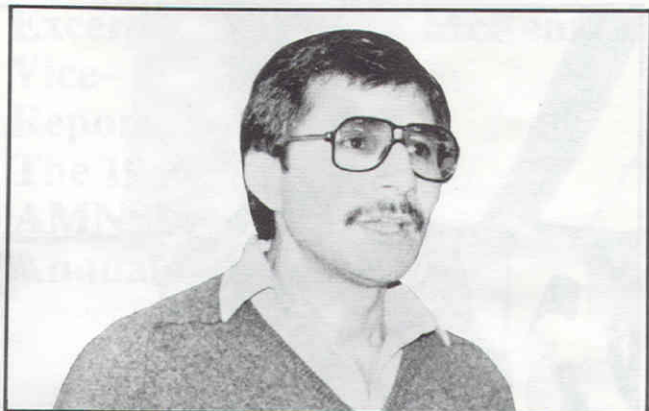
During this, my first year as Provincial Secretary, I have found that I have responsibilities as Provincial Secretary, as a member of the AMNSIS Executive and as a Metis who must be prepared to plan for the next generation while dealing with the issues and concerns of today.

I have made the Constitutional Negotiations on Aboriginal Rights my top priority - and my first priority in those negotiations is the same as the first priority of the Metis and Non-Status people I have met during the past year - **returning control over the lives and well-being of Metis and Non-Status people to the Metis and Non-Status people.**

To increase the control of individual members, I have worked to strengthen AMNSIS as the democratically-elected voice of the Metis and Non-Status people of Saskatchewan, and I have worked to ensure that each member's voice can and will be heard - within AMNSIS, in the Constitutional Negotiations and in the development of the policies and programs of self-government.

## ELECTIONS

To ensure democracy, the Appeals Committee heard five appeals of the results of the June 14, 1985 election for Area Director positions - for Eastern Region I, Eastern Region IIA, Eastern Region III, Northern Region I and Western Region I. The Appeals Committee lis-



Allan Morin presents new Constitution

tened to the information and concerns of all members who wished to speak, carefully considered all the information which was placed before it, and made decisions which were designed to ensure that the democratic rights of all members were respected. The Appeals Committee then reported to the full AMNSIS Board which determined that the election results for Eastern Region III and Western Region I should be upheld and that byelections would be necessary for the positions of Area Director in Eastern Region I, Eastern Region IIA and Northern Region I.

Since only one candidate filed Nomination Papers for Northern Region I no byelection was held. The byelections for Eastern Region I and Eastern Region IIA were held on October 12 - resulting in Lennard Morin being elected in Eastern Region I and Edwin Pelletier being elected in Eastern Region IIA.

The results in Eastern Region I were appealed. The Appeals Committee heard the appeal in December. The AMNSIS Board then determined that the election result in Eastern Region I should be upheld.

The election process is not perfect - but every effort was made to ensure that the democratic rights of AMNSIS members were protected. I believe that the democratic rights of our members were respected, but I also believe that as we develop self-government we must develop an even better political system. To do this I am now completing a thorough review of the political needs

and wishes of our people - and will be reporting my recommendations for you to review next year.

During the review of our election processes, it became clear that our Constitution was developed to meet the needs of an organization which was designed to act as a lobby group on behalf of our people. This was fine for the job AMNSIS had to do in the past few years - but now our role has changed. We must now be prepared to meet the challenges of self-government. We must now overcome the interpretation problems which we sometimes face in interpreting the Constitution - so that our self-government responsibilities are better defined.

We don't want a Constitution which is so complex that we need a legal expert every time we want to make a decision - but we don't want unnecessary conflicts to result from a Constitution which is too loosely defined. Somewhere between these two extremes is a Constitution which will meet our needs as a people, as we continue to develop self-government, but which is not so complex that we cannot deal with our priority concerns without legal advice.

To meet these goals, we have developed a draft Constitution and set of Bylaws for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan - which I will be discussing with you and your Local representatives during the coming months. This will be revised, taking into account your wishes, concerns and advice. I will then present the new Constitution of the Metis Na-



tion of Saskatchewan to you at our next Annual Assembly - so that you, the people AMNSIS represents, can discuss and determine the future directions the Metis of Saskatchewan will take.

This new Constitution deals with the Metis Nation - but not with the needs and goals of our Non-Status members. The needs of the Non-Status are different - and their problems and concerns require different solutions. For this reason AMNSIS has set up a special secretariat to deal with the special needs of Non-Status people. This working group has been assigned responsibility for developing methods of ensuring a smooth return of Treaty Status for our Non-Status members. Several options will be considered, and reviewed with Non-Status people to be certain that AMNSIS is dealing with your concerns in the way you would prefer. (Our President, Jim Sinclair, will be discussing this with you in more detail in his annual report.)

#### **PARTICIPATION BY ALL MEMBERS**

As Provincial Secretary, one of my main responsibilities is to provide for effective communications - to ensure that the members are kept informed of AMNSIS activities, and to ensure that the concerns and needs of members are regularly heard by the AMNSIS Board.

To ensure that all members can fully participate in setting the policies AMNSIS is working for - I have met with Area Boards, Local Executives, and Individual Members of AMNSIS, during this past year. I have listened to the concerns of our members. I have helped individuals and groups to deal with their concerns and problems. And I have placed concerns and problems on the agenda of the AMNSIS Board whenever necessary - to help the Board to deal with the concerns of our members.

I have travelled to all parts of Saskatchewan to help firm-up the unity of the Metis and Non-Status people - and to support and strengthen the Area Boards and the Locals. During the past year I have met with Area Boards whenever possible - and have attended meetings of all the Area Boards when invited. I have also met with members or representatives of most of our

Locals - and have attended meetings of many AMNSIS Locals.

At each of these meetings we have dealt with the concerns of both the Locals and individual members. At the same time, I have asked members what kind of future we should be building. I have discussed their ideas with them and have taken these ideas back with me - to make sure that AMNSIS policies on a land base and self-government meet the needs of AMNSIS members.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

During this past year we have placed emphasis on increasing membership registration to ensure that AMNSIS is fully representing all Metis and Non-Status people of Saskatchewan - and have reviewed methods of developing a permanent registry system.

The registry system which we decided would best meet peoples' needs - and would best enable AMNSIS to represent your interests in the Constitutional negotiations - required automation of the membership register. Unfortunately, funds were not available to allow us to develop this computerized system. Because there were too many other important activities which required funds, we have decided to delay this project - but will continue to work on getting the new registry of Metis family units in place before we make final decisions on specific positions we will take in the Constitutional Negotiations.

#### **SPECIAL ISSUES**

AMNSIS, as the voice of Saskatchewan's Metis and Non-Status people in the Constitutional Negotiations, has taken the position that we must regain control over our own lives - our goal must be self-government. For the future this is the only long-term solution, but to deal with the problems many of us face today we must also be prepared to deal with immediate concerns - and to work with other organizations to solve these problems.

As we have done in the past, AMNSIS has continued to work in co-operation with other organizations which represent some of the special interests of our people - and I have tried to help this process, by maintaining contact and working with organizations such as: the Sas-

katchewan Association of Northern Local Governments, the Northern Trappers Association and Saskatchewan Native Women. While doing this, I have also been directly involved in dealing with some special issues on an on-going basis - some of these are outlined below.

As one of the AMNSIS Members of the Tripartite Committee on the Constitutional Negotiations (Federal Government, Provincial Government and AMNSIS), I have pushed strongly for including several topics in the negotiations:

1. Development of the Batoche site as a cultural, political and administrative centre for Saskatchewan Metis institutions and programs.
2. Education, training and other upgrading programs for Metis and Non-Status adults who are not able to be fully competitive in today's job market - and education programs for our children, so they will be able to fully participate in future economic opportunities, while also maintaining their culture and language.
3. Housing programs which will assist the Metis and Non-Status to meet their own housing needs - in Metis communities, in towns and in the cities.
4. Development of a strategy which will support Metis and Non-Status control of economic development for our people - through programs to support small business development, participation in resource developments and training of our people in business and administration (programs such as SNEDCO and the Gabriel Dumont Institute).
5. Negotiation of a land base for self-government - and preservation of rights to aboriginal lands which are now being used for hunting, fishing, trapping and other traditional means of living.
6. Development of a form of self-government for our members who live in urban areas - with enough control to allow us to fully participate in the social and economic life of the cities, while still maintaining our culture.
7. Funding of scholarships which will enable our people to obtain the education and skills which they will need to become involved in the e-

economy - on an equal footing with other residents of Saskatchewan.

With the strong support of other AMNSIS members of the Committee these topics have been included in the negotiations.

As Vice-Chairperson of the Gabriel Dumont Institute Management Board, I have strongly supported continued development of the many Dumont programs which are improving the skills of our people - and I will continue to fight for more and better programs, programs which are available to all Metis and Non-Status in their home communities. I will also be continuing my work to increase local community control of education programs through continued development of local Education and Training Committees.

During the past year we have had some problems getting the federal and provincial governments to accept the need for Metis control of aboriginal lands - but we have made some progress. They now seem to accept our right to control of Metis farms, but we still have a long way to go. In the North our claim is stronger, since we have continued to hunt, trap and fish in the same locations for centuries - but control of trapping blocks and a share in resource developments is not yet solidly established. Again, we still have a long difficult task ahead of us to convince governments of these rights - and we cannot succeed without the solid support of all of the Metis and Non-Status people of Saskatchewan.

Through negotiations with federal and provincial governments we have helped some Locals and Areas to obtain employment development funds - but funding will continue to be too low until we have direct control of decisions on allocation of funds.

Business development has been a high priority of the AMNSIS Board. Again some progress has been made, but there is much to be done. (Our Vice-President, Wayne McKenzie, has made this a high priority - and will be reporting in detail on our progress during the past year, and plans for the future.)

Because Northern housing programs have gone out of control in the last year, many of our members

- and other Northerners - have faced unnecessary problems. To help them to have a direct say in the housing decisions which are affecting them, I helped Northern Area Directors to open some doors - so that a meeting of SHC and CMHC officials with representatives of Northern communities could be set up to deal with these problems.

Bear Creek has been under pressure from the provincial government for over five years now - and little progress was being made to improve the conditions of the people who live there. To help Bear Creek residents to gain control over decisions which affect their lives, AMNSIS strongly supported their efforts to obtain municipal status - and helped set up meetings which lead to La Loche supporting designation of Bear Creek as a settlement under the Northern Municipality Act.

When employees of the provincial government destroyed the cabin of a Northern trapper (in spite of the fact the trapper's family had been trapping the area for two hundred years) I challenged the provincial government action - and demanded that the trapper be fairly compensated. We succeeded in having the provincial government rebuild the cabin and compensate the trapper. It was a lot of work to fix a problem which would not have hap-

pened if we had already put self-government in place - but it is the kind of work we must do until our right to self-government is recognized.

After several Board members lobbied the provincial government, Saskatchewan Parks and Renewable Resources agreed to provide a land lease in the Jans Bay area. Again, we were successful in helping our member of Jans Bay Local No 38 in obtaining the grazing permits he needed - but again, this would not have been necessary if we had self-government.

## CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS

As can be seen from some of the special issues I have worked on this year, most of the problems we all face daily result from the fact the Metis and Non-Status do not have direct control over the decisions which affect our daily lives. Every week a problem arises to again drive home this point.

We have a choice - we can keep dealing with the problems government bureaucrats create for us or we can negotiate for control over our own lives, and our own future. I believe that there is really only one choice - we must continue to push for a land base and self-government. □

# Excerpts of Executive Director Dona Desmarais' Report to the AMNSIS Annual Assembly July 24 and 25, 1986

## The Constitutional Proceedings

The multilateral process refers to activities at the national level. The body which oversees this process is the Metis National Council. The membership of the Council is currently comprised of five Member Provinces: British Columbia, Alber-

ta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. The five Presidents of the Member Provinces make up the Executive Council and approve any and all actions taken at the national level. Underneath the Executive Council we have the Constitutional Senior Officials Commit-





*Donna Desmarais supports Metis*

tee which is currently under the direction of Wayne McKenzie, Vice-President/AMNSIS. The purpose of the Officials Committee (comprised of consultants, legal counsel, chiefs of staff - member and national offices) is to prepare the necessary documentation for Ministers and Officials Meetings and also to recommend to the Executive Council any action required. It is through this Council, which has two (2) seats at the Constitutional Table, that we work for the entrenchment of Land and Self-Government Rights in the Constitution.

To date, there have been three (3) First Ministers' Conferences. One further conference is committed for in Section 37 of the Canada Act. To our membership, it may appear that there has been little or no progress to date. However, there have been some significant milestones achieved:

#### 1. Amendments at 1983 FMC

Amendments to Section 25b and 35(3) of Canada Act, 1982 which constitutionally guarantees rights included in Treaties and existing and future land claims agreements

Section 35(4) of the Canada Act, 1982 which constitutionally guarantees sexual equality of Aboriginal Peoples

Section 35.1 Canada Act, 1982 constitutionally guaranteeing that representatives of Aboriginal Peoples

will be invited to any future FMCs that has agenda items related to Aboriginal Rights

2. Acceptance of the principle that Self-Government implementation must be flexible and tailored to conditions, needs and aspirations of Aboriginal Peoples in a region or community. The acceptance also concurs that agreements will be negotiated by concerned governments and Aboriginal Peoples in the respective regions. This has been largely attempted, in limited cases, "successfully" through the extension of the multilateral process now referred to as the Tripartite Process.

3. Broad acceptance to entrench the right to Self-Government and for an amendment which will be based upon the "Four Essential Elements" put forward by the MNC at the 1986 FMC.

#### Objectives - 1987 First Ministers' Conference

1. Agreement to an amendment on the right to Aboriginal Self-Government;

2. Agreement to an amendment which makes the exercise of Self-Government dependent upon provisions in a Self-Government agreement which identifies the jurisdiction and powers of Self-Government of the concerned Aboriginal peoples;

3. Agreement to an amendment

which commits governments to negotiate and conclude such Self-Government agreements;

4. An agreement to an amendment recognizing Land Rights for the Metis.

#### The Trilateral Constitutional Process - Review and Update

Composition of the Tripartite Members:

Federal Government: Office of Constitutional Aboriginal Affairs (OCA)

Provincial Government: Saskatchewan Officials from Justice, Premier's Office, Native Affairs Secretariat

AMNSIS - Appointed by AMNSIS Board of Directors - Wayne McKenzie, Vice-President; Allan Morin, Secretary; Ed Nofield, (Alternate/Board Member); Donna Desmarais, Executive Director.

