

**N  
E  
W  
B  
R  
E  
E  
D**

# *Back to Batoche 1999*



**Magazine**

**June/July 1999**

Canadian Publication Agreement #1408968

\$2.00 per copy

# The Inside Story

"All That Matters Is Your Last Rodeo"	Page 5
Metis Youth Employment Strategies	Page 10
Strong Metis Women	Page 12
"Rodeo is a Big Part of My Life"	Page 14
Gabriel Dumont Institute...	Page 18
MNS Tripartite Unit	Page 22
Follow your Dreams...	Page 24
It's What's Inside That Counts	Page 27
Garson Lake Road Opens !	Page 29
Forestry Expansion	Page 31
Metis Youth - Leaders of Today	Page 32
Metis Claims to Northwestern Sask. ...	Page 33
The Metis and the Study of Canadian History	Page 37

## ABOUT THE COVER PHOTO

Mary and Walter Fiddler,  
Mr. And Mrs. Batoche in 1998

*Photo Credit: Clem Chartier*

# THE MNS MOURNS

SENATOR  
STANLEY DUROCHER  
1920 - 1999



Senator Durocher is survived by his loving wife, Mary Ann Durocher; his sons Fred, Martin (Patricia) Halkett, James, Arthur, William, Ernest (Selina), and Victor; his daughters Angeline (Kenny) Ratt, Josephine, Mary (John) Charles, Victoria, and Maryann (Darcy) Charles; his sisters Victoria (Daniel) Daignault, Rita (Joe) Durocher, and Ann (Henry) Hood; his God daughter Agnes (Ben) Charles; his God sons Trevor Ratt and Ernest Durocher Jr., and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents Mr. William and Mrs. Marie Adele Durocher, his daughter Ernestine Olive Durocher; his son Bruce Durocher; his two brothers Sam Baptiste Maurice and Arthur Durocher; his nephew Ambrose Rediron and grandson Robert Rediron.

# SCENES FROM THE P.A. YOUTH CONFERENCE



# All That Matters Is Your Last Rodeo!

By Wil Smolkowski

In every sport there are high profile figures who attract the fans, the ones people line up to and ask for autographs from. There are however, others who are just as important. Without them, the sport would not exist. In hockey it's the referee and in baseball the umpire, while in rodeo it's the announcer. Without him the sport could not exist for he not only helps entertain the crowd, he provides them with important information.

Joe Braniff of Piapot is such an announcer. He began his career in 1986, looking for a "self satisfying career." He began like many of his other peers, as a

contestant, first riding steers as a kid along with other sports. When he was 22 years old

he began riding bulls in small open competition rodeos.

However bull riding is one of, if not the, most arduous and demanding of all sports. Not only must the contestant compete against other riders, he has a two ton beast to contend with, a beast who is trying its utmost to not only throw him from his back

but to turn him into dust beneath his hooves.

"You have to have a passion for it. It's easy to work home town rodeos but you



Cont/d next Page

## All That Matters...

have to have a passion... like Cody Snyder. You have to be willing to travel 2,000 miles just to ride a bull," Braniff said. He left bull riding in his early 20's to become the "man behind the mike" and was the youngest professional in rodeo at the time.

To start his career, Braniff attended a very intense three day rodeo announcer school in Farmington New Mexico. He was still riding bulls when a friend brought a poster back to Denver which advertised the school.

"I guess he was trying to save my life. He probably wanted to find something else for me to do instead of riding bulls," Braniff laughed, during an interview at the Sands hotel in April. What he may have lacked in bull riding skills, Braniff however more than made up in rodeo announcing with three words describing his work ethic; ability, determination and dedication.

At first however, he found the going extremely competitive. He jokingly added that in his first year in the business, he had to promote and produce three of his own rodeos "just so I could announce a rodeo."

All that has changed dramatically however and Braniff now is one of the premier announcers in the business. He has announced some of the biggest rodeos in the world. Among these are Wrangler Jeans Rodeo Showdown in Scottsdale, Arizona, New Mexico State Fair Rodeo and Indian National Finals Rodeo both in Albuquerque,

Bud Pro Tour finals, Saskatoon and the Canadian Rodeo finals in Edmonton.

Needless to say, Braniff does a lot of

travelling and he has turned his once small announcing business into a full time international career. But the career is not a silver plated gift, instead it is a lot of hard work with Braniff doing at least three hours of homework for each rodeo.

"If a guy's a four time champion, I want to say four times, not two or three," Braniff said about the business which to him is a labour of love. Then he added, only half in jest, "If I'd have done this much homework in high school, I'd have been a Philadelphia lawyer." He doesn't pack the sound system himself so he has to make sure the rodeo has a good technical system. He then arrives at the arena a couple days early to meet with the managers to go over the program and do a sound check. When working the big rodeos he makes sure he comes in a day early so he can go through the opening ceremonies etc. before visiting with the contestants to have a coffee and catch up on all the news.

There is no doubt that Braniff is an excellent example of hard work and dedication and what you can do with whatever talent the Creator has given you. When it comes to advice to young people he said, "Do your homework and know what you're talking about. You have to get along with people because you could have all the great rodeos on your resume but all that matters is your last rodeo."

Excellent advice for youth; for no matter what career you settle on, the above holds true.

# Metis Trained In Resource Management

By Jim Bahr

In 1997, Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) and the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) teamed up to offer Metis Students training in Integrated Resource Management. This diploma program offers both theoretical and practical, hands-on training in four areas: forestry, fisheries, wildlife, and parks/law. Graduates of the program are qualified to be technicians in any of these fields, or conservation officers.

This course is offered on an ongoing basis at SIAST Woodland Campus in Prince Albert. However, the agreement between DTI and SIAST allowed a select group of Saskatchewan Metis students to benefit from intensive instruction in a more northern location; Northlands College in La Ronge. In the

fall of 1998, the students moved from La Ronge, to Prince Albert for the remainder of the program, in order to take advantage of the wide variety of resources available at Woodland Campus.

To gain practical, hands-on experience, the students took a variety of field trips. On the Grasslands field trip, they visited places such as a bird banding station at Last Mountain Lake, a fish hatchery at Fort Qu'Appelle, and an Elk live-capture station in the Cypress Hills. Along with the hands-on experience, the



Delilah Sylvestre at the Burrowing owl Breeding Centre in Moose Jaw

students get opportunities to talk to professional resource managers, and find out about the issues faced by the managers in Saskatchewan.

At Kelsey Camp, at the North end of Candle Lake, students again gained

practical experience in wildlife, fisheries, and forestry field techniques. They learned how to live capture and tag birds and animals, how to identify plants, assess forestry resources and water quality, and how to net and process fish for scientific information. The camp was attended in the Fall and early Spring, allowing students to apply the knowledge in a range of conditions.

In the classroom, students broadened their knowledge with fundamental, and advanced, skills in leadership, communications, computers, statistics, law enforcement, forest fire control, park services and resource management. A major step forward in the program in the past five years, has been the introduction of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS), into the course. These computer and satellite-based mapping tools have become valuable in resource management in the past decade, and their use continues to expand in the field of natural resource management.

The unique blend of theoretical and practical training, under SIAST's competency-based education system, allowed the students to develop a wide range of professional and personal skills, and gave them knowledge and opportunities to make valuable contributions to resource management in Saskatchewan.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### IN PROCESS

### FUTURE

*5<sup>th</sup> Annual Prince Albert Métis Fall Festival*  
- Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 1999 - at the Prince  
Albert Exhibition Center, Prince Albert, Sask.

*Métis Elders Conference Sept. 1999*

*Palmere Days - August 1999*

*Back to Batoche - July 23-25 1999*

*Métis Pride Days - At St. Victor Sponsored  
by Assiniboia & Willow Bunch Locals  
(Includes golf tournament and dance)*



## NATIONAL CHILDREN'S AGENDA LAUNCHED!

SASKATOON, Monday May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1999  
By Wil Smolkowski

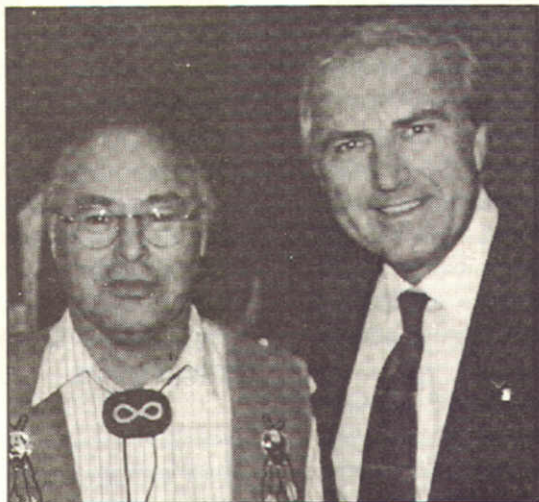
King George Community School, the home of the legendary hockey star Gordie Howe, was the site in early May where, Federal and Provincial politicians announced the National Children's Agenda (NCA) with great fanfare.

The vision document identifies four goals for the NCA which are to ensure that children are healthy both physically and emotionally, safe and secure, successful at learning and socially engaged and responsible.

Co-chairs of the ministerial council are Pierre S. Pettigrew, Minister of Human Resources Development and Saskatchewan Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, Bernhard Wiens. Also present was Metis Nation of Saskatchewan President Clem Chartier along with provincial Premier Roy Romanow.

"We have a collective responsibility, first and foremost, to ensure

that every child has the opportunity to grow up in a healthy, caring, safe and secure environment," said Mr. Romanow. Mr. Pettigrew added that "Last June, we made a commitment to develop a shared vision for our children."



The fact that drugs and alcohol take their toll on Metis children in many ways is undisputed, but the officials did not exactly make clear how these problems will be dealt with. Concerned parents can, however, take part in the upcoming

discussions or send suggestions by calling toll free 1-800-361-6392 or on the Internet at [www.children-infants.org](http://www.children-infants.org).

Also released was a supplementary paper on "Measuring Child Well-being and Monitoring Progress" which explores ways in which governments and Canadians can measure the progress of children and share effective practices to improve their well-being.

# METIS YOUTH EMPLOYMENT STRATEGIES - Reflecting on 1998/99

by Perry Chaboyer

In an effort to better meet the needs of Metis individuals and communities, Metis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan Inc. (METSI) assumed administrative responsibility for the Youth Employment Strategies programs previously administered by Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC). By late fall of 1998, METSI was in a position to begin working with community representatives to develop a series of pilot projects using the criteria set by HRDC.

The guiding principal of these pilot projects was to provide youth with opportunities for personal growth and employability skills through meaningful work experience. Each of these projects focussed on creating an experience that made the youth participants more employable. The projects were designed to fit within one of the following project frameworks:

- 1) Community-based Projects
- 2) Wage Subsidy Projects

### 3) Entrepreneurship Projects

Community-based projects provided Metis youth with an opportunity to gain employability skills through activities that benefited their communities. These projects were designed to help youth participants attain permanent employment or serve as a transition toward furthering their training or education. Community-based projects can be run anywhere from six to nine months, and require a specified amount of time set aside for career planning.

Wage Subsidy projects placed single participants in specific industries. These projects gave Metis youth job experience by providing financial support to potential employers during a specified training period. Employers receiving these funds were required to provide a reasonable assurance that the youth would be hired after the subsidized training period.

Entrepreneurship projects were designed to support Metis youth that

**Cont/d Next Page**

wanted to start or develop their own businesses.

The organizations implementing these pilot projects included METSI regional affiliates (Local Metis Management Boards - LLMB), Metis community and regional urban governance organizations. Projects were given a recommendation by METSI technical advisors, and the Minister of METSI, Mr. Philip Chartier, gave final approval. This year, METSI plans to continue to work closely with the LMMBs and also with representatives from urban communities. During the pilot projects, Metis benefited greatly from the connection that these organizations have with their communities, and will continue in the coming year. METSI recognizes the importance of these partnerships, and the importance of building partnerships for the basis of nation building.

There were many different ways that the pilot projects benefited Metis communities in the past year. Elder Care programs were implemented in Saskatoon, P.A., and Regina, where youth assisted Metis elders with their daily chores and activities. A Youth Worker program was developed involving seven MNS regions where fourteen youth were trained to work with at-risk youth in their communities.

A Wage Subsidy program was set up in Saskatoon to help urban Metis youth gain permanent employment, and a variety of cultural, recreational and community service-based programs were run throughout the province.

Within several of the pilot projects, youth conferences were held. Conferences in P.A., North Battleford, Regina, Buffalo Narrows and Archerwill were developed as part of community-based projects, and made possible because of the organization and enthusiasm of the youth participating.