The Tripartite Process is an extension of the Section 37 Multilateral Process. The intent was to design a process whereby a mechanism could be provided to facilitate the definition of Aboriginal Self-Government to both levels of government and how those rights would be implemented in practice.

#### Goals of the Process

1. Definition - Aboriginal Self-Government Design Agreement

2. Negotiation and implementation of transitional agreements in those jurisdictions in which we seek Self-Government.

3. Provision of mechanism to negotiate and conclude Self-Government agreements, after an amendment to the constitution recognizes Self-Government as a right.

The process got underway with an initial meeting in October. However, after a major disagreement in reference to agenda and financing, the process truly never got established until December, 1985. The agenda was limited to six specific areas:

1. Land

2a. Education, Training and Job Creation

2b. Housing

Continued on Page 33

# Liberals Seek Grassroots Direction

By Jean-Paul Claude

**Regina** - The Liberal Party of Saskatchewan recently hosted a public inquiry here for the express purpose of setting party policy, determining strategy priorities and developing a platform from which to launch their campaign for the next provincial election. The hearings were open to the public. Individuals from specific interest groups were invited to present briefs to the board of inquiry in relation to those issues they feel will have to be addressed by the next provincial government.

Ralph Goodale, Saskatchewan Liberal party leader, said, "The way things are shaping up, it is highly likely that Saskatchewan will have a minority government after the next election. It is also very likely, if such is indeed the case, the Liberal party will hold the balance of power in the legislature. We are gearing up now so that we are totally prepared to assume the full measure of that responsibility if and when the electorate hands it to us. We are going to the people at this time to find out what they want and we will be working hard now and in the next four or five years to ensure that those issues are indeed addressed."

Two groups which attended the hearings with prepared briefs were the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), and the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Local Governments. Mr. Jim Durocher, AMNSIS Treasurer and Liberal Candidate in the Battleford/Meadow Lake constituency and Mr. Allen Morin AMNSIS Vice-President attended on behalf of AMNSIS and the Northern Local Government group was represented by two long-time and well respected Northern activists in the persons of Mr. Max Morin and Mr. Jim Favel.

In his presentation, Mr. Durocher outlined a comprehensive policy position paper on Aboriginal Issues for discussion and adaptation. Durocher said that up until this time, the Liberal party at all levels, "has



*Jim Durocher woo Liberals*

had no well identified or articulated position on Aboriginal Issues."

Durocher's presentation covered all areas of Aboriginal concern from Constitutional Entrenchment to Northern Development and was delivered with an experienced insight gained from a life time of lobbying for Aboriginal concerns.

In his conclusion, Durocher stressed the urgency of the Liberal Party's "recognizing the socio-economic deprivation of Aboriginal peoples resulting from past government policies."

He added that the people of Saskatchewan turned their back on the Liberal Party in the past, largely because, "the party did not have realistic policies in place" and was seen to have "lost touch with the grassroots people." He stressed that this cannot be allowed to continue. Durocher saw the inquiry as a challenge to demonstrate to the electorate that the Liberal Party can act in its best interests with solid and time-proven policies and values. He said, "the Liberal Party must be ready with new and alternate policies."

Max Morin and Jim Favel were applauded by 'Red' Williams, Saskatchewan Liberal Party President, as presenting in the most effective and passionate way he had heard, a call to governments to begin the process whereby Northerners' claim to Northern resources can finally and realistically be recognized and dealt with.

In beginning his remarks, Mr. Max Morin, acknowledged the fact that in as much as the Saskatchewan Liberal Party invited his group to participate in the inquiry prior to their establishing Northern Policy, they had recognized the fact that Northern Aboriginal groups have a right to participate in the political

process and the decisions affecting their lives as well as the fact that Northern Aboriginals have a responsibility to participate in developing solutions to the specific problems faced in the North.

"The Saskatchewan Liberal Party has set a precedent," Morin stated. "You are the first political party which has asked us to participate in the development of policies for the North before those policy decisions have been made."

In presenting his far-reaching proposals which would eventually result in Northern self-sufficiency, Morin stated that they were not new but rather, "the people of the North had been saying the same things for a long time and for just as long a time they have been ignored and for just as long a time the conditions in the North have been getting worse."

Some of the major problems Morin brought forward were those of 90% unemployment figures in Northern Saskatchewan, the desperate need for a Northern developed economic base, the development of Northern located secondary industries and adequate and geographically feasible housing options.

Morin identified the Bayda Inquiry of the mid 1970's as recommending many of the same solutions as he is doing now and which his people and fellow Northerners had recommended repeatedly. He said that he hoped that this inquiry tries to see these stated concerns and priorities, "through the eyes of the North." He concluded by challenging the Liberal Party to make listening to the North a habit because, "I certainly intend on maintaining my habit of demanding that Northerners have a full and fair say in the decisions which affect their lives and futures."

While reflecting on the inquiry, Ralph Goodale said that Northerners can definitely expect the Liberal Party to make Northern and Aboriginal issues a priority in all of their policy planning as well as in any government they form or participate with in the future. "We will work 'damn' hard with all Saskatchewan's Native groups and leaders to find the best humanly possible solutions with which to address the timely and real concerns of Saskatchewan's Aboriginal community." □



# Ladies Shove Over, Man Crowned Bannock Baking Queen

By Karen LaRocque

**Batoche** - One of the more exciting cultural events held at "Back to Batoche Days '86" was the Bannock Baking Contest. Participation was overwhelming and this really had the organizers moving. For some contestants it was a new experience,

but for others it was a daily routine.

The only prerequisite to enter the contest was that the contestants have a mixing bowl and frying pan. All the ingredients were supplied by the organizers and were placed at the head table.

The competition began precisely at 3:00 p.m. when the contestants collected their ingredients and began mixing. A crowd gathered around watching and shouting tips to the new comers. Once the kneading was completed the participants were off to the baking pit.

At the baking pit there were many different styles of baking. Some raised some side of their pans while others put hot embers underneath them. One contestant, Ed-

ward Peterson of Regina, was so caught up in the baking process that he layed down beside his frying pan to keep a close eye on his entry. Not even the smoke or ashes blowing in his face could deter him from his task.

There was a wide variety of shapes, sizes and colors to the bannock. The judges approached the sampling table for the task at hand. During the tasting test, there were many interesting expressions on the faces of the judges who made a second trip down the row of entries.

The end result had placed George La Fleur of Slave Lake in first place. Edward Peterson of Regina came in second and Flora McKay from La Ronge came in third. □

# SNACC Camp: A Booming Success

By Tom Twist

**Regina** - A summer youth camp sponsored by the Saskatchewan Native Alcohol Council Corporation (SNACC), was everything organizers hoped it would be. The camp, which was held at Deschambault Lake, saw twenty-five young people from across Saskatchewan participate in a series of comprehensive alcohol and drug awareness exercises while at the same time enjoying all the outside excitement which summer camps traditionally have to offer.

Mr. Ken Sinclair, SNACC Director, recently commented that in addition to providing campers with a very enjoyable and fun-filled holiday SNACC was also able to realize their ultimate goal which was to 'plant the seed' for a greater awareness of the devastating effects of alcohol and drug overuse and dependency.

The theme of the four day camp was "Future Leadership is Sober Leadership" and was aimed at preparing young Natives to look towards leading their people to realize a brighter and more prosperous future than they have experienced in the past and for which alcohol and



SNACC campers prepare to go fishing

drug abuse has been determined to have contributed to.

Information provided was not all related to alcohol and drug abuse but rather the betterment of all Native peoples. Mr. Don Ross, Constitutional Co-ordinator of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) made a presentation to the campers in regards to the vital issues at stake for all Canadian Natives at the constitutional meetings in Ottawa.

In addition to attending lectures, the campers participated in regular camp and recreational activities such as fishing, swimming, baseball, football and some enthusiastic campfire entertainment which was

provided by Eldon LaFontaine, one of the Field Educators. Mr. Marcel Gerard, an elder from Prince Albert, was available for personal guidance and information regarding the values of traditional Native life.

Camp staff included Field Educators Kevin Daniels, Lyle Daniels, Gary Daniels, Larry Beatty, Eldon LaFontaine, Mary Campeau, elder Marcel Gerard, cook Muriel Schoenthal and assistant cook Debbie Fitzer.

"The Camp was very successful. It provided a very positive influence on the kids in regards to a better understanding and more knowledge of alcohol and drug abuse and its' effects," commented Lyle Daniels,

Senior Counsellor at SNACC. He added that this camp, being a first-time venture, was a learning experience for both staff and campers.

Organizers noted that although all campers commented that they had enjoyed themselves immensely, it was felt that programs and activities were geared more for the younger age groups. They have committed themselves to expanding their range of programming and interests in the upcoming years to better accommodate the interest of all participating age groups. □



Campers happy faces grace the ball field

## Champion Canoe Racer, Solomon Carrier

By Joan Beatty

"I've been around canoe racing ever since I can remember. My uncle (Roger Carrier) was always racing," says one of the most unsung champions of Saskatchewan sports, Solomon Carrier of Cumberland House.

Sitting on the backyard of his in-laws house in Saskatoon before leaving for Cumberland House, Carrier flips through clippings and photos that he has collected of his canoe racing for the past 12 years. Most of them are of victories won with world renown paddlers such as Serge Carbin of Quebec.

Among the victories are one of the biggest races in North America, the 125 mile race at Shawinigan, Quebec, which Solomon and Carbin won last year. Other wins include the 80 mile race at Flin Flon, Manitoba, the biggest race in western Canada, the Canadian Championship in New Brunswick, and the 200 mile race at Michigan which Carrier and Butch Storkton won with a record time of 14 hours and 20 minutes.

Carrier says they have to paddle all night in some of the races. "You get tired alright but I really find it a lot of fun," he says.

Tanned and looking very trim and muscular, Solomon said it was imperative that you stay in shape and healthy if you are going to

compete in world canoe racing. He added you not only need to maintain a balanced diet but have to set aside many hours each day to stay in shape. "Carrier paddles 4-5 hours a day, runs 5-6 miles each day and works out with weights as well. He also stressed the need to rest, which does by taking one day off each week.

Canoes used for the races are made of very light material, weighing between 25-30 pounds and measuring at 18' 6".

One of Carrier's dreams is to be able to train other northern youth on the sport of canoe racing. "It is a good way to stay out of trouble," he says, "referring to the high delinquency of northern youth who have very little to keep them busy. Carrier says many of the young people in the north have such natural ability because they are raised in the environment where canoeing and paddling is part of their life style. Most northerners are dependent on the fishing and trapping industry as their livelihood where boats are used.

In his spare time during the summer months, Carrier paddles with about 24 young people in Cumberland House. He says they are getting to be really good and he would like to paddle with one of the guys next year.

This fall, Carrier will be travelling to Hawaii to compete there for the first time in his life. He is part of a nine man American team and they will be in a 40 mile race.

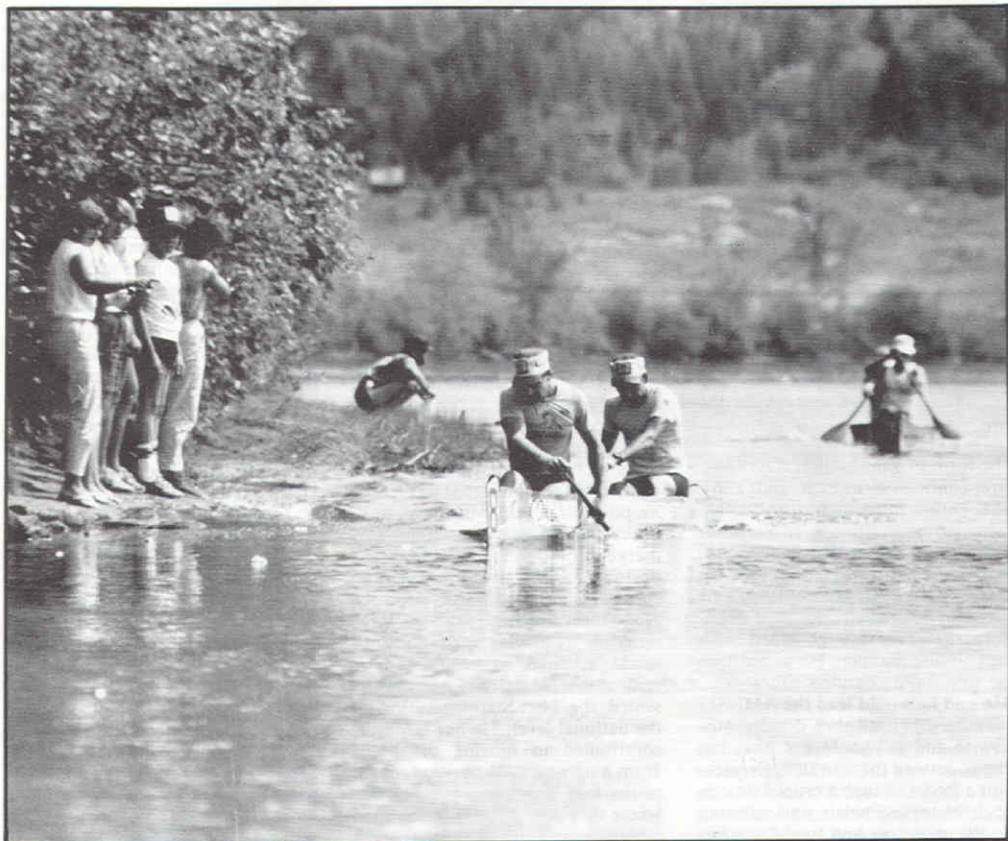
He says these are the kinds of opportunities that are open to young people if they would only put their time and effort towards this sport. Carrier hopes that canoe racing in Saskatchewan will eventually become as big as it is down East and that more people become aware of the sport.

Carrier, along with his wife Renee, and son, Riel, live in Cumberland House. They own a tourist camp called 'Big Eddy Camps', 45 miles west of the community, mainly catering to hunters. Carrier also traps in the winter but spends the summer canoe racing. □



Solomon Carrier leads the pack in 1981 canoe race





*Shoreline supporters encourage fatigued paddlers*

## **AMNSIS Annual Assembly Sinclair Weathers the Batoche Storm**

*By Jean-Paul Claude*

**Batoche** - The 1986 Annual Assembly of the Association was held on July 24-25 at the Batoche site and preceded the Annual Back to Batoche Days celebrations, which has become customary in recent years. The assembly is the one occasion

each year when the AMNSIS executive actually face the AMNSIS membership and are called on to account for their past year's activities.