When evaluating future project proposals, METSI will continue to focus on the specific opportunities and benefits that Metis youth will receive. By evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the pilot projects, METSI will continue improving the quality of the programs that it funds, and in turn, improve the training and employment opportunities for the Metis youth and the benefits to their communities. It is our goal, through partnerships, to broaden the ability of Metis organizations to provide these quality programs to Metis youth. As METSI moves into the next fiscal year of youth programming, we look forward to the greater involvement of youth and communities, and to building and strengthening relationships within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

# STRONG METIS WOMEN

The story of Nancy Morrisette nee Arcand (1910 - 1987)

by Leah Dorion and Blanche Gehriger

Like most Metis in the early 1900's, Nancy Arcand lived a very difficult life. She did not have much of a formal education or money, and walked with a slight limp. Somehow she managed to carry an air about her that gave the impression of dignity which commanded the respect of anyone who met her. She was very serious in her manner of speaking and would let someone know if she didn't agree with them. Some called her the "Female Gabriel Dumont".

Born to Cecile and Jean Arcand from the Batoche and St. Louis area, Nancy was fluent in Michif. Her mother died when she was only five, and Nancy learned the vital skills, normally passed on from mother to daughter, independently. Many women died early in life in those years, usually due to hard work or scarcity of doctors.

When she was nine, she was finally allowed to go to school. She was embarrassed to go; she had to wear the coat her mother made her when she was five because it was so hard to get cloth and she couldn't sew yet. Within a month, Nancy was moved up to second grade, however, her father forced her to quit, saying she was needed to look after the house. She did teach herself how to read, and always valued education, and was very proud to later see her sons and daughters

accessing education.

At 18, Nancy married Jeremy Morrisette, of Muskeg Lake Reserve. In order to find work, Jeremy left the reserve, lost his status, and moved with Nancy to the road allowance community of Spring Valley. There they were amongst other Metis families, such as Campbell, Arcand, and Lemire, and raised their fourteen children; Bernadette, Elcide, Cecile, Roseanne, George, Paul, Joey, Phillip, Leo, Yvonne, Blanche, and three other children that passed away, and they all spoke Cree-French and Michif at home.

Nancy and Jeremy made a living off the land and shared the work load of hunting, fishing and trapping. Jeremy often left home to work on the railway or local farms. He worked picking potatoes for farmers, from time to time, to make some extra money. While Jeremy was away, Nancy would provide for her family by hunting or trapping.

She was a very proud, hard working Metis woman. Children can remember her pushing a plow to break the land and spending long hours tending the garden. During harvest, Nancy and the rest of the community, would all join in the harvesting of the crop.

One of Nancy's favourite hobbies was making blankets, because she did not have one when she was young, she used to

curl up in an old coats and sleep on the floor. She made exquisite rabbit fur blankets and clothing with all the Metis women in the area.

Nancy maintained strong Roman Catholic beliefs all of her life and never smoked or drank. She brought up a large family, and had many grandchildren. When her children were grown and gone,

and when her husband passed away, Nancy was placed in a rest home in Duck Lake, Saskatchewan. There her Alzheimer's disease progressed rapidly, and she passed on in 1987, a few miles from where she was born. Ruggedly determined, Nancy is still with us... in our hearts and memories she will live on.

## PRINCE ALBERT METIS FALL FESTIVAL

*by Louis Dorion, President of the P.A.M.F.F.*

Only five years ago, a group of concerned Prince Albert Metis people formed an organization to celebrate Metis culture in an urban setting. In 1994, the Prince Albert Metis Fall Festival (PAMFF) was incorporated. The festival is guided by an elected Board of Directors and Elder advisors who assist in the decision making.

The philosophy of the entire festival is to celebrate Metis culture, youth and elders in an urban social gathering. It has been a great success due to its dedicated volunteers from the community, and will kick off Metis Heritage Week (August 30 - September 5) in the City of Prince Albert. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, the Metis veterans will once again conduct the Metis flag raising ceremony at City Hall Memorial Square.

The PAMFF will be held from September 3 - 5 at the Prince Albert exhibition grounds, and will include two dry dances, cabaret, square dancing and jigging competitions for all ages, a cultural village, children's events, fiddling demonstrations, old time dance competitions, and king and queen trapper demonstrations. Since the focus is on the positive contribution of Metis people, there will be role models and Metis ambassadors who will welcome guests and participate in the three day event.

Fall has traditionally been a time when Metis people gathered together to celebrate the successful summer harvest and the buffalo hunts. We welcome everyone to join in our cultural celebration. For more information please call our festival office that will be open mid-June at (306) 922-1998.

# "Rodeo is a Big Part of My Life!"

MAPLE CREEK

By Wil Smolkowski

To Bobby Maines Junior, 1986 Canadian Cowboy Association (CCA) bareback champ, attitude is everything.

"I try to teach my kids to think positive so they can grow up to be positive," Maines said from his ranch just outside Maple Creek. "What ever you do... you have to go get it. No one will give it to you on a silver platter. If you have the right attitude, there's nothing you can't do."

The love of animals and rodeo has been with Maines ever since he was his youngest son Wyatt's age, four. Besides Wyatt, Maines and his wife Lorraine have two older children, Tyrone and Kala.

Maines first started on cows and steers, graduating to bulls when he was 14 in and around Maple Creek. The fact that a one ton bull can crush a man's ribs with a simple toss of his

head didn't really enter into the equation for love of rodeo was greater than any fear he might have known.

"It never really bothered me. If I want to do something, I just do it," Maines said and then added, "Rodeo is a big part of my life."

The following year, Maines went to a rodeo in Montmartre, south-east of Regina and won free tuition at Bob Robertson's bull riding school at Trenton North Dakota. He rode bulls competitively until he was 25 but he had told his mother that, "If it ever started to bother me I would quit."

In 1985 Maines switched to bareback broncs and the following year he won the CCA championship. He married Lorraine in 1987 and then switched to the Professional Cowboys Association. He rode "Pro" for a year and a half and his

Cont/d next page



## **RODEO...**

oldest boy, Tyrone, was born in the spring of 1988. After that he returned to the CCA, riding on weekends, because while riding "Pro" he never was home. In every sport however, there is a price to pay. In June, 1988 he was riding at the Spiritwood rodeo when his first injury occurred. When the ride was over and he was working his gloved hand out of the rigging the horse "took a quick dip and I caught his hip in mid air." The horse kicked Maines on the side of his leg, breaking it. The result; a cast from mid-June until November.

---

## **"What ever you do... you have to go get it."**

---

Maines retired for two years until 1989 when he started again riding with the CCA. But if lightning doesn't strike in the same place twice, injury does. At the same rodeo, Spiritwood in the early 90's Maines had his hip fractured so he retired for the second time.

The love of rodeo was stronger than danger and physical pain however and he returned in 1993, "going hard to the CCA FINAL." He

had a really good year and won "quite a few" rodeos being back to his former self. That year he also won the Spiritwood rodeo, the place of former misfortune.

Rodeo however, is a strenuous and young man's sport. In 1994, Maines "hung up" on a horse, that is, his hand was caught in the riggings. The two pick up men had stopped the bronc with their horses on either side. The horse turned his head and jumped ahead, kicking Maines in the ribs breaking them. After that Maines decided to retire for good at age 33.

He bought a ranch outside Maple Creek, nine quarter sections where his house and yard are located and two further away. The Maines' family raised 150 head of Black Angus and Hereford beef cows and along with 43 Texas Longhorns. They also have 10 horses including a team of Belgian draft horses.

In his own words, Maines gets enough of animals just breaking colts but his love of rodeo extends to his family. Wyatt, at four, rides twice a day and his oldest son, Tyrone, began riding steers last year at 10, while Kala competes in barrels and stakes.

Maines father was also involved in rodeo and encouraged him but he also has worked at many jobs.

Cont/d next page

to support himself. These include working on oil rigs when he was 16, working on a pipe line and even selling vacuum cleaners. The price in broken bones and torn muscles comes in installments however for he visits a muscle therapist, Connie Burton, in order to keep his body in shape.

Maines philosophy is simple, summed up best in his own words.

"I'm Metis... proud to be but I just want to make my own way and as long as I can walk I'll be happy to pay my way."

Maines has done everything in Rodeo except for bull dogging, even fighting bulls and his advice to anyone trying anything in life is also simple.

"Don't ever give up. Don't ever quit dreaming."



*P.A.M.F.F., 1998 Role Models & Ambassadors with President of P.A.M.F.F., Louis Dorion. (At centre)*





## Poetry Page



### Longings From A Toronto Rooming House

by Wil Smolkowski

#### Somewhere

#### Beyond . . .

The Misty Mountains'  
Cool, Shadowy Peaks . . .  
Beyond . . . the Hot City's  
Steamy Sorrow Lie  
High Meadows and Clear  
Forested Streams  
While above, A Lark  
Over, Gentle Hills Soars  
Against, an Azure sky

#### Somewhere

#### Beyond . . .

The Misty Mountains'  
Cool, Shadowy Peaks . . .  
Beyond . . . the Hot City's  
Steamy Sorrow Lie  
Peaceful Villages Serene  
With Gentle People  
Who labour, to Live  
Softly, until they become  
the Lark, Soaring on High

#### Somewhere

#### Beyond . . .

The Misty Mountains

### WHITE OWL

by Dee Johnston

I have seen her glide  
As she wings 'round the skies.  
Soundlessly through the night;  
Often hearing her cries

She comes to me  
this Great White Owl;  
She carries with her  
A message ... listen now.

She speaks to me  
of life and of death  
I carry her name  
Understanding each breath.

She comes by day  
She comes by night.  
I have learned to listen  
Whenever she chooses flight.

The Great White Owl  
I can feel her as she flies;  
She's the one for whom I was named  
With her I soar though the skies.

#### Mail all poetry submissions to:

New Breed  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor - 219 Robin Crescent  
Saskatoon, SK  
S7L 6M8

# The Gabriel Dumont Institute Releases "Resources for Metis Researchers".

by *Darren R. Prefontaine*

A key aspect of the Gabriel Dumont Institute's (GDI) mandate is to produce a body of relevant material relating to the experience of the Prairie Metis people. In this endeavour, GDI has co-published a comprehensive bibliography of all-known Metis resources. We sincerely believe that this resource will demonstrate that Metis Studies is finally becoming a full-fledged subdivision within Native Studies. This was not always the case: Metis history was once the domain of Eurocentric historians obsessed with Louis Riel. Needless to say, the concerns of "ordinary" Metis people never entered the historical narrative.

Thankfully, things have changed: all sorts of scholars and community people are elucidating little-known aspects of the Metis past.

"Resources for Metis Researchers" is the first thorough overview of all-known Metis specific resources and one of only a few written from a Metis point of view.

The idea for this project originated with Lawrie Barkwell of the Manitoba Metis Federation. Many in the Metis community had asked him for a

comprehensive listing of Metis resources. Frustrated with the lack of bibliographical resources pertaining to the Metis experience, outside of Louis Riel and the two great Metis resistances, Lawrie began preparing a bibliography. Last summer, he approached Leah Dorion, GDI's Curriculum Coordinator, to contribute lists of all known Metis-specific resources and to write an essay to accompany the text.

In the fall of 1998, Leah and I, of GDI's Curriculum and Publishing Department, wrote the essay and contributed resources to complement Lawrie's ongoing work.

Immediately recognized, was that this was a much needed resource. When we began work on this project there were a few dated bibliographies about Louis Riel and two Metis-specific historiographical essays by Metis historian Terry Lusty (Friesen, John W., and Terry Lusty. *The Metis of Canada: An Annotated Bibliography*. Toronto: Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, 1980) and the University of Saskatchewan historian, James Miller (Miller, J. R. "From Riel to Metis", *Canadian Historical Review*.

LXIX, 1988:1-20.). While they are valuable resources, these works largely concentrate on political topics. As a result, many of the new and exciting developments relating to the Metis experience have not been analysed. Therefore, we made a conscious effort to focus on such neglected topics as Metis women, veterans, culture, spiritualism, and community histories and fiction relating to the Metis experience. We also analysed some of the classic monographs on Metis history.

"Resources for Metis Researchers" was designed primarily for secondary and post secondary students; however, it will be an indispensable text for genealogists, scholars conducting land claims research and for all those interested in Metis history and culture.

In the future, this bibliography will be annotated. We therefore welcome both your comments and detailed listings for references which we may have missed.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute retail prices are set primarily at cost recovery. We can, however, provide small discounts for bookstores and educational institutes. Call (306)249-9400 for more information.