Although the bulk of the meeting time is taken up by executive and committee reports, there is always time allowed for questions and discussion following each report as well as a bearpit session where the membership is free to pursue any area of concern whether it is included on the agenda or not.

One of the more traditional aspects of this session has been for discontents within the organization to pounce on Jim Sinclair, AMNSIS president for the past fifteen years, and table a non-confidence motion against him. Just as traditional is the fact that Sinclair always receives overwhelming support from the

floor, which in turn enables him to easily ride out and overturn that motion.

Members and delegates strayed somewhat from that tradition this year only in that they were unsuccessful in bringing that non-confidence motion to the floor.

Although the 'Get Rid of Sinclair Campaign' was even more colourful and enthusiastic than usual with a number of prominent Metis advocates such as Rod Bishop and Frank Tomkins lending their support to that initiative, Sinclair supporters were equally enthusiastic. The attack on Sinclair was brought up at every opportunity throughout the two-day meeting, each time being met with a challenge from Sinclair himself, to bring their bones of contention to the floor in



Rod Bishop attacks Sinclair leadership

the form of yet another, traditional non-confidence motion and allow the entire membership to decide whether he continues to serve as their leader or not. Sinclair explained that he has worked hard over the years for the Metis people and he has also worked equally hard to ensure that they are governed in a democratic manner. He added that he would not abandon either ideal. He said he would lead the AMNSIS membership until they decided otherwise and he would not abandon them, leaving them to struggle without a leader at such a crucial time in their history. Sinclair was referring to the upcoming and final Constitutional Conference on Aboriginal Matters slated for Spring of 1987. He was also responding to a call by Marie Campbell that he resign immediately.

Sinclair called their bluff and Campbell and her supporters never brought the matter to the floor as a motion after it became obvious that theirs was an unpopular position as indicated by the barrage of Sinclair supporters who approached the microphones to sing his praises and the deafening applause that followed each testimonial.

The annual maneuver by Sinclair has been called many things, among them a political ploy. But Sinclair is a politician and an extremely able one at that. The fact that he implements political strategy to address the issues before him and in turn do the job he was elected to do is anything but a condemnation. More than anything else, it is a tribute to

his ability as a political leader and an affirmation of his skills to effectively negotiate the political solutions which the AMNSIS membership is seeking from Ottawa.

Many of those who launched the attack against Sinclair as well known discontents within the AMNSIS organization, but on the same hand many more of them are sincere and honest champions of the same issues and concerns which Sinclair supports and reportedly works towards. Many of their concerns are entirely valid and no one could ever deny them the right to voice them.

To many, the issue is not whether Sinclair is an effective leader but rather whether he is an effective leader of the Metis.

Sinclair repeatedly and publicly declares himself to be an 'Indian' and the suggestion is that he is using his position as leader of the Metis in Saskatchewan as well as funds earmarked for development of Metis position papers, to develop a platform and an organization for the Non-Status Indians.

While reviewing past constitutional meetings, it becomes quite evident that Sinclair has never represented the Non-Status position at the national level. He has however, contributed to moving the Metis from a non-existent position, as far as the feds were concerned, to one where they are officially recognized within the context of the Canadian Constitution, as a specific Aboriginal people.

As far as the funds earmarked for Metis being used for Non-Status issues, that is more a concern based on misunderstanding and confusion. Funds allocated both provincially and federally as operational or program funds to AMNSIS have always been used as they were intended, to deliver programming to the Metis and Non-Status people of Saskatchewan for whom AMNSIS is responsible. However those funds received from the Federal government as constitutional funds for the development of Metis constitutional position papers, have only been used for that express purpose and have never been filtered through for Non-Status issues or concerns. Neither have they been used for general operational or program funds for the general AMNSIS membership. All of these facts are a matter



Nap LaFontaine stands toe to toe with AMNSIS discontents

of public record and very easy to check out if one takes the time.

Sinclair has denied that allegation but does not hesitate in claiming that while he has never used specifically Metis funds to finance Non-Status issues he has a mandate, as elected leader of the Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan to champion the position of both groups and ensure that they are not 'left out in the cold' once the constitutional process is concluded.

The bone of contention for the Metis dissatisfied with Sinclair's leadership would seem to be that Sinclair's heart is not in his work when it comes to representing Metis issues in Ottawa. This was suggested by Maria Campbell when she told Sinclair to go and organize the Non-Status Indians with her and her supporters blessings. While this is certainly a valid concern it is not one which would seem to be shared by the majority of the AMNSIS membership who expressed how far the Metis cause has been propelled under Sinclair's leadership.

Certainly, the time will come when Sinclair's skills will not be those needed to best represent Metis issues and that time it would seem, is not far off, even by Sinclair's estimation. When that time does come, those that elected Sinclair and continue to support his leadership will be the same ones to give him his walking papers in a democratic manner.

The issue will be ideal leadership rather than Sinclair and the decision will come out of the ballot box. □



# Dance Competition Well Attended

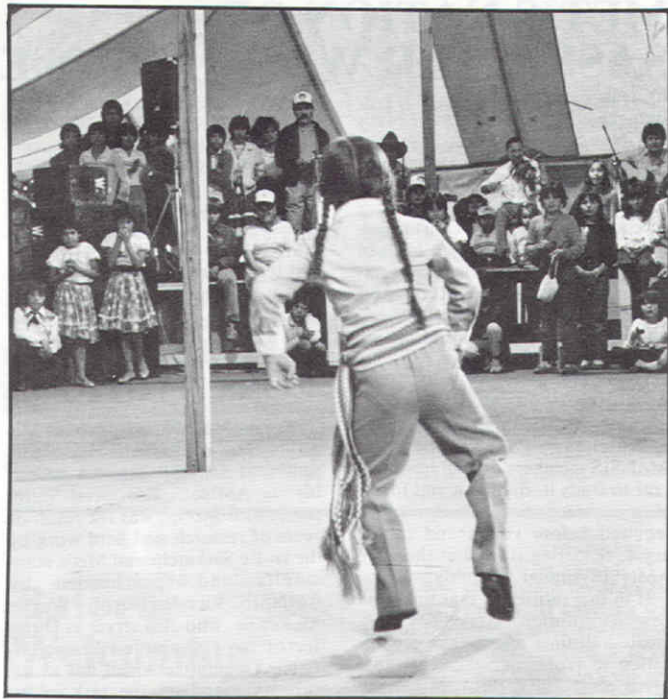
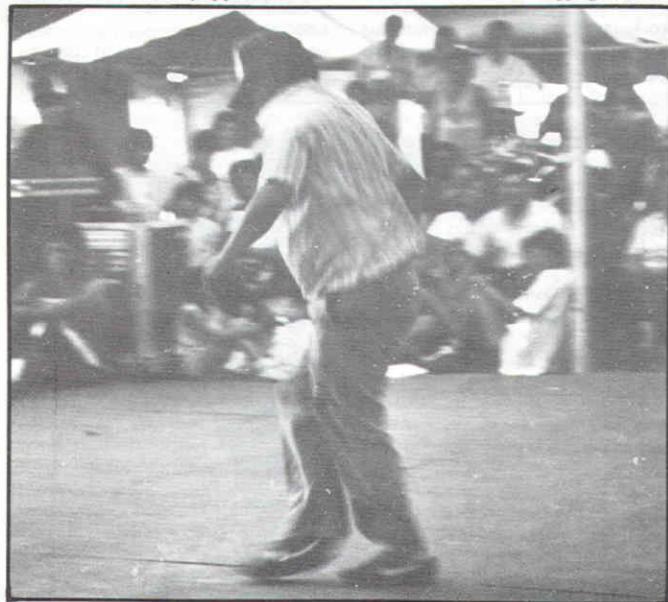
By Karen LaRocque

**Batoche** - The square dancing competition at "Back to Batoche Days '86" had overwhelming audience participation even more than the organizers had anticipated. The dancers ranged in age from Juniors (ages 8 and up) to Intermediates (adults). In the finals there were two groups to perform in the Junior Division and three groups to perform in the remaining divisions.

Well known Metis musician, Reg Bouvette and his wife Merrill, played the accompaniment for the dancers. Audience participation was high as demonstrated by their tapping toes and swaying to the music.

The first division of dancers to perform were the Juniors. The competition was between the Charlobois School Dancers, Cumberland House and the Tinyville Dancers. The professionalism that was displayed by these children was years beyond them. If a mistake was made they just continued on. Both groups did well.

*A flurry of feet is the main attraction at the Batoche Jigging Contest*



*Beamer Morrison flies at Batoche*

The next division of dancers to come on stage were the Seniors. Competitors included the Opitsihmok Dancers from Kamsack, the Cree Land Dancers from Duck Lake and the North Saskatchewan River Dancers from Onion Lake.

Last, but not least, the Intermediate groups performed. The competitors in this division included the Cote Cloggers, the Kikino Northern Lights and the Chief Beardy Memorial Dancers. These groups really showed all the years of experience they had behind them. From their chasses to their promenades they put on a class act.

First place finishers in the Junior Division, were Charlobois School Dancers and runner ups were Tinyville Dancers. In the Senior Division, the Opitsihmok Dancers took first place. Second place finishers were North Saskatchewan River Dancers and third place was captured by the Cree Land Dancers. In the intermediate Division Kikino Northern Lights won first place while Cote Cloggers came in second and Chief Beardy Memorial Dancers placed third. □

# METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN PROPOSED

By Jean-Paul Claude

**Batoche** - The Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) membership, made a momentous decision at their recent annual assembly, where they accepted a new draft constitution which in effect has set the wheels in motion to alter the close association Saskatchewan's Metis and Non-Status Indian people have enjoyed since that organization was established and before.

The motion passed was to accept a draft resolution entitled the Constitution of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Inc., and the AMNSIS membership will have one year to study it, discuss it and formulate any resolutions which may be required before voting and ratifying it, rendering it legal at the 1987 AMNSIS Annual Assembly.

If in fact ratified at that time, the new constitution would not only create a distinct and unique organization to represent Saskatchewan's Metis community, but it would, by the very nature of it's name and intended function, leave the Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan with no representative organization to lobby for their rights at either the provincial or federal level.

AMNSIS has hired a number of consultants and advisers over the past few years to study this very question but few answers seem to be developing other than a flurry of informational meetings and a strong call to get busy organizing and developing an organization to meet the needs of those not included within Status Indian or Metis position papers being developed and already laid across the constitutional table.

The reason for this uneven degree of development in respect to the Metis and Non-Status within AMNSIS would seem to be largely due to the fact that, while AMNSIS has received a generous budget to develop the Metis Constitutional position by virtue of their gaining recognition at the constitutional table, this is not so with the Non-Status. They have neither been acknowledged as having a legal aboriginal identification nor will any monies be forthcoming, as far as things stand now,

which will allow them to pursue that issue.

The only positive thing to this entire situation is that when the new Metis constitution is finally ratified, it will allow those lobbyists within AMNSIS, now hogtied by nonsensical legalities, to lobby and organize openly on behalf of Non-Status issues.

## THE METIS CONSTITUTION

The draft constitution for the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, presented to AMNSIS Annual Assembly by AMNSIS Provincial Secretary, Allen Morin, was the result of years of research and hard work by the entire Saskatchewan Metis community and spearheaded by AMNSIS Vice-President, Wayne McKenzie, who also serves as Director of the Constitution Senior Officials Committee which has as its primary mandate, the task of researching and developing Metis position and policy papers in respect to constitutional matters.

In addition to the draft constitution, Morin also presented a working paper entitled, Comments and Proposals Regarding a Port-

folio System. Both papers were passed by the delegates and will work together to change the entire mandate and organizational structure of the present organization.

The paper respecting the port-Metis Nation Constitution and portfolio system will give local members a governmental body, with departmental portfolios assigned to minister-like officers.

These two papers are intended, to a large extent, to rectify the awkward position AMNSIS has found itself in time and time again, and due to its present structure. AMNSIS has been operating as a non-profit, program delivery agency for various government agencies at all levels since it was organized. In many cases, this has prevented it from operating in the best interests of its' people, in the strictest sense of the word. This system, though less than ideal, has served its' purpose in the past. Now however, while preparing for some yet to be negotiated form of self-government, the Metis require a form and system of government, rather than simply an administrative assembly.

AMNSIS President, Jim Sinclair

Con't on page 32

Wayne McKenzie; Articulate Mind Behind Metis Nation of Saskatchewan





# Regina Friendship Centre Opens New Doors

By Tom Twist

**Regina** - The Regina Friendship Centre recently announced the official opening ceremonies of their new facilities at 701-14th Avenue East which will be held on Friday, September 26, 1986. The Centre recently obtained the St. Thomas School, which had been closed for two years due to a decline in enrollments which made it unfeasible for the Regina Separate School Board to continue maintaining it.

For a number of years the Centre tried to obtain a better and larger facility. During a recent interview with Anne Pinay, Assistant Director of the Regina Friendship Centre, she outlined some of the problems experienced with the old facility at 1689 Toronto Street.

"First of all it was too small. For the amount of staff that we had at that time it was very small. Physically, it was cold in the winter. In the summertime it was hot. Sometimes the sewer backed up and when it rained the basement flooded," Pinay said. In addition to leaving some of these problems behind, the new facility which is large and spacious will also enable the Centre to provide a wider range of programs and services.

Special guests invited to the grand opening ceremonies include Mayor Larry Schneider of Regina, members of the Legislative Assembly, members of the Provincial Opposition Party and those people who were instrumental in obtaining the new facilities.

In addition to the grand opening ceremonies, the Regina Friendship Centre, which is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year, is planning a reunion of all former members and staff. Tokens of appreciation will be presented to those people who were instrumental in establishing the Regina Friendship Centre and those who have volunteered much of their time to the Centre over the past twenty-five years.

The Regina Friendship Centre began in an effort to help Native people adjust to urban life. There was a demonstrated need for a place where people could go for information and assistance in regards to housing, employment and the various agencies and services offered in the city. There was also a need for a place where these people could enjoy their own social and cultural activities.

Some of the programs presently being offered by or through the Regina Friendship Centre are the Court Workers Program, the Family Workers Program, Food Bank Referrals, Fine Options and the Drop-In Centre (1817 Osler Street).

"The Regina Plains Community College will be renting two classrooms at the Centre for Life Skills

and Job Skills courses. Registration for these classes will be handled by the Community College. A Day Care Centre is in the planning stages and if we get more funding we could probably sponsor more activities for the different age groups." Pinay added.

Other facilities being used regularly at the Centre are the ball diamonds and the gymnasium where a bingo is held on a nightly basis.

Although there has been a rash of well-publicized internal problems at the Centre in the past two to three years, Pinay said that these have been effectively dealt with and are all behind them now. The Regina Friendship Centre, with its' new facilities and planned programs can look forward to a much brighter and more satisfying future. □

## Batoche Welcoming Committee

By Karen LaRocque

**Batoche** - Recent visitors to "Back to Batoche Days '86", the annual, three day cultural festival hosted by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indian of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS), were looking forward to an enjoyable stay, but were irked at being stopped at the gate by security personnel. The security guards carried out a thorough search of the vehicles and collected an entrance fee from every person in the vehicles that passed through the gate.

One particular visitor informed us "We drove into the 'Back to Batoche Days' grounds and before I could ask about the displays and events, the gate attendant poked his head into the window and said gruffly 'one, two, three, four, five, that will be \$25.00. Pull your car to the right and open the hood and get out of the car'. They added that they felt very insulted to be met at the gate with that sort of greeting.

According to Henry St. Denis, Batoche security guard, it was their job to do these things, "Check trunks, gloveboxes, underneath the

hoods and underneath the seats for liquor or weapons. If anything was found the articles were confiscated and the violators received a ticket which allowed them to pick up any confiscated articles when they left the grounds."

The security guards were screened by Canada Manpower. They were required to be bondable and could not have a criminal record. Once they had been accepted into the program they underwent an extensive six month training course. Donna Simpson, another Batoche security guard, informed us that during this training they received, "classroom courses training, films, exams, a first aid course, C.P.R. training and were taught how to patrol and arrest."

When questioned on arresting violators, Donna and Henry added that they were only empowered to make a citizen's arrest. "We would detain them until the police arrived then turn them over to the police."

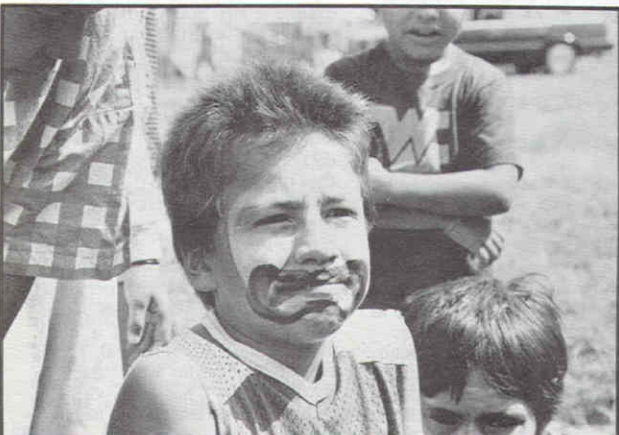
Even though, there were some concerns in regards to the security procedures, alcohol consumption and criminal activity were minimal. Just having the security personnel on the grounds deterred a lot of activities that may have left a black mark on the cultural festival. This is one of the reasons why "Back to Batoche Days" has been virtually without trouble since it first began.



*MOMMY LOOKS AT THE FUNNY MAN...*



*DO I LOOK AS FUNNY AS HE DOES?*



*OH! IF MY FRIENDS COULD ONLY SEE ME NOW*

# CHILD BATC

*MMMM.... GOOD TO THE LAST CRUMB*





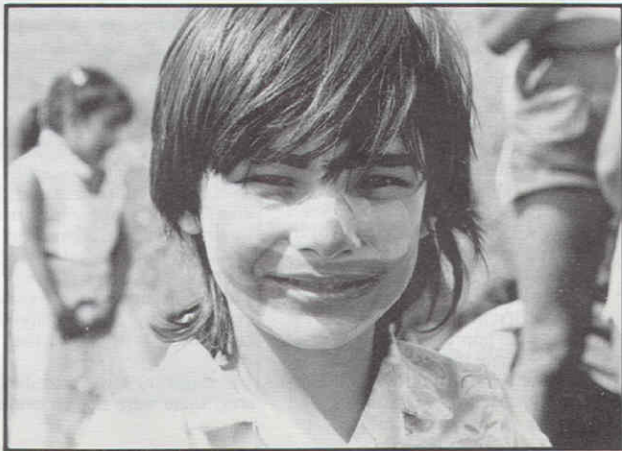
# REN OF OCHE



*THE DELEGATES FROM OUTERSPACE HAVE ARRIVED*



*WHO SAID DIAMONDS ARE A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND?*



*A WINNING SMILE*

# Back To Batoche Days 1986: An Annual Success

By Jean-Paul Claude

**Batoche** - The annual Back to Batoche Days celebrations, though not as well attended as in previous years, did not experience a lack of enthusiasm by those who did attend this popular, summertime Native cultural festival hosted by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS).

The festivities began with opening ceremonies on the evening of July 25 and continued through to July 27 at approximately 7:45 p.m., when the ever-popular fiddling competition was finally concluded. Though the final evening of the festival was greeted with a three hour downpour which totally soaked everything from concessionaire's food supplies to my fine leather boots which I had water-proofed just a week earlier, it failed to dampen the spirits of the competitors or the audience who had gathered under the large multi-coloured tent to bid a fond and final farewell to Batoche for one more year.

Back to Batoche Days once again offered something for everyone who attended. Although there were some complaints voiced in respect to the organization and scheduling of some of the events as well as the strict security measures, these were drowned out by the compliments and praises offered in respect to the great time once again enjoyed by almost everyone.

This year's chairman of the Batoche Centenary Committee, Merrill Fiddler, along with the organizers and sponsors of the various events along with their dedicated and over-worked volunteers and helpers deserve the warmest hand of applause for the great job they did.

The first item on this year's agenda was the impressive opening ceremonies where the 1986 Mr. and Ms. Batoche were introduced to the assembly. Medric McDougall and



*Dignitaries assembled at the Batoche Grand Opening Ceremonies*

Joyce Racette were chosen as this year's emissaries of Batoche good will and both are well known for their years of dedicated work in the interest of our Native communities.

Master of ceremonies throughout the festival was Ray Fox who now works out of Edmonton. Fox never fails to enrich Batoche with his unique style, charisma and professional competence which continue to make him one of Canada's most sought after Native commentators and all occasion speakers.

The significance of Back to Batoche was once again most evident at the Sunday morning gravesite ceremony, held to acknowledge the contribution of those faithful Metis and supporters who fell during the Metis resistance of 1885 at Batoche. The ceremony which was attended by about sixty-five faithful who failed to be deterred by a heavy early morning cloudburst, included a sweetgrass smudge and pipe ceremony which was performed by Jean Baptiste Felix of Sturgeon Lake. Felix is the resident Elder at the Indian Cultural College in Saskatoon. Reverend Adam Cuthand and Father Gilles Doucette officiated over the ceremony which was concluded with an inspiring song written and performed by Terry Lusty of Edmonton and a recital of the Lord's Prayer.

Despite the lower attendance figures, these were not so evident by

the registered participation in the ever popular cultural and sporting events or the talent competition which have all become traditions at the annual, two day festival. All event organizers indicated an increase in registrations over previous years and as a result, all those events ran longer than usual except for the fastball tournament which had its' final playoffs cancelled due to the inclement weather conditions on the final day. As a result, the first and second place winnings were split between the top two contenders in the men's A and B sides as well as the women's final fastball events.

In addition to all the regularly scheduled events, special activities were hosted for the 'Children of Batoche' by AMNSIS. Claude Petit, AMNSIS Recreation Director, organized a number of sporting events for the younger Batoche enthusiasts and Marla Dufour was engaged to organize and provide a number of special interest activities for the youngsters as well. Some of those activities included storytelling sessions, play acting, foot races and face painting along with numerous others which seemed to be a big hit as indicated by the smiles on the children's faces and the fact that they returned each day to start all over again.

Special recognition is due Murray Hamilton, Gabriel Dumont Institute's cultural events organizer,



for manning the microphone under the main tent for the entire scheduled program on the final day of the festival. Hamilton took over those duties when M.C., Ray Fox, had to leave Batoche early to catch a plane in Saskatoon. As far as I could see, Hamilton wasn't relieved all day and remained until the final curtain fell on Back to Batoche Days 1986. Hamilton displayed the brand of dedication and commitment which has made the festival the great success it has become over the years.

The annual talent show which has easily become one of the most popular events at Batoche, was sponsored this year by the Saskatchewan Native Communications Corporation. There were two categories in the competition with a total of twenty-nine participants registered in both categories.

The degree of talent evident was overwhelming as usual and though all were applauded by Fox as winners in their own right, the judges were faced with the difficult task of selecting the best of the best.

Judging criteria was based on professional standards which had been provided by the Saskatchewan Department of Culture and Recreation which sponsors the annual Saskatchewan Talent Search and has expressed an interest in associating that competition with the popular Batoche Talent Show. Although a final arrangement has yet to be agreed upon, negotiations are pending and a final agreement should be reached soon.

Prizes in the talent show included ten hours of recording time at Sunshine Records studio in Winnipeg. Top winners in each category received the ten hour grand prize as well as trophies. Large trophies will carry their names and will be maintained by the organizers from year to year. These trophies will be prominently displayed at the offices of SNCC throughout the year. Second place talent winners each received a ghetto blaster along with their trophies and third place winners each received a trophy and a walkman stereo. Trophies and prizes were generously provided by the following organizations: Harry's Hi-Fi in Regina, B-Sharp Music in Regina, MCTR (Panasonic Canada), Associated Printers in Regina, Fantastic Photography in Regina and Saskatchewan Native Communications Corporation.

Claude Petit's Sporting events as well as Rose Boyer's Batoche Baking Contest cannot be applauded enough. These two events have always been the backbone of Back to Batoche Days and no doubt, they always will be. Both organizers did a terrific job and it is doubtful if anyone could do it as well. I hope they continue providing their fine leadership and individual expertise in these areas for a long time to come.

A list of all the winners in each event is provided following this article. We apologize, of course for any omissions and hope we have spelled all your names correctly.

Now that it is all over for another

year, there is little left to do or say except that I for one, can hardly wait to go 'Back to Batoche' in 1987.

In conclusion, Saskatchewan Native Communications Corporation and the New Breed Magazine, would like to thank again, each and everyone of those persons who worked so hard all year and especially during our festival to make "Back to Batoche Days 1986" the overwhelming success that it was.

Following is a list of many of those sponsors and contributors. We sincerely apologize for any we might have missed. But feel assured that regardless of whether your name appears here or not, your contribution was invaluable and sincerely appreciated.

**Batoche Centenary Corporation, Gabriel Dumont Institute of Applied Research and Native Studies, Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Native Alcohol Commission Corporation, Metis National Council, Tim Low, Joan Beatty, Chris LaFontaine, Ken Sinclair, Merril Fiddler, Clem Chartier, Ron Rivard, Jim Sinclair, Reg Bouvette, Phil Boyer, Claude Petit, Rose Boyer, Ray Fox and his Edmonton crew, Tracy Ladoucier, Dan Delorme, Kelly Atchinum and Band, C-Weed Band, Fred House, Yvonne Nagy, Alice Setka, Joyce Racette, Jo-Ann Amyotte, Debbie Piatop, Terry Lusty, Richard Grouet, Edward Peterson, Mrs. Bouvette, Marla Dufour, Medric McDougall, Julia Pitzel, Brenda Rothnie, George La-Fleur, Kathy Olshanoski, Linda Santer, Norma Belanger, Ray Leibel, Karen LaRocque, Brian Sinclair, Roger Ross, Donna Harrison, Morris Poitras, Henry Gardippy, Pam Bjornson, Mr. Boyer, Cote Cloggers, Steve Burns, Beamer Morrison, Ernest Eyahpaise, Carrie Marion, Lisa Lambert, Laurie Ann Church, Sunshine Records, Connie Mike, Lorena Gardippy, Armand Murray, Terry McPhail, Glen Ireland, Jim Dutiame, George Geniale, Maureen McCloud, Chief Beardy Memorial Dancers, Cree Lake Dancers, Lorene Welsh, Gertie Mont-grande, Canoe Lake Cardinals, Ochapawace Power Chiefs, James Bay Reserve, Pat McKay, Tim Coty, Travis Youngchief, and most important of all... YOU** □

Mr. & Mrs. Batoche beam before Assembly delegates and visitors



# BATOCHÉ COMPETITION RESULTS



*SNCC Talent Show; Hit of the season*

## TALENT

### Senior

- 1st - Lisa Lambert - Meadow Lake
- 2nd - Glen Ireland - Rocanville
- 3rd - Armand Murray - LaLoche

### Junior

- 1st - Laurie Ann Church - Meadow Lake
- 2nd - Connie Mike - Duck Lake
- 3rd - Lorena Gardippy - North Battleford

### Mens

A side - Split by mutual consent

### Womens

first and second split by mutual consent



*Lisa Lambert; A surprised and gracious winner*

## SQUARE DANCING

### Senior

- 1st - Opitsihmok - Kamsack
- 2nd - North Saskatchewan River Dancers - Onion Lake
- 3rd - Cree Land Dancers - Duck Lake

### Intermediate

- 1st - Kikino Northern Lights
- 2nd - Cote Cloggers
- 3rd - Chief Beardy Memorial Dancers

### Junior

- 1st - Charlo'ois School Dancers - Cumberland House
- 2nd - Timyville



*Laurie Ann Church accepts first-place prize from J-P*



## TUG-A-WAR

*Mens* - 1st Place - Regina  
2nd Place - Cumberland House  
*Women's* - 1st Place - St. Louis  
2nd Place - Lisa Sanderson Team

## FASTBALL

*Mens* - A side- Split by mutual consent  
Gordon Hawks  
Ochapowace Power Chiefs  
B side- Split by mutual consent  
James Smith Reserve  
Muskeg Lake  
*Womens* - first and second split by mutual consent  
Regina Raiders  
Canoe Lake Cardinals  
3rd Place- N. Battleford Nights

## HORSESHOE PITCHING

*Mens* - 1st - Maurice Poitras - Regina  
2nd - Willard Dicus - Leask  
*Womens* - 1st - Gertie Montgrande - LaRonge  
2nd - Lorene Welsh - ?