Quantity	Title	Unit Price
	<i>Resources for Métis Researchers (ISBN 0-920915-44-2)</i>	\$19.95

Payment by:  Visa  Cheque  Money Order  
 Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_

S & H \_\_\_\_\_

Canadian orders add 8%\$ (min.\$4 charge) US orders add 14% (min.\$8 charge) \_\_\_\_\_

Visa # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

GST/HST \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Institute Mission Statement-To promote the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, materials development, collection and distribution of those materials and the design, development and delivery of Métis specific educational programs and services.*



# CONGRATULATIONS

## 1999 Regina Spring Graduates



**NORMAN  
BELIVEAU**  
*Teacher*



**LISA  
DEROCHE**  
*Academy of Learning  
— Regina*



**GARTH  
EASTMAN**  
*Seeking  
Employment*



**KELLY  
HARTNESS**  
*Academy of Learning  
— North Battleford*



**COLLEEN  
KEEWATIN**  
*Academy of Learning  
— Regina*



**KATRINA  
KELLER**  
*Academy of Learning  
— Regina*



**TERRY  
MCNAB**  
*Enrolled in  
2nd Diploma*



**BRAD  
PAHTAYKEN**  
*Seeking  
Employment*



**LENORA  
PAHTAYKEN**  
*Furthering  
Education*



**TANYA  
PALANCUC**  
*New Horizon  
First Nations*



**BRAD  
PALMER**  
*Royal United  
Service Institute*



**CAROL  
SANDERSON**  
*Enrolled in  
2nd Diploma*



**MELANIE  
SPARVIER**  
*Furthering  
Education*

### MISSING PHOTOS:

**DONALEE SWITZER**  
*— Furthering Education*  
**DELYN BOSTON**  
*— Enrolled in 2nd Diploma*  
**KAREN CRAIG**

**LAURIE FISHER**  
*— Aims Institute*  
**MARCY KUNTZ**  
*— Seeking Employment*  
**COLLEEN GUDBRANSON**

**RODNEY HUNTER**  
*— Taking 2nd Diploma*  
**CHRISTA JOHNSTONE**  
*— Workers' Compensation Board*  
**GALVIN FOLWARK**

## CAREER TRAINING FOR THE NEW MILLENIUM

— Will YOU be ready?

**Diploma programs train you to become an:**

- Executive Secretary
- Administrative Assistant
- Computer Software Support Specialist
- Computer Service Technician

**Check out our new individual certificate courses:**

- Medical Terminology
- Customer Service
- Microsoft Publisher
- Microsoft Outlook

**Shorter Certificate programs:**

- Microsoft Office
- Computer Service Technician



Authorized MOU  
Testing Centre

In Regina Ph. 757-8973 E-mail: naomi@unibase.com  
www.academyol.com

## Get the SKILLS to get the JOB!

Why should YOU choose the Academy of Learning for your computer and business skills training needs?

- Learn at your own pace at a computer
- Start immediately
- Professional facilitators to assist you
- Financial assistance may be available to those who qualify

You can train to become an:

- Executive Secretary
- Administrative Assistant
- Computerized Accounting Assistant
- Computer Software Support Specialist



## **ACADEMY OF LEARNING** Computer & Business Career College

Regina (306) 757-8973

Fort Qu'Appelle (306) 332-4122

North Battleford (306) 445-8188

## There are presently over 20,000 career openings in the Information & Communications Technology Industry!

- Interested in a career in the growing Information & Communication Technology Industry?
- Are you considering a career change into the computer field?
- Would you like a rewarding, challenging and good paying job?

**If you answered YES to any of these questions, we can help!**

The Academy of Computer Technologies specializes in technical computer training in these programs:

- A+ Certification (Computer Service Technician)
- MCP (Microsoft Certified Professional)
  - MCP + Internet
  - MCSE (Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer)

Programs coming soon:

- Webmaster Technician (International Webmasters Association)
- CDIA (Certified Document Imaging Architech)
  - Networking Technician
  - MCSD (Microsoft Certified Solutions Developer)

## **ACADEMY OF COMPUTER TECHNOLOGIES**

Regina (306) 565-8506

Fort Qu'Appelle (306) 332-4122

North Battleford (306) 445-8188

# MNS TRIPARTITE UNIT

by Yvonne Vizina

March 31, 1999 saw the close of another work plan under the Tripartite Process. The past year has seen change and progress within Tripartite that we can all be proud of.

My first experience with the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan (MNS), as an employee, was attending a Collaborative Planning Workshop for our Nation. I left the meeting with a new sense of community, and a better understanding of the direction the Métis Nation wished to go in.

Tripartite offered an opportunity to make some of the MNS plans a reality. The 1998-1999 Tripartite Work Plan covered developmental work in economic development, justice, and two governance projects: The Northern Project and Métis Urban Community Governance. There was also significant development of the Tripartite Unit in its policy direction, consultations, communication, coordination, and administration. Métis women's perspectives were also integrated into the Work Plan

during the summer of 1998..

Back To Batoche Days were selected as the event that would host the announcement of a new Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, Honorable Ralph Goodale and the Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, Honorable Bernhard Wiens, signed the MOU on behalf of the Federal and Provincial Governments respectively. MNS President Clem Chartier, and MNS Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs Allan Morin, signed on behalf of the Nation. The MOU assures that all Parties will continue discussions on issues of importance such as housing and shelter, health, education and training, justice, social and economic development, culture and languages, land and resource use and management and the environment, Métis governance of Métis communities and Métis institutional development, Métis youth, Elders, Women, and People with Disabilities. Of course, with limited

resources for Tripartite, the Provincial Métis Council can select only a few areas of focus that can be addressed each year.

The Federal Government did provide a new three-year Contribution Agreement for Tripartite resources to enable longer-term planning. Although this is a step in the right direction, we are still held to annual Contribution Agreements from the Provincial Government. Negotiating current resource levels, and lobbying for increases is very difficult and complex work for our political leaders.

Minister Morin commented in the Tripartite Final Report that "The Métis Nation of Saskatchewan has a responsibility to answer the call of its citizens who wish to protect and enhance the Métis way of life." He goes on to say, "As the Métis Nation continues to grow and flourish in this province, we recognize that our infrastructures and processes must also grow. The Tripartite Process must continue to be strengthened."

Some of this year's accomplishments under the Tripartite Process have included a five-year Northern Project Blueprint For Devolution, a comprehensive Métis Urban Governance study and the formation of a Métis Urban

Council of Saskatchewan, a draft Métis Child and Family Services Act, an MNS Tourism proposal for the Western Economic Partnership Agreement fund, and a new three-year partnership with Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food for agrology services. Of course, there is much more that has been accomplished. The 1998-1999 Tripartite Final Report was tabled at the May meeting of the Provincial Métis Council.