## BANNOCK BAKING

1st - George LaFleur - Slave Lake  
2nd - Edward Peterson - Regina  
3rd - Flora McKay - LaRonge

## FIDDLING

\*- ST — Steve Burns - Regina  
2nd - Ernest Eyahpaie - Duck Lake  
3rd - Henry Gardippy - N. Battleford

## JIGGING

*Mens Senior*  
1st - Jim Dutiamé - Manitoba  
2nd - George Geniale - Yorkton  
3rd - Tim coty - Kamsack  
*Mens Int.*  
1st - Travis Youngchief - ?  
2nd - Dale Cote - ?  
3rd - Vince McKay - ?  
*Mens Jr.*  
1st - jason Eyahpaie - Duck Lake  
2nd - Beamer Morrison 1 - Saskatoon  
3rd - Albert Sevreright - Kamsack  
*Womens Senior*  
1st - Itene Caplette - Saskatoon  
2dn - Barb Walker - Sandy Bay  
3rd - Francis Underwood - Sandy Bay  
*Womens Int.*  
1st - Connie Mick - Duck Lake  
2nd - Pat McKay - Saskatoon  
3rd - Colleen Eyahpaie - Duck Lake  
*Womens Jr.*  
1st - Carrie Marion - ?  
2nd - Maureen McCloud - ?  
3rd - ?



Horseshoe pitcher gets pitched a winning prize



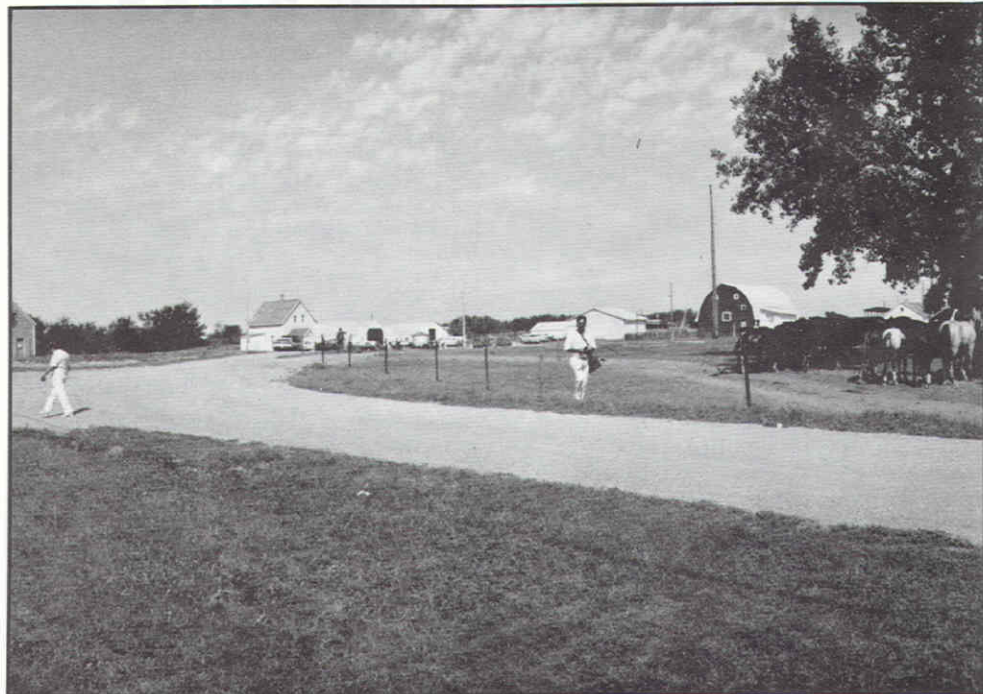
Flora McKay's entry looks ALMOST good enough to eat



Marie Campbell pulls more than her own weight at Batoche



BIG...Regina Tug of War winner accepts congratulatory from Claude Petit



*A balmy summer day at Lebret Metis Farm*

## P.C.'s Recognize Metis Land Claim

By Jean-Paul Claude

**Lebret** - Monday, August 18, 1986 was a day which will be recorded in the annals of history as that day on which a Progressive Conservative government in Saskatchewan made the first move to right many of the past wrongs of their government on behalf of the Metis people of Canada by recognizing their aboriginal right to a land base.

After almost twenty years of painstaking research and all too often heartbreaking court hearings, the provincial P.C.s, with a lot of encouragement from the Lebret Farm Foundation Inc. and a extra gentle push from Sid Dutchak, Saskatchewan Minister of Indian and

Native Affairs, the Lebret farm was put back into the total control of Saskatchewan's Metis people.

Dutchak reported that the decision to approve the 'transfer' of the 1,153 hectare (2,680 acre) farm was based on two main factors. "First, the unique historical relationship between the Metis and Non-Status Indian people of the south-east area (of the province) and this particular area of land and, second, the special continuing interest which the membership of the foundation (Lebret Farm Foundation Inc.) has shown in developing this land for the benefit of the local Metis and Non-Status Indian people."

At a press conference held at the farm site to announce the historic occasion, Joe Leask, Secretary of the Indian and Native Affairs Secretariate in Regina, who attended on behalf of Dutchak who was occupied elsewhere at the time, made absolutely no reference to the historical significance of the transaction or proceedings. When asked why that was, Leask commented, "Oh, I

didn't notice that I hadn't done that and if that was indeed the case I can assure you that it was purely coincidental."

Mr. Dutchak himself, in a prepared press release, emphasized that the transfer of the Metis farm was only that, a land transfer and, "must not be misconstrued as a Native land claim."

It seems that the government who has set a legal and historic precedent by being the first in Canada to not only recognize Metis land claims but, also had the gumption to do something about them, is either too humble to take the credit for it or does not want to be seen as trend-setters or inter-party left-wingers by their P.C. brothers and sisters across the country.

Jim Sinclair, President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, who attended the press conference on behalf of that organization, was not nearly as close-mouthed about placing the credit for the 'land transfer' where it rightly belonged, in the lap



of Sid Dutchak's P.C.s and the Lebrét Farm Land Foundation Inc., who had engineered and negotiated the ownership of the farm for the Metis people.

"This is indeed the settlement of a Metis land claim," Sinclair responded when questioned about the significance of the occasion. "This is traditional Metis land which was taken from them and is now being returned. Although this agreement is only a legal agreement at this point in time, we will eventually ensure that it is protected forever in our constitutional agreement. We do not want it taken from us again. This is the first government move to recognize the full measure of Metis rights. This is no less than the recognition and settlement of a Metis land claim which establishes a Metis land base in this area. This is the beginning of a process of righting past Progressive Conservative wrongs," Sinclair added.

Sinclair further applauded the exhaustive and dedicated efforts of the Lebrét Farm Land Foundation and the local Metis and Non-Status people who had finally made Metis ownership of the farm a reality. "People from every sector, even from within our own organization (AMNSIS), have been telling us for years and even up until only two weeks ago, that this day would never come. That this project would never succeed. Well, it has happened because you all believed it could and then went out and worked so hard to make sure that it did." In concluding his comments, Sinclair made reference to the fact that it will never be forgotten that it was the Federal P.C.'s who were in power in 1885, during the Metis resistance when Canada's Metis were stripped of their rights and aboriginal claims. "Now," Sinclair stated, "people will remember that it was also the P.C.'s (provincial), who made the first move to finally acknowledge those rights by replacing this farm in the hands of the Metis and acknowledging the first provincial Metis land claim."

The Lebrét Metis Farm and Metis involvement in it can be documented as far back as 1865 and even earlier. During the 1930's, the farm was operated by the Oblate Fathers who were a Roman Catholic order involved in missionary work in the



*Dignitaries address the proud crowd Lebrét Metis Farm; L-R: Jim Sinclair, Nap LaFontaine, Joe Leask and Dominique LaFontaine*

area and who took over the farm to safeguard the interest of the Metis people. They operated the farm as a training centre. They hoped to train local Metis and Native people in the areas of agriculture in hopes that they could then go out and become self-reliant on their own farms.

That goal was never fully realized and in more recent years, records would seem to indicate that non-Native trainees and farmers have benefitted more both academically as well as economically than the Metis ever did.

Research and documentation compiled by the Lebrét Farm Land Foundation has established that historically, the Metis contribution, in terms of machinery, seed, building materials, livestock, and sweat equity over the many years since the establishment of the farm, would have compensated any former owner of the land in question for its full market value many times over.

Interest in the farm has been high in the past few years since the Metis people began actively and effectively seeking full ownership. Much of the land has been leased out to non-Native farmers who have quite understandably been concerned about their future prospects on the land on which they have established a livelihood and in many cases a homestead. The government had also placed the land on a list of lands available or being considered for Sta-

tus Indian land entitlement claims and one or more area reserves were actively seeking the farm as part of their own land entitlement claims. Except by the direct intervention of the Lebrét Farm Foundation, the farm might have been included in such a settlement.

Nap LaFontaine, Foundation Chairman, explained that, "When it came to our attention that the government had earmarked the land for treaty entitlement and some bands had shown an interest, we met and effectively demonstrated to them that we did indeed have a historic claim to the farm. They came to appreciate our position and began negotiating for other equally valuable crown land in the immediate area."

Now that the farm is back in the hands of the Metis people, they intend to achieve what couldn't be done while the Oblates controlled it. They are planning several training initiatives which could create previously unavailable opportunities for Natives in the area and at the same time provide adequate revenues to fund those and future initiatives, whatever they might be.

Dominic LaFontaine, Foundation Secretary, stated, "the farm will serve both as a training centre and an economic development initiative. We have a lot of immediate and long range plans which could serve to realize many of the dreams our people have held for many

years. These plans are merely suggestions at this point in time," LaFontaine explained. "Whatever we do with this farm and whatever projects or business ventures we eventually develop here, will ultimately have to be decided by the Metis people themselves."

Regardless of how the P.C.' see this bold action or regardless of what they want to refer to it as, if public opinion and expression thus far is any indication, what happened at the Lebret metis Farm on August 18, 1986 will always be remembered by the country as the day the Progressive Conservative Party said, "Yes, we made mistakes in the past in respect to the treatment of our Metis brothers and sisters. We are willing to admit those mistakes and do everything in our power to right those wrongs." □



*Lebret Farm Foundation Inc., Board of Directors discuss future strategy*

## METIS FARM DEAL STRUCK

By Joan Beatty

**Lebret** - After hours of research work, hundreds of meetings, and a determination that refused to accept no for an answer, the Metis and Non-Status people of AMNSIS Eastern Region III have reached another milestone in their struggle for self-determination. On August 18, 1986, the 2,860 acre crowned owned farm was legally transferred to the Lebret Farm Land Foundation Inc. under lease to them since April 30, 1986. The farm, which provides employment and training for local Metis and Non-Status Indian people, is located six kilometres east of Fort Qu'Appelle.

The provincial government was represented by Joe Leask, Secretary of the Indian and Native Affairs Secretariat, Nap LaFontaine, Chairman of the Foundation, Dominic LaFontaine, Director, AMNSIS Eastern Region III, and Jim Sinclair, President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

Dominic LaFontaine spoke of the hard work that had been done by many people to finally make this a reality.

"We have never looked at this as a land claim but as an expansion to the work that has been done by our people. We want to use the farm for training as was originally intended by the Oblate Fathers."

LaFontaine said the transfer of title to the Metis and Non-Status people shows things can be done if everyone is unified in reaching a common goal. He extended special thanks to Sid Dutchak, Minister of Indian and Native Affairs, and to AMNSIS President, Jim Sinclair, for ensuring that "negotiations were never at a stand still."

Joe Leask said he was "delighted to be extending congratulations from the Minister" and apologized that Mr. Dutchak could not be present for the ceremonies. He said the Lebret farm has been associated with the Metis and Non-Status people since the 1860's to be shaped to what it is today. "For a number of years, the Metis and Non-Status people worked hard for this farm and it's through the efforts of Nap LaFontaine, Jim Sinclair, and AMNSIS, that this is being turned over to the Foundation today."

He said the government was "impressed with the way the local people had conducted themselves and because of their long term connection, it wanted to ensure the transfer happened which is what we are celebrating today."

He thanked the people for their tremendous amount of patience and understanding throughout the negotiations and extended best wishes from the Government of Saskatchewan.

Nap LaFontaine said, "today is the day I've waited for many years." He said that as an organization (AMNSIS), we've always talked about a land base and we have finally got something."

He said by using the farm for training and economic development, jobs can be created for the local people.

He said that reaching this milestone was not an easy task and that many long hours went into making this a reality.

"I want to make sure people know how hard we worked. We had to set up good administration, and create a financial institution. Over the years, we incorporated an area board, a development corporation, Kapachee Board, and we spent hundreds of hours at meetings. We dealt with the former government but we didn't achieve much. Then



we had to start dealing with the new government and Sid Dutchak."

He thanked Sinclair for "opening doors when it was necessary and for making sure we were headed in the right direction." He said "that's the way things should be done with local people doing the work, providing direction and receiving the help from the leadership when it is required."

"This is a tremendous success for our people, one of the first of this kind in this country."

Jim Sinclair said the ceremony was a very historic occasion, "a first in Saskatchewan and the credit has to go to the local people who sat at endless meetings sometimes till two o'clock in the morning. For the Metis, it's a major, major move. It was a hard decision for government to make it because people will look at it and call it a land claim."

He said he admires the Premier and Mr. Dutchak for both "taking a personal interest in beginning to work out the solutions of our people" and that one of the results was the transfer of the farm to the local people.

"No government has ever made a move to recognize our people and it's fitting that it's this government to begin to correct those wrongs that were done to our people," Sinclair said, referring to the fact that it was a Conservative Government that was guilty of mistreating the Metis people in the first place by hanging Louis Riel after finding him guilty of treason.

Sinclair said the land must now be protected in the Constitution so that it can never be taken away from the Metis people again.

"We must reach out to other governments to get a Constitutional resolution to protect Metis lands and rights."

Sinclair said there has been a verbal commitment from the government to look at other lands in northern Saskatchewan and that the transfer of the Lebrez farm will make negotiations easier.

He also spoke of the often frustrated process of negotiating for the farm with seemingly little support from anyone except for the people from the Lebrez area.

"As recent as a few weeks ago, at our annual assembly people were shouting at us across the room say-



*Lebrez Metis Farm: A Tranquil Scene*



*Two generations of Homes on farm site*

ing that the Lebrez people would never get the farm. There are many doubters within our own organization and within government. Now it has happened and it's one of the first in western Canada. It is a legal

transfer of land."

However, he said the credit has to go to the local people for their hard work and determination in not losing sight of their goal for more control of their own lives. □

told the assembly that it was time for 'puppet governments' to abandon the non-profit association constitution and bylaws and initiate constitutional governmental infrastructures which would be recognized by both levels of government.

McKenzie added that, "The new Metis nation Constitution and portfolio system will give local members the invested powers by their new government structure, to make decisions, practise their constitutional rights and pave the way for self-government."

Morin further explained that the new systems will re-enforce the movement towards self-government. "A Self Government Negotiating Team will be appointed and empowered with the authority to sell the constitutional package, to completely explain the roles and functions of each intricate part of the proposed legislature, to develop a comprehensive strategy to accommodate the definitions of self-government, and to design line-systems to facilitate the self-governing aspirations of the Saskatchewan Metis," Morin stated.

Both position papers suggest a gradual phasing out of the present administrative system with the new governmental system to be in place

and operational by 1988. This transitional period, it is hoped, will allow local Metis individuals and organizations the opportunity and incentive to organize new systems of local government with full authority and jurisdiction guaranteed all municipalities as well as to put their

own funding vehicles and resources in place. This was explained by McKenzie who concluded by admitting mixed emotions, both optimistic and skeptical about meeting the full scope of far-reaching objectives as specified in the new constitution.

## Native Service Workers Conference

By Cheryl Dieter

**Regina** - The Native Childrens Liaison Project at the Regina General Hospital will conduct its Third Annual Conference on September 18-19 in the auditorium of the General Hospital.

The two day conference will host several guests who will speak on a variety of topics. Martha Many Grey Horses, from the Lethbridge University, will present a discussion on the importance of kinship within the family unit. In addition a series of skits depicting problems that Native people may experience within the hospital system will be directed by Maria Campbell.

Other highlights of the conference will be a pipe ceremony and a

lunch. The audience will also be encouraged to participate in the conference through the use of "what would you do?" questions.

The conference is geared to those employed in Native services in an attempt to provide them with a greater understanding of their Native clients.

The conference is open to any person or group interested in Native people and their culture.

The official name of the program sponsoring the conference is Wasikaw Pism, "Circle of the Sun" Native Counselling Program, formerly the Awasis Atoskewin program.

Wasikaw Pism is a program based on assisting in the health needs of all Native people who come to it. The program offers counselling for various types of crisis, translators for the Cree to English language, domestic needs for out of town residents who have a child hospitalized and assistance in referring or finding family doctors. The program also acts as a liaison between hospital personnel and patients.

Currently the program is working towards particular goals such as reducing the hospitalization of urban and rural Native children, using Native counsellors to assist patients in home care, minimizing the fears of Native people entering into a hospital and promoting Natives working with Natives to link the communication gap and subsequent lack of understanding.

Registration deadline is September 5, 1986, anyone wishing to register may do so at the Native Counselling Services in the General Hospital in Regina or by telephoning 359-4628 or 359-4632 during normal business hours.

Those interested in obtaining further information in respect to either the conference or the Native Childrens Liaison Program are invited to call Lillian Isbister or Brenda Peekeekoot at the above phone number. □

# What's Ahead

1) October 17, 18, 19, 1986- Mokakit Indian Education Research Association Conference.

2) October 24, 25, 26, 1986- 18th Annual Algonquin Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

3) September 26th, 1986- Friendship Center Grand Opening of new building & Anniversary of 25 years as a organization at the new Regina Friendship Center, 701-14th Avenue East. Advance tickets for banquet and dance go on sale August 18, 1986.

4) September 13 and 14, 1986- Fred Shoenthal Memorial Golf Tournament. Tee off time at 12:00 noon on both days in Regina. For more in-

formation contact Low Daniels at 522-3681.

5) September 18 and 19- 3rd Annual Wasikaw Pism Conference to be held at the Regina General Hospital auditorium. Registration fee is \$45.00. Registration deadline is September 5, 1986. For further information contact Brenda Peekeekoot or Lillian Isbister at 359-4628 or 359-4632 at Native Counselling Services in the General hospital, 1440-14th Avenue, Regina Saskatchewan.

6) September 13, 1986- Dart Tournament at Royal Canadian Legion Hall 1820 Cornwall St. All Native, for more information contact Rodger Ross at 757-1051 after 5 p.m.



3. Economic Development
4. Batoche Site Development
5. Urban Model (Pilot-Regina)
6. Scholarship Program

To reach the goals for the process, six (6) Work Groups were established. The following gives you an update of progress to date.

#### 1. Batoche Site

AMNSIS has engaged two consultants, a Site Planner and an Architect to rework the original Batoche Site Plan proposal. They tabled a revised proposal in June, 1986.

#### 2a. Provincial Strategy for Education and Training

AMNSIS tabled the following proposals with the Work Group and received the following response from government officials:

° The Seventh Direction - both governments said no as they claimed they had no mandate or legislation to deal with the program. They, however, did agree that the proposal remains on the agenda for the long-term process and discussions;

° Plan System 11 - the Province suggested Dumont Institute fund it from its Core Funding. It was agreed, however, that the matter could be referred by the Provincial Tripartite Administrative Committee on Education and Training for renewed negotiation efforts;

° A portion of the Journalism Program could be funded under skill shortages, but that would mean dropping some existing programming as there is no new money;

° The Business Administration Proposal received the same response.

It was agreed that the last three items were to be dealt with by the existing Federal/Provincial/AMNSIS Tripartite Committee on Education and Training.

In the meantime, AMNSIS contracted with Dumont Institute to develop a detailed three-year Transitional Adult Education Agreement. A final draft was tabled with the Work Group on June 16, 1986. Detailed discussions will begin on this

proposal at the next Work Group Meeting. In regard to Job Creation, AMNSIS has contracted with a consultant to prepare a three-year Transitional Job Creation proposal. This will be compiled by the end of May and should be ready for tabling in August, 1986, with the Work Group.

#### 2b. Housing

The Tripartite Work Group will be negotiating transitional and long-term agreements from the context of Metis Self-Government Rights as provided for in the Constitution.

AMNSIS has proceeded by contracting for the development of a provincial housing strategy. This work should be completed by late June and a proposed housing program will be ready to be tabled at the August Work Group Meeting.

#### 3. Economic Development

The priority sub-agenda item for this Work Group was the approval of the SNEDFO/SNEDCO Business Plan. It was agreed to refer this matter to the Tripartite Committee and "fast track" it in an attempt to get an early decision from both governments. The Province has now indicated that it will not provide funding for the SNEDFO/SNEDCO concept in its present form or to meet a Federal Government recommendation that the Province show its support of the concept with funding.

As of this writing, the Minister of Small Business, the Honorable Andre Bissonnette, has agreed to participate in the SNEDFO/SNEDCO Business Plan to the amount of \$9.1 Million, funded over a three-year period. This offer excludes capitalization for a Trust Company and includes certain other conditions which SNEDCO must meet. SNEDCO has been requested to table a revised Business Plan reflecting these changes. This has been tabled for the consideration and approval of the AMNSIS Board.

The Province has indicated its decision not to support the SNEDFO/SNEDCO concept does not rule out assistance for some elements of the concept or for other elements of an overall economic development strategy. The most recent federal offer, therefore, opens the way for new negotiations with the Province based on their previous response.

SNEDCO is recommending that AMNSIS accept the federal offer but since that element of the concept which would make itself sufficient is removed, we accept it as transitional funding only. AMNSIS should therefore request that the issue of a permanent Economic Development Strategy stay on the Tripartite Agenda for continued negotiations in the Tripartite Process.

In regard to other aspects of the Economic Development Strategy, AMNSIS has contracted with consultants to prepare the following work:

a) A Prototype Regional Development Corporation - This work will be completed by the end of June and a concept should be ready for tabling by July, 1986.

b) A plan to provide Metis people with hands-on experience in board management in both the Crown and private sector and which as well provides on-site experiences in how these sectors handle planning, staffing, administration, control and monitoring, etc.

#### c) Sector Strategies

i) Wild Rice - this report is completed and has been tabled with the Tripartite Work Group Members.

ii) Forestry - this report is completed and was tabled at the June 17, 1986, meeting.

iii) Mineral Resources - report to be completed by the end of June and tabled in August, 1986.

iv) Agriculture - a report has been commissioned to assess agricultural land in the Green Lake, Cumberland House and Ile-a-la-Crosse areas. This report will be completed in July and will be tabled with the Work Group in August.

v) Reports on Tourism and Fisheries will be commissioned as soon as 1986-87 funding is confirmed.

#### 4. Land

This has been the most difficult area on which to move forward. In the absence of a Land Claims policy and process, there is no political model that has been used previously which we can follow. To select three sites in the North as provided for under the agreed Tripartite Agenda item is difficult to do in the absence of a Metis land policy and in the ab-

sense of detailed knowledge of land in the North. Further, one of the key resolutions on land passed at the March 1986 Summit directed AMN-SIS to proceed on the basis of a land claims approach. In addition, the agenda we have been following did not provide for negotiations dealing with land and resources in the southern part of the Province.

Land has several purposes. These include:

- a symbolic homeland,
- a place to live and govern your affairs,
- as an economic development resource.

All three purposes are important and should be considered as part of an integrated strategy. In particular, if one goal is to improve the socio-economic condition of the Metis people, the development potential of land will be a key element of the selection strategy. Therefore, it was decided to do as complete an analysis of northern lands as time and resources permit. A similar analysis of southern lands and resources must also be undertaken. □

At the conclusion of the report, the floor was opened for questions which centered around SNEDCO, housing and the formation of a Metis Women's Organization.

Norman Baneau of Beauval stated there was incompleting houses in the community because of shortage of funds. He wanted to know if something was being done in this area.

Desmarais replied that a Federal/Provincial housing agreement has just been signed and that she expected things to begin moving in this area. The present Federal/Provincial management committee to deal with housing had not met in four years.

Rose Boyer of Saskatoon said she was glad to hear that women's economic concerns were going to be addressed and expressed her interest in seeing the formation of a Metis Women's Group to address all of their concerns.

Another question dealt with the start up of SNEDFO and SNEDCO. Desmarais said she expected start up to be in September or October 1986 depending on how the negotiations go. □

# Poetry

## UNTITLED

*As I stand here  
Alone  
Each passing moment  
Away from you  
Seems like ...  
An eternity*  
by Lani Rope

## DECENDENTS

*Indian women Mothers of  
the Metis nations,  
French, English, and Scottish men  
Fathers of the Metis Nation  
Descent remotely  
The new nation is here to  
meet you.  
People unique in culture.  
Happy, laughing  
Dancing, reeling, energetic.  
Kind, big-hearted,  
Honest, sincere.  
Amidst a spirit of togetherness,  
The new nation is here to greet you*

by Bertha McKay

## IN MEMORY

*In the memory of our deceased  
brothers and sisters  
Who have struggled within prison  
walls  
Let us pray for them in body,  
mind and spirit  
That they have finally found their  
freedom in the eternal world  
For their spirits are strong, yet  
so gentle as our brother the wind  
They are like the eye of the eagle  
that watch and guide over us  
Their spirits surround us like our  
mother the earth  
They are with us and not forgotten  
Let us gather as one in unity  
½ and friendship  
And let us be aware that as  
brothers and sisters  
Inside prison walls, we must  
continue to stay strong  
For they have taken away our  
freedom in ways that  
Are not as our grandfathers  
But we will be strong and never  
let them break our spirit  
In the memory of our deceased  
brothers and sisters  
Who have struggled behind prison  
walls  
May you rest in peace as we pray*

by Sharon Ouellette and  
Peggy Merasty



## THE METIS

*The red and white Canadian.  
Having French, or English blood  
and Indian.*

*Teaching the Father's people,  
Teaching the Mother's people.  
Freedom to live like red, and*

*Freedom to live like red, or white,  
but not both.  
Tangled between the red, and white,  
being sons to both sides.  
And finally to be treated like the  
Indian, But given no treaties.*

by Lionel McKenzie

## ALONE

*As I sit here, I'm wondering  
through thee years;  
Thee years of fear and loneliness  
and happiness.  
I cry as I remember the loneliness.  
I tense up as I remember thee fear.  
I laugh at thee good times I had.  
I think of thee time  
I met a good friend,  
I think of thee time I met  
a good friend,  
And I said to myself, this  
friendship... is never going to end.  
As thee friend stated to me and said,  
"Maxie, I am your friend,  
I'm here with you always.  
You are never alone!"*

by Cheryl Maxie

## ENCOUNTER

*Where the two roads converge  
poplars flutter  
like smart young matrons planning  
a tea  
dust-motes dance along morning  
sun rays*

*Inexorably  
like the ice-berg and Titanic  
two cars meet  
metal clashes and shrieks  
In one moment  
exuberant life is changed to  
wheel-chair celebrity*

*As the twisted wreckage shudders  
into a pool of silence  
the sound emerges...  
trees still gossiping  
dust-motes laughing*

BY THELMA FOSTER



A STAR IS BORN AT BATOCHE

## INTERNAL STORMS

*Sometimes pressure builds up inside  
and grows  
like a sanddune in the desert  
After many years  
only the time is shorter  
For what seems like years  
Is only monthes  
And what seems like monthes  
Is only days  
And then things push too far  
And something goes click, inside  
The storm comes  
It hovers over  
Like a big dark cloud*

*And lets go  
And the wall I build up  
Around my emotions  
Starts to crumble  
And I explode  
Fall apart  
Like the sanddune  
After a storm  
And time passes on  
Only to let pressure  
And my wall  
Build up again  
Like the sanddune in the desert*

by Lani Rope

## News Briefs

### Sportfish in Residence

**LAST MOUNTAIN LAKE-** Parks and Renewable Resources recently conducted a series of net tests on various regions of the Last Mountain Lake area in response to several reports of poor angling on the lake. Results indicate however, that there was not a low supply of fish. The department is uncertain as to why the fish are not biting the bait, although they offer the explanation that the fish may have an abundance of feed and have no biological need for the fishermen's hook.

Tests were conducted on Wall-eye, Whitefish and Perch and the only real decline amongst the fish showed up in the Pickeral population.

Last Mountain Lake is located approximately 45 miles northwest of Regina.