The past year has been a tremendous learning experience. In spite of the volume of work handled by MNS Tripartite, there are times that processes seem to move too slowly, considering the urgent needs of Métis people. But, it is important to let you know that we have good leaders from which to draw direction, we have good technical staff to streamline processes, and we are all working our hardest to make positive change for the Métis citizens of Saskatchewan.

**Women, Youths, and War  
Veterans**

*The greatest good you can do for  
another is not just to share your  
riches, but to reveal to him/her  
his/her own.*

From "Prayers of a Metis Priest"  
by Father guy LaVallee

# FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS

... to their fullest potential !

By Gwen King and Tyler Fetch

Being selected to perform at the 1999 "Voices of the North" in Prince Albert, was not the first achievement in 17 year old Loretta King's budding music career.

Loretta King was born and raised in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, where she started singing and playing guitar at the age of five. She started to really master the guitar when she was in grade 7, and even taught her music teacher a few licks. Besides guitar, Loretta can play bass guitar, fiddle and even a little on the drums. At times, Loretta has played with her father, Daniel King's band "Kickin' Back Country".

With her free time, Loretta enjoys playing soccer and full contact hockey. She played on the boys hockey team until 1998, now she plays on a girls team, but hopes to play on the boys team again next year.

In the summer, Loretta can be seen watching her father race pony wagons in the rodeo, or attending youth conferences. Wanting to be involved with Metis events could come from her grandfathers; Senator Edward King and the late Rod Bishop.

Of all the talent shows Loretta has attended, "Voices of the North", Indian Winter Games Talent Show in Regina, and many more, she is most proud of a recording she won with Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation, out of LaRonge. When her studio time comes, she plans on singing a song called "Hey You and

Lonely Teardrops".

Loretta has achieved quite a lot in a short time, and will achieve more in hopes to further her music career. She has one message for today's youth and it is... stay away from drugs and alcohol and follow your dreams to their full potential, and you can do anything.



Loretta at "Voices of the North"



# Metis Cuisine

NEW BREED Magazine

June/July 1999

## Tasty summer treats

Here is a recipe submitted by Tony and Mary Nolin of Lloydminster:

### Fried Saskatoons

1 Tablespoon of Lard  
2 cups of fresh Saskatoon Berries  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of white sugar

Put the lard in a really hot iron frying pan. Be careful not to burn it. Add the Saskatoon Berries and stir for about 2 minutes. Next add the white sugar, and stir for another 5 minutes. It will make it's own juice.

Tastes great served on ice cream or bannock.

Take some of this on your next fishing trip.

### Pemmican

From the Fort Battleford Urban Metis Community Kitchen

1 cup of pounded or crushed, dry meat  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of lard or fat  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of sugar

Put the pounded or crushed dry meat into a bowl. Add the rest of the ingredients to the meat, and mix together. Use both hands and make the mixture into a meat ball. Put the finished Pemmican into a dish. Let it sit for 10 minutes.

This recipe makes 1 Pemmican.

#### Please Note!

The purpose of this page is to encourage readers to submit recipes which were handed down by their mothers or their grandmothers.

Please submit to : 219 Robin Crescent

Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M8

C/O Cuisine Editor

Telephone: 343 - 8285

# DWAYNE (TRUDEAU) G. ROTH, LL.B.



## A General Practice of Law Including:

- Aboriginal Law
- Corporate / Commercial
- Criminal Law
- Impaired Driving
- Personal Injuries
- Wrongful Dismissal
- Civil Litigation
- Economic Development
- Municipal / Administrative Law
- Divorce / Family Law

# 955 - 7667

✓ **Trusted**

✓ **Reliable**

*Fixed fees for many services  
Free Initial 1/2 hour consultation  
Province wide representation  
Extended Hours*

PRACTICING IN AFFILIATION WITH:

## **Piché Humphries**

**Lakeview Place  
Suite 207, 3502 Taylor Street East  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7H 5H9**

**Phone:** (306) 955-7667 (office)  
(306) 242-6927 (home)

**FAX:** (306) 955-7727  
**CELL:** (306) 241-3262

# IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS!

*BUFFALO NARROWS (April 16 & 17<sup>th</sup>.)*

*By Wil Smolkowski*

*There is a story about a man who went to a park one day to release balloons. All day the man blew up his balloons and released them into the air. Some of the balloons were white, some red and some were blue while a lot were brown. All the balloons soared majestically into the air with the same force. Then, as the sun was beginning its slide down to the netherworld, a small Metis boy tugged on the man's sleeve, asking "How come the brown balloons fly just as high as the others?"*

*"Ah," the man replied, "It is not the colour of what's outside... but what's inside, that counts."*

To the participants at the Youth and Cultural Conference, who are engaged in the never ending war against Drugs and alcohol, the Balloon Man's message is still strong and true.

It was Buffalo Narrow's First Annual Youth Conference and was put together by Methy Pathways Board and Clearwater Regional Recreation Association Youth Worker Leona McCallum.

On the first day of the conference the teenagers were welcomed by Buffalo Narrow's Mayor, Ray Laliberte along with Buckley Belanger (MLA), Clem Chartier, President (MNS), Philip Chartier,

Minister of Employment & Training (MNS) and Trevor Kennedy and April MacPherson, Metis Youth Council.

The second day had strong messages from Dwayne (Trudeau) Roth, a Metis Lawyer, Constable Brian Arcand of the RCMP, Allan Beaver, long distance runner and Aboriginal Youth Role Model Ken Ward.

Trudeau was the first to speak with the message, "Don't worry about money.

Drinking gets in the way of helping your people. We need warriors, not drunk warriors." Trudeau is also an excellent role model for youth due to his getting a law degree after nine years of hard work.

Constable Arcand was the second

**Cont/d Next Page**



## It's What's....

with the message of never giving up. "Just keep going no matter what people tell you. You have to set goals when you are young." Arcand has been a Police Officer for 35 years and he added, "You can be anything today. You can be what you want to be if you put your mind to it. Alcohol and drugs are a choice and a person can chose not to be a victim to them."

---

## "Just keep going no matter what people tell you."

Constable Brian Arcand

---

Beaver's message was, "You have to believe in yourself to meet your goals and you must turn everything positive. If you want to be an athlete, you still need an education." He summed it up with, "Finish your education. Finish your high school and never forget your goals."