### SIFC To Train Leaders

**Regina** - The Saskatchewan Indian Federated College (S.I.F.C.) will be receiving support from the Government of Canada to offer a training program to leaders of Indigenous peoples' organizations.

The Canadian International Development Agency will provide \$152,130 to cover half the cost of a two year program and because of the project's potential as a research program, \$81,265 will be contributed by the International Development Research Centre.

Individuals from six different countries in Latin America will be participating in the program at S.I.F.C which will provide training in planning, organization, management and community oriented development programs.

### Divine's Secret Out

**Regina** - October 20th appears to be the date for a general election in Saskatchewan. More than 1500 Conservatives gathered for a rally at the Interprovincial Pipe and Steel Company (IPSCO) Park recently and were told to 'get ready'.

Premier Grant Devine gave a 15 minute speech and told his supporters "Have a nice summer and fall... get ready".

Devine provided moral support to fellow Conservatives and introduced 11 Regina area candidates.

There was no information provided on the issues to be used in the election.

### Sask Power Sued

**Prince Albert** - A \$180 million lawsuit filed jointly in 1984 by the Community of House, against the Saskatchewan Power Corporation and the Saskatchewan Water Corporation has been put on hold while mediation talks between the two parties, are going on.

Residents of the community as well as fisherman, trappers, farmers and outfitters are voicing their con-

### Human Rights Defended

**Regina** - Ron Kruzeniski, Chief Commissioner of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission has said that public services and facilities that are inaccessible to people with a physical disability could provide the basis for a human rights complaint.

Our provincial human rights code states that anyone providing a public service cannot discriminate because of physical disability. Saskatchewan's highest court has supported the conclusion that equality must include the rights of physically disabled people.

cerns regarding the changes to their way of life and abilities to earn a living caused by the construction of the Squaw Rapids and Gardiner Dams. The recently built Nipawin Dam will add to the problems.

An application for a hearing under the Saskatchewan Water Corporation Act made by the Cumberland House Indian Band has also been put on hold. The band is voicing similar concerns regarding the dams. The band is not involved in the civil suit.

Mediator, Val Longworth has scheduled the next round of meetings in Cumberland House, September 17 to 19.



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# Outside The Province

## No Native Tongues

**London Ontario** - According to a report by Anastasia Shkilnyk, a Toronto consultant for the Federal Secretary of State, Native languages are rapidly disappearing. Of the fifty three aboriginal dialects spoken in Canada, the only ones that have a chance of surviving more than ten years are Cree, Ojibwa and Inuktitut because enough people are still speaking them.

Two of the main reasons given for this fact are that fewer people are speaking their languages and most of the younger generation do not speak them at all.

## Native Treatment Centre Established

**Ottawa** - The Federal Government recently purchased property in Oka Quebec for use as a treatment centre for Indian patients. The property located at 380 St. Michel will be renovated under the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and will be accessible to patients from the Kahnawake and Kanesatake Indian Reserves as well as from the Montreal area.

The building to be known as the Onontohkon Treatment Centre will remain the property of the Department of National Health and Welfare. Renovations to the building and the coordination of the treatment program will be the responsibility of a Board of Directors representing bands in the area.

With the work scheduled to start immediately the Onontohkon Treatment Centre hopes to open its doors in early 1987.

## Mercury Mongers Pay

**Ottawa** - In a recent announcement by the Honorable Bill McKnight, Minister of Indian and Northern Development, two Indian communities in northwestern Ontario, Grassy Narrows and Islington will receive a payment of \$2.75 million plus interest under a mercury pollution compensation settlement which was reached in November, 1985.

The balance of the \$16,667 settlement will come from the province of Ontario and two paper companies, Reed Incorporated and Great Lakes Forest Products Limited.

In the early 1970's a river system being used by the two communities was discovered to have been polluted by mercury. The source of the contamination was found to be a nearby paper mill.

## In-House Election

**Kamloops, B.C.** - Fred House was recently re-elected president of the Louis Riel Metis Association of British Columbia. The elections were held at the request of House, who felt that with the up-coming constitutional talks and the many problems facing the association, it would be in the best interests of its' members if elections were held now.

House added that questions about his leadership abilities and the problems coming from the Pacific Metis Federation, a splinter group, helped him make his decision.

An estimated 1300 voters registered on the first day of the meetings held in Kamloops

## Oil On Hold

**Ottawa** - The existing rights to exploration in Lancaster Sound held by Consolidated Magnorth Oakwood (C.M.O.) have been incorporated into an Exploration Agreement with the Canada Oil and Gas Lands Administration. As C.M.O. has met the requirements of its' existing permits and the agreement is a legal means of maintaining C.M.O.'s interests in the region under the Canada Oil and Gas Act.

Drilling will not occur unless it's found to be in the best interests of all parties concerned. A study of the exploration and development of Lancaster Sound will be done by the North West Territory Land Use Planning Commission and the soon to be Lancaster Sound Regional Land Use Planning Commission.

Several options for the future use of land in the area were identified by the Lancaster Sound Regional Study in 1982.



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**NEW BREED MAGAZINE**

# Recipes

By Yvonne Nagy

Once again we are presenting you with some mouth watering, wild rice delicacies from the kitchens of the Saskatchewan Indian Agricultural program. Our full meal menu includes two main course and vegetable dishes topped off with a hot weather winner for dessert.

To begin with, we would like to present you with some excellent Wild Rice cooking tips which we suggest you keep in a handy place for future reference.

## NATURALLY GROWN SASKATCHEWAN WILD RICE

Pure Saskatchewan wild rice is a premium product grown naturally in lakes and rivers in northern Saskatchewan. It is a totally organic food, grown without the aid of chemical fertilizers, herbicides or insecticides, and it contains no artificial additives or flavours.

Pure Saskatchewan wild rice is a high protein, low fat food, containing approximately 70 calories per one-half cup serving of cooked rice. It is rich in vitamin B, renowned for its high quality, nutty flavor and its soft chewy texture.

## COOKING SASKATCHEWAN WILD RICE

—these methods are easy to do but very important for best results—

### METHOD 1 — POT BOILING

1 cup Wild rice - 250 mL

4 cups - Water - 1000 mL

1 tsp. Salt - 5 mL

Wash wild rice by placing it in a wire strainer and running cold water through it.

Combine rice, water and salt in a heavy saucepan, bring to the boiling point, cover and simmer over low heat for approximately 45 minutes, until the rice kernels have burst their shells and have fluffed out.

Remove cover, stir with a fork, cover and let stand for 15 minutes. Drain off any excess water.

The rice should be now equal to about five times its original volume.

i.e. 5 cups cooked rice from 1 cup raw rice.

### METHOD 2 — OVEN BAKING (medium heat)

Wash wild rice as in method 1.

Combine rice, water and salt in a casserole or roast pan.

Place in oven at 350F (180C) for 1½ hours, stir and let stand for 15 minutes, drain.

### METHOD 3 — OVEN BAKING (low heat)

This is the same as method 2 except the oven temperature will be 200F (100C) for 2½ hours. This method does not require checking as often and will probably yield the maximum of cooked wild rice.

## TIPS ON COOKING WITH WILD RICE

**Stir-Fry and Saute** — Mean basically the same thing — to lightly brown in a small amount of butter, margarine or oil, continuously stirring until done to a tender state but definitely not overcooked.

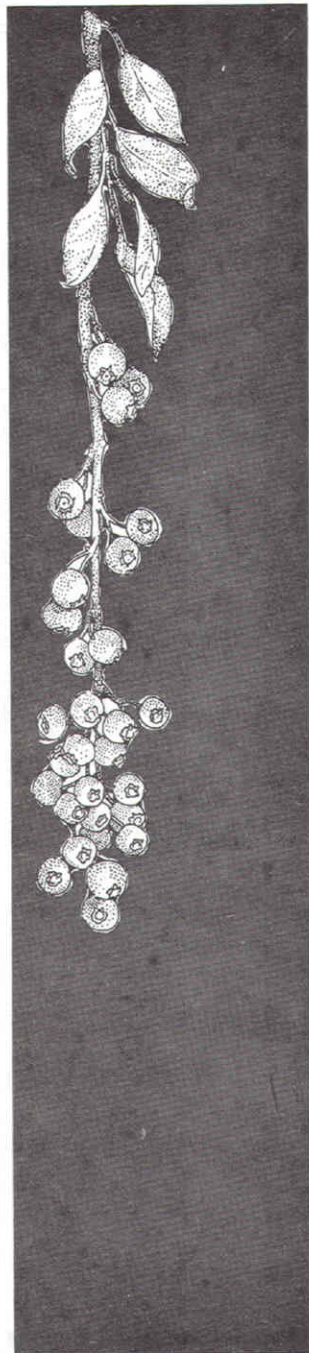
**Wok** — This is a bowl shaped metal (preferably steel) pan widely used in Chinese cooking. It is an ideal utensil for sauteing or stir frying or to deep fry such things as almonds, shrimp, etc. A large Wok is by far the best (6 quart—7 litre).

**Freezing Cooked Wild Rice**—Is an excellent way of having cooked rice available for using in cooked dishes.

Wild rice should be cooled after cooking and then frozen immediately in airtight plastic bags.

**Microwave Cooking**—This does not decrease the cooking time by very much, but is a "power saver" method.

**Soaking Wild Rice**—Soaking wild rice in water overnight will decrease cooking time. However, as the cooking time after soaking could be as little as ten minutes, it is advisable to have some experience in the conventional methods before trying this.





**Method**—wash wild rice, combine 1 cup rice and 4 cups water in cooking pot overnight (12 hours). Add 1 tsp (5mL) salt and ½ cup (125L) water and cook by method of your choice.

**The Cost of Wild Rice**—because Saskatchewan Wild Rice increases to five times its volume when cooked, comparing the cost per serving rather than the cost per pound or kilogram, is a good way to figure its actual price.

## STUFFED GREEN PEPPERS

—uses cooked wild rice—

4 Green peppers  
½ lb. Ground beef  
2 tbsp. Cooking oil  
½ cup Onions, chopped  
¼ cup Celery, chopped fine  
¼ cup Mushrooms, fresh or canned, chopped  
1 cup Tomatoes or tomato juice  
2 tsp. Cornstarch  
2 cups Cooked wild rice  
Salt and pepper  
8-16 slices Cheddar cheese, 1" x 2" x 1/8 thick, (2.5 cm x 5 cm x 2 mm)

1. Wash and cut peppers in half or quarters, remove seeds and white pulp. Place in a greased shallow baking pan or casserole, set aside.

2. Brown beef in cooking oil, drain off excess fat, add onions, celery, mushrooms, stir fry until tender. Dissolve cornstarch in tomatoes (crushed) or tomato juice, add to meat-vegetable mix and season to taste.

3. Fill peppers with filling, cover and bake at 350°F (180°C) for 35 minutes. Remove from oven and top with cheese slices, return to oven to melt cheese (about 1 minute). Serve immediately.

## STUFFED FISH FILLETS

—uses cooked wild rice—

4 Boneless fish fillets  
Salt and pepper  
¼ cup Celery, chopped fine  
¼ cup Onions, chopped  
1 tbsp. Butter or margarine  
¼ cup Dry bread cubes, ¼ inch (6mm)  
1 cup Cooked wild rice  
½ tsp. Lemon peel, finely shredded  
4 tsp. Lemon juice  
1 tsp. Parsley flakes  
¼ tsp. Salt

¼ tsp. Curry powder  
Dash of pepper  
2 tsp. Butter or margarine  
4 Lemon slices  
1 tsp. Parsley flakes

1. Sprinkle fillets with a little salt and pepper.

2. Saute celery and onions in 1 tbsp. butter or margarine, add bread cubes, wild rice, lemon peel, lemon juice, parsley flakes, salt, curry and pepper. Mix well.

3. Wrap ¼ of the stuffing inside each fillet, secure with toothpicks. Place the fillets in greased baking pan, brush with 1 tbsp. butter or margarine. Bake uncovered 20 minutes at 350°F (180°C), or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork, remove from oven.

4. Brush with remaining butter or margarine and garnish with lemon slices and parsley flakes.

## MEAT ROLLS

—uses cooked wild rice—

8 Large, thin slices of beef, pork, ham or flattened cut chicken breasts  
2 tbsp. Butter or margarine  
1 cup Onions, chopped  
1 cup Mushrooms slices  
¼ cup Flour  
1 cup Chicken or beef broth  
1 cup Light cream  
½ tsp. Salt  
¼ tsp. Pepper  
3 cups Cooked wild rice  
Parsley, fresh or flakes

1. Saute onions and mushrooms in butter or margarine, remove from heat, stir in flour.

2. Gradually stir in broth and cream, return to heat and cook until thickened, stirring constantly. Add salt and pepper. Set aside ½ of sauce. Add cooked wild rice to remaining sauce, mix.

3. Lay out meat slices, spoon up to 1/8 of mix on each slice, roll up meat as snugly as possible. Place in buttered baking dish with seam side down.

4. Pour the remaining sauce over the meat rolls, cover and bake 25 minutes at 350°F (180°C). Garnish with parsley.

## WILD RICE CREAMY FRUIT DESSERT

—uses cooked wild rice—

1-14 oz. can Pineapple, sliced

1-10 oz. can Mandarin oranges  
1-14 oz. can Fruit cocktail  
4 cups Cooked wild rice, cooled  
½ cup Walnuts, chopped  
3 cups Miniature marshmallows  
1-3 oz. pkg. Cherry jelly powder  
1 cup Whipping cream  
Maraschino cherries

1. Drain juice from canned fruit, cut pineapple into small pieces.

2. In a large bowl combine fruit, rice, walnuts, marshmallows, mix in dry jelly powder. Set in refrigerator to cool.

3. Whip cream until fairly stiff and fold into fruit mix. Decorate with halved maraschino cherries and refrigerate for one hour.

Let us again express our appreciation to the Saskatchewan Indian Agriculture program for the important work they are doing in promoting our wild rice industry as well as the continuing contribution the New Breed. We urge you to contact them for additional Wild Rice ideas and information at: 1410 Chateau Tower, 1920 Broad Street, Regina, Sask. S4P 3V2.

In case this last dessert doesn't suit your particular taste, we are presenting one more which is guaranteed to make even the fussiest pallet water with gastronomic delight. We begin by going out and picking the popular and seasonal chokecherries. Bring home those that are left after eating your fill and wash them well. Finally follow these simple instructions and cook as instructed. When done, spoon yourself out a healthy portion and hide it well for when the aroma reaches the rest of the family, there won't be anything left but the pan.

## GRENS A LA RITA

1 Pint freshly washed and ground Chokecherries  
5 Tablespoons sugar  
3 Tablespoons flour  
3 Tablespoons lard

Preheat heavy frying pan at medium heat. Combine and mix all ingredients well. Add mixture to the frying pan. Stir fry until mixture is well blended. May be stored sterilized jars or frozen in plastic bags.

Submitted by Karen LaRocque □



Con't from page 5



Bonita Beatty discusses Non-Status issues at Annual Assembly

ous Minister, Crombie, suggested a National Seminar on the impact of the Bill C-31 and possible solutions. However, the new Minister, McKnight may have different plans.

We attended a seminar conducted by Sol Sanderson, from FSIN, and he recommended that each community work towards creating new Bands by signing adhesions to Treaty. (Treaty 6 specifically). This means that the new band would negotiate with the Federal Government to agree to follow the conditions in the treaty. This sounds easy but the process is far from being simple. The communities can organize family clans to form a band, but where do they go from there? This question has to be politically negotiated in order to prevent getting lost in bureaucracy.

### C. Other Business:

We have started to accumulate and put together material to try to solve some of the problems that immediately face those who are in the process of registering or have already registered for status.

These include:

#### (1) Individual Problems with Status Registration.

Many people face problems with supplying the required birth registration because they were improperly/not registered at the time of their birth. Therefore, they have to search old records which may not be available from Church Archives or whatever. They have to

pay an additional fee to get a delayed registration recorded at the Provincial Vital Statistics office. We mentioned this problem to the Indian Affairs Minister and he has notified the Director for the Saskatchewan Department of Health to identify some way to give a quicker service.

#### (2) Registration delays at the Ottawa office.

The Indian Affairs office is not computerized yet. This has caused long delays in processing the applications because they are done by hand. It is estimated that an average of 1½ hour is taken to determine if a person is entitled to Indian status. We have requested that specific people be designated to process the Saskatchewan applications. Apparently, the Department is computerizing their record-keeping system this summer and re-aligning their staff to give faster access to specific applications.

For information sake, approximately 27,000 have applied for reinstatement and 6,000 have been processed. The Ottawa office estimates that 100 applications are received during one day. However, we cannot access information as to how many are from Saskatchewan because of the manual method of keeping records.

#### (3) Treaties

We have started to look at the treaties in Saskatchewan and to examine precedents that were set by those bands who signed adhesions to treaties. This whole area has to be looked at to help those communities who are wanting to create new bands. A draft guideline has to be developed for a band development process.

#### (4) Staffing

Presently, we only have 2 people who are working on the Non-Status Issue. This is myself and Julia Pitzel. We not only have to do the fieldwork provincially but we also have to come up with funding formulas and activate the plans set by the interim Non-Status Committee.

In summary, one of the main goals is to negotiate or find a negotiating process to tie in Communities and the Federal/Provincial governments. Communities who are orga-

nized to form bands have no negotiating strategy in place. One of the dangers to be avoided is not to get caught in the Departmental bureaucracy. The policies have to be set by the decision makers of the communities and governments and this has to be carried out by the staff of the government departments and AMNSIS Workers. □

Con't from page 5

groups within AMNSIS.

Replying to a question from Roy Cheechum of La Loche about the \$9.1 Million given to SNEDCO for economic development, Sinclair said the funds were for Metis and Non-Status people. "At this time, you are eligible. But when you get a number, you no longer have a vote in this organization. That money is for a Metis foundation and we will not ask for that money."

He also said that when people get a number, they receive no lands, they don't belong to any band but they do receive some rights such as hunting, health, and education rights. Sinclair said these new Status Indians also need representation because they have no one to speak on their behalf for a period of two years. He said it was very unlikely the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations would have them as a priority on their agenda much the same thing that is happening within AMNSIS.

Another question dealt with the core funding received by AMNSIS and if that was based on per capita funding. George Morin of Prince Albert asked why it wasn't being used for both groups.

Sinclair said all the funds received by AMNSIS are for both groups "but nothing goes to get the rights of the Non-Status Indians. All constitutional money received goes toward supporting the constitutional issues of the Metis."

Sinclair also said that only Metis positions are put forward through the Metis National Council at the Constitutional table where two seats have been designated to the Metis.

Sinclair said that is why there will be need for two organizations because there are different issues to be addressed.



Clem Chartier said he agreed with Sinclair because of the political and constitutional developments that have been taking place in the past few years. He said the Constitutional process recognizes three peoples: Inuit, Indian, and the Metis. "Nobody really represents the Non-Status. We represent Metis interests only. With Bill C-31, I agreed with Sinclair there had to be two organizations to represent two peoples." He said there has to be co-operation to reach that goal objectively.

He also commented on Rod Bishop's earlier comments about Non-Status Indian remaining with the Metis if they could not get their Status back. "Just because they are not accepted by law as Indians, you do not force them to become Metis."

He said the Metis achieved their recognition because they are an historical people who want their own self-government and their own lands. "The same goes for the Non-Status. If they don't qualify now, make sure they have a strong voice as well to fight for their rights."

The establishment of the interim Non-Status Committee is to begin to seriously address the short and long-term needs of the Non-Status people who have or are in the process of applying for their Indian Status.

The structure of the Non-Status Committee is made up of the AMNSIS Executive, AMNSIS Non-Status Board members and (1) Non-Status rep. from each AMNSIS Area. To date, we have received names from several areas and we would appreciate getting the names of the remaining areas in order to call together an assembly to begin to discuss Policy regarding the solutions to the problems encountered by the Non-Status people.

We have been trying to work within the limited budget that we have to get as much feedback as possible from both the communities and the Federal/Provincial governments.

We have tried to build our work on a two-fold foundation:

- (1) To give information to communities
- (2) To establish a smooth transition

This is the work that has been done:

Continued from Page 5

Peoples already recognized in the Constitution.

These elements will assure protection of rights for Aboriginal People in the Canadian Constitution.

The Provincial Governments of Ontario, Manitoba and Nova Scotia were in agreement with the four essential elements. Other Provinces said that it provided a basis to build on.

#### **JUNE 12, 1986 MINISTERIAL MEETING:**

This second meeting was a disappointing one.

The Federal Government took a weak stand on behalf of the Aboriginal People, especially for the Metis.

The Federal Ministers representing the Senior Government basically said that the Metis had no Aboriginal rights.

This appears to be a shift in federal policy. It was my belief that the Prime Minister of Canada recognized the Metis as one of the Canadian Aboriginal Groups.

Some of the Provincial Ministers' lack of participation in the discussion on the proposed amendment for Aboriginal People is disappointing and puzzling. It does not give any indication of where they stand on the issue.

The Provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Nova Scotia were supportive as usual.

One of the surprising events was the silence of New Brunswick which was one of the biggest supporters for Aboriginal People.

#### **MNC SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETINGS:**

The Senior Officials of the MNC is comprised of the five Provincial Metis Associations and have monthly meetings in various locations.

The resource personnel consists of lawyers, consultants, administrators and Metis leaders.

The Officials review all Provincial, Federal and Metis Associations information and make recommendations to the Executive which are the five Provincial Metis Organizations' Presidents.

#### **MNC EXECUTIVE MEETINGS:**

I attended two of the Executive

Meetings which were held in Ottawa. I was unable to participate in the Meeting(s) held at Banff.

The main purpose of the Executive Meetings is to review the recommendations of the Senior Officials in policy positions to be taken at the constitutional talks and to have a unified stand among the five Metis Presidents on its presentation at the talks.

#### **TRI-PARTITE NEGOTIATIONS (SASKATCHEWAN):**

Mr. Wayne McKenzie, Vice-President of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, and his senior staff have been involved with the negotiations and as of June, 1986 have reached the following conclusions:

The Tri-partite Negotiating Team believes that if the process is altered in this way, it will produce tangible results in both the short and longer terms. We cannot inform governments about what we mean by self-government if we don't discuss it. This will merely use up valuable time and not resolve what we mean by self-government. Jurisdiction and powers sought must be part of the discussions. As well, political, legislative and administrative institutions must also be discussed since no people ever practiced self-government with such structures. The issue is not whether these should be centralized or decentralized, but the issue is - what is needed to do the job. Both provincial and local government structures will be required and it should be possible to separate these administratively as the Canadian people have done for their own purposes.

I am compiling and submitting some of the information that was presented by AMNSIS staff to the Metis National Council regarding the tri-partite negotiations in the Province of Saskatchewan.

#### **REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS**

#### **Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan:**

The general view is that the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan have done a great job and good work on behalf of the Metis people of Canada and

continue to do so.

This Province leads the way in leadership and constitutional work, and has assisted other provinces in this regard.

The following information is a summary of what AMNSIS has seen happen to date and would like to see transpire.

#### **Consultation Process Metis Communities:**

I have made about 30 community visits and met with Metis leaders, community representatives, Municipal politicians, Non-Status Indians and Metis people to inform them on the constitutional talks in Ottawa and the Metis National Council's stand in talking on behalf of the Metis people in Canada.

I, in turn, listen to the Metis people and their leaders on what they have to say regarding land, self-government and other local issues such as Government Regulations on the land and wild-life that the Metis communities rely heavily upon for their day-to-day life.

#### **Liaison With Other Aboriginal Groups:**

I have met with three large Indian Bands' Chiefs and Councillors to have a preliminary discussion on lands and self-government.

I also met with a number of new Indians who were "created" by Bill C-31.

These talks were friendly and co-operation in further talks was agreed upon.

Saskatchewan Native Women's Association also expressed an interest and wish our co-operation for participation in the constitutional talks to address Women's issues.

The request was made by the Saskatchewan Native Women's Association to the Metis National Council; I believe the Executive of the Council will be dealing with their request.

#### **AMNSIS Board Meetings:**

I have attended all the Board Meetings to familiarize myself with the provincial Metis Organization representatives and also to assess the political methods used in its organization; to see the leadership capabilities in dealing with political matters and organization control.

AMNSIS is a strong Metis organization and has very strong leader-

ship headed by Jim Sinclair, Wayne McKenzie, Alan Morin and Jim Durocher. I feel that the Executive is in control and shows strength in the representation of the Metis of Saskatchewan.

#### **AMNSIS Local Area Meetings:**

I have attended some of the Area Meetings. It gave me a good chance to meet the AMNSIS Local Presidents to discuss the constitutional talks and to get recommendations on the self-government question.

I have been placed on the agenda to inform the local Metis leaders on an update on the constitutional matters regarding the Metis and the Metis National Council's stand at the table.

#### **Metis Homelands:**

At the present time there are about four or five Metis communities in Saskatchewan requesting a land base for their Metis people and they are in the process of setting up negotiating committees.

In other Locals, they are presently gathering information on lands which they are interested in.

The President, Mr. Jim Sinclair, is negotiating with the Government of Saskatchewan on a land base for the Metis people.

#### **Northern Broadcasting Association:**

I attended a three day Annual Meeting at which about 15 Northern Community Broadcasters of Radio and T.V. were present. I feel it is important to establish media contact personnel so that the Metis National Council can inform the Metis people in isolated and remote communities in Northern points on Metis issues.

#### **Aboriginal Trappers Association:**

A new association was needed and formed for Aboriginal Trappers to unite in addressing their issues to the Provincial and Federal Government regarding Government Regulations of the Trapping Industry, trap-lines, lands, trapping technology and marketing.

#### **Closing Remarks:**

I am not very sure where these talks are leading in the constitutional process for the Metis people of Canada but I hope that good will prevail between the Provincial Governments, Federal Government and all Aboriginal Groups. □



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## Louis Riel: A Bibliography Compiled By Ved Arora

In the jargon of the reference librarian and researcher, this is a valuable "tool"; it unearths those rare gems for those whose business it is to find out the answers. Make sure your library has a copy that you can access and if you are a regular reader of this magazine, buy one yourself. Here's why!

This is a listing of titles in painstakingly detailed accuracy. One of the details included is that of location, following each entry.

Several funny sounding words like SSIC, OOA, SPANC are actually secret coded words known only to bibliographers, library technicians and my one-and-a-half year old. The key is that you can order copies of these items from any public library provided they are not rare and under lock and key, but at least you know where to go to obtain a peek.

For example:

906. MCLEAN, Donald George  
1885: Metis rebellion or government conspiracy?  
Winnipeg: Pemmanic Publications Inc., 1985.  
160 p. illus., maps  
ISBN 0-919143-17-2  
OONL, SRP

This book can be obtained by asking the library staff to order it on inter-library loan, free, if it is not available locally.

There are over 1600 such entries from Howard Adams to Rudy Wiebe, many deal with the Resistance itself, many are in French, of course; the songs and poetry of Riel, plays about Riel, Metis folk songs on record, numerous accounts of the trial, of the millenarian debate,



of the insanity question, personal eye witness accounts with incredible titles and biased British bombast the marketing of Riel "hanging him was gentle compared to this" (1425); they're all there. Big Bear, Poundmaker, Honore Joseph Jaxon, the fenians, Gabriel Dumont, Thomas Scott, general Middleton, Riel's sister Sara, all the major players are listed, along with steamboats, gatling guns and dozens of diaries, reminiscences and reflections.

Comprehensive indeed. But how does one separate the grain from the chaff unless prior knowledge is assumed? By subject division perhaps or by annotating each entry according to pre-determined criteria if time permits. It is unfortunate that the French accents were not included in their proper format.

Congratulations to Mr. Ved Arora and the Saskatchewan Li-

brary staff listed in the introduction and to Stan Skrzyszewski and Linda Fritz of the Saskatchewan Library Association for the publication with funding from Saskatchewan Heritage grant. The bibliography is a major undertaking and a project worthwhile. At Gabriel Dumont Institute, it has proven very beneficial to our staff as a valuable tool.

**Louis Riel: A Bibliography**  
compiled by Ved Arora  
Revised second edition, 1985  
Published by the Saskatchewan Library Association with the cooperation of the Saskatchewan Library, Regina, Saskatchewan  
1 volume, 193 pages, softbound  
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3



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Today's fashions have become more versatile than in bygone days...Thank Goodness! No longer do women have to sacrifice comfort for fashion in less than ideal weather conditions or during their busy, fun-filled days. The fashions featured here are witness to that fact. Comfort and style with a touch of class, are the key to these bold new fall, fashion favorites. □

**By Leah Bitternose**  
**Touch Of Class**



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