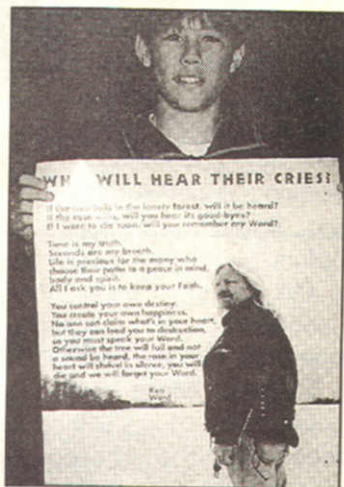
Ward, who has helped form the Feather Of Hope Aboriginal Aids Prevention Society in Alberta and was diagnosed with HIV in December, 1989 but chose not to fall into a negative approach. He chose instead to struggle to survive by adapting a healthy lifestyle and he was there to teach others to do so as

well.

"If you have a strong mind, you have a strong heart," Ward said. "Time is precious. Life is precious. You have the power of choice because you're young. You are all warriors in your own way. You are all role models in your own way. Show a positive message. You inspire me as young people because you show me respect. What you own is your dignity. Racism, discrimination, negativity are other people's problems. You don't own it. Keep positive and there's nothing in the world that can stop you.

After the presentations the participants were entertained by a very energetic troop of Hoop Dancers from the south. Later there were King Trapper events, with Tea/fire/bannock making, log sawing, snare setting, nail pounding and jiggling.

A dance followed.



# GARSON LAKE ROAD OPENS !

LA LOCHE - APRIL 1999

by Tyler Fetch

**T**he main result of the Garson Lake Road (Highway 956)

opening is job creation for Northern communities. Now, for the first time in their history, the communities of Garson Lake and La Loche, are

connected to each other all year round. The next step is to extend the road to Northern Alberta.

“The main priority now is for the all weather road to extend to Fort

McMurray”, says Doug Gailey, the Village Administrator of La Loche, “in essence it will create

more access to jobs for the Northern Communities.”

In the winter, Garson Lake to La Loche had always been accessible by “winter roads”. However, in the spring, summer, and fall, the only way was by plane, and that

was expensive. Now the people can travel by vehicle all year round.

John Janvier, the mayor of La Loche, said “People from Garson

**Cont/d Next Page**



*Clem Chartier, President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan & Phillip Chartier, Area Director, Northern Region 2.*

Lake can drive now, within an hour instead of flying. They can go back and forth to La Loche many times for the price of one plane ticket.”

The advantages of building a road to Fort McMurray are numerous easy access to and from La Loche, tourism can now be allowed to flourish due to the through traffic, access to the larger centres, and people from La Loche can now visit loved ones in the hospital in Fort McMurray

Before the road is extended, the people of the north must prepare themselves for the new road and the opportunities which could arise.

“The next step is to make sure the people in these communities are prepared for this road. New roads present new opportunities.” said MLA Buckley Belanger “We must prepare economically and training wise. If the road does connect to Fort McMurray, it may cause an influx of businessmen who will take advantage of this opportunity.”

“In 1981 the village council had a long -term plan and formally adopted they go-ahead with the construction of an all-weather road to Fort McMurray.” said Doug Gailey. “In the end it would take eight stages.

The first year twelve kilometres were built with the final ten completed in 1988.”

They started toward Garson Lake in 1989 and ended up running into money problems. It took seven years to rekindle the interest in the project.

“We secured funding to build another five kilometres in 1996 and in 1997 life was much easier and we were more successful as additional funding agencies jumped on board.” added Gailey. Garson Lake was in sight.

A plaque will be raised on the Saskatchewan side of the Saskatchewan/Alberta border, with 17 names inscribed on it. They are the Northern Village of La Loche, Northern Settlement of Garson Lake, Northlands College, SIAST Woodland Campus, Northern Branch - Post Secondary Education, Northern Affairs, Methy Pathways, NorSask Forest Products, Human Resources Development Canada, Mistik Management, Northern Settlement of Black Point, New Careers Corporation, Saskatchewan Highways and Transportation, Job Start Future Skills, Clearwater River Dene Nation and Dumont Technical Institute.

## MAJOR FOREST INDUSTRY EXPANSION

SASKATOON

by Wil Smolkowski

This Spring Premier Roy Romanow and Northern Affairs Minister, Keith Goulet announced what was, in the Premier's words "the single biggest announcement of private-sector job creation in the history of the province." He also stated that "it will dramatically reshape the forestry sector in Saskatchewan while ensuring our commitment is sustainable forest management."

Optimistic could be one word used to describe the announcement regarding northern Saskatchewan and the forestry industry. However, one question remains. How many of these jobs will be filled by Metis people?

According to the Premier and his Ministers, the forestry industry in Saskatchewan will double with the investment of over \$850 million and the creation of nearly 10,000 new jobs over next few years. Twelve facilities are to be built or expanded, creating an additional 4,000 to 5,000 person years of employment during construction.

Co-operative development Minister, Janice MacKinnon added that, "This announcement is not only about jobs but also of partnerships between large national corporations and smaller Saskatchewan companies." She estimated that the second phase of the expansion could see an additional 15,000 jobs in manufacturing, agri-forestry and research and development

over the next 10 years, bringing the total number of jobs created to 25,000.

Now if one were to take the above announcement at face value, it is the beginning of good times to come. However, the government has admitted that of the \$850 million private sector money to be invested, \$315 million has already been spent by Weyerhaeuser, according to a Star Phoenix story, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Also Saskfor MacMillan has announced a \$175 million oriented strand board mill in Hudson Bay. However, at the time, it was not yet known if the project had received approval. That leaves the actual future investment in forestry at about \$338 million.

Of all the investments involving Aboriginal people; partnership between Northwest Communities Wood Products and five Northwest Metis communities of Green Lake, Beauval, Ile-a-La-Crosse, Patunanak and Pinehouse has been announced in order to build a new sawmill in Beauval with a finishing site in Green Lake. This will cost \$11 to \$15 million and create a total of 165 direct and 330 indirect jobs. Also there will be partnership between Green Lake Metis Wood Products and Stillwater Forest Products of Montana, totalling \$5 million for a new finger jointer plant in Green Lake and Saskatoon, creating 40 direct and 80 indirect jobs. The rest of the investment for the north, creating Aboriginal jobs are between private companies and First Nation Bands.

# Metis Youth - Leaders of Today!

*By Trevor Kennedy & Jennifer Brown*

We, the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council (MNSYC), believe that we are no longer the leaders of tomorrow, we are the leaders of today.

On April 28<sup>th</sup>, the chair, treasurer and secretary were in attendance at the Aboriginal Career Fair Expo /99 in Regina. Trevor Kennedy chair was invited to be a role model and asked to make opening remarks. He then cut the ribbon, officially opening the Expo. Deanna Obleman and Jennifer Brown, both on the executive council also took part in the Expo. The three acted as great ambassadors for the youth council.

May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> brought a "How to Workshop in Writing Winning Proposals and Fund Raising Techniques for Aboriginal Organizations." There were 32 individuals present including members of MACSI, METSI, Youth at Risk Student, and members of the MNSYC. Thank you Western Region 1A for inviting us and giving us the chance to attend. The facilitator was Bill Zarikoff.

The MNSYC is now in the process of planning a think tank, with affiliates of the MNS to address the concerns of the Metis Youth across the homeland with our Saskatchewan Youth being the prime focus.

Part of what the MNSYC is working on is establishing stronger communications with all the youth from across the various regions. Each regional representative will be working on forming regional youth councils. We hope to have the support of all the Area Directors and

Local Presidents.

In recent meetings the youth council has decided that we will be putting on various fund raising activities, as well as submitting proposals to help with funds, in order to provide our Metis youth with better opportunities.

With Batoche Days approaching us, the youth council hopes to have a booth. This will be one of our prime source of fundraising and we hope that the Metis across the homeland will support us, the youth in our endeavour.

Council member, Naomi Atkinson from Northern Region 1, had the opportunity to attend an HIV/AIDS round table talks in Vancouver, this month. We all have confidence in her as the ambassador for the Metis Youth of Saskatchewan.

A special congratulation goes out to the participants of the Youth at Risk program, that was run in North Battleford. On May 13, the class had their graduation. We hope that the knowledge that they have obtained proves to be useful in their future.

Sadly, we must announce the resignation of Gabriel Lafond, former youth representative from Western Region 2A, the former youth representative for Saskatchewan at the National level. With every end there is a beginning. A Metis youth from the Saskatoon area, Nathan Zaeglaer will be replacing Gabriel on the council. This is not goodbye to Gabriel, but good luck in the future. We look forward to meeting Nathan at our next council meeting and welcome him with open arms.



# THE METIS CLAIM TO NORTHWESTERN SASKATCHEWAN: THE METIS BYTE BACK !

Chris Anderson, University of Alberta

In April 1999, the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and the School of Native Studies, University of Alberta agreed to jointly participate in an exciting new research project.

Research on the Metis claim to Aboriginal title in the northern parts of Saskatchewan, including Isle-a-la-Crosse, Buffalo Narrows, Green Lake and Portage La Loche will focus on the issues raised in the 1994 Statement of Claim. Because of the scrip legacy, this is one of the most complicated land claims ever attempted.

The claim has two major components. The first component consists of training and then hiring local community expertise to document regional land-use and occupancy by the Metis communities in Northern Saskatchewan. The second component is mainly historical, and is headed by the Director of the School of Native Studies in the University of Alberta, Dr. Frank Tough. Some of you may recall Dr. Tough has previously lent his knowledge as a witness in Metis hunting and fishing cases, and is considered a leading expert on the history of Metis resource rights in

Canada. Dr. Tough and his team of associates, including Ph.D. students Brenda Macdougall (Native Studies, University of Saskatchewan) and Chris Andersen (Sociology, University of Alberta) will examine how the Metis society and communities developed in the region claimed, and what the archival records have to say about the traditional land use and occupancy of the northern Saskatchewan Metis.

The researchers at the University of Alberta are seeking to do a full audit of the Government's scrip policies. The government has argued that scrip extinguished whatever Aboriginal title they might have had. This is the fundamental problem for the researchers. Aided by data base programs, the paper trail on scrip will be examined closely. The researchers will include the use of archival records from a number of sources, and it represents an opportunity to create a new archival data basing system. By using a computer to bring all the facts together, including genealogical information, the issues raised by the Statement of Claim will be fully addressed.

This joint project between the University of Alberta and the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan is an excellent example of the kinds of collaborative partnerships that benefit both educational institutions and Aboriginal communities. On the one hand, this project represents the University of Alberta School of Native Studies' continued commitment to emphasize research which focuses on problems and issues by Aboriginal communities in Canada today, the origins of which often go back a century or more. On the other hand, those involved with this project realize the value and necessity

of incorporating the expertise and unique perspectives of the Metis into overall research framework. The project will provide a number of students with applied skills.

In addition, the project represents cutting edge research with respect to the collection, construction and organization of archival data. This has the potential to assist other academics and Metis Communities alike in the future.

This is a important project, one which will have a direct and enormous impact, it has to be done right the first time.



## OUR YOUTH, OUR FUTURE

The Shellbrook Metis Local 121 Building Opens !

Shellbrook, April 11, 1999  
by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

After several renovations, the Metis Local 121 building was officially opened. This new building will house a special-needs pre-school, the Metis Society Local office, and a loft space planned for youth activities. The ceremony involved representatives from the Shellbrook Metis community, Metis leaders and Elders, and a representative from the provincial government.

Senator John Boucher began the ceremony with an opening prayer and was followed

by MLA Lloyd Johnston, who presented Metis Local 121 with a Saskatchewan flag and a Canadian flag was presented on behalf of MP Rick Laliberte, who was unable to attend.

Following the flag presentations, Senator Nora Ritchie swore in local resident Mervin Roode to be an official Metis Elder. The Oath of Allegiance

and Declaration was read and then signed, signifying Mr. Roode's official status.

Appreciation Awards were given to all the community volunteers who helped to renovate the local church that became the new office. Awards went to Cindy Williams, Albert Ethier, Martha Reimer, Mervin Roode, Gary

Frederick, Tanya Roode, Meaghan Frederick, Angeliq ue Grimard, and Ronald Olson.

Casey Reimer, 10, grandson of volunteer Albert Ethier, spoke about his experiences renovation the

building. Casey was proud of the part he played in renovating the building-he helped to build the back steps and raked and cleaned up the yard.

"The downstairs is for pre-school, upstairs for meetings, and the loft is for people to watch down," said Casey. "My Uncle Herman helped too. He built the stairs. I know this[place]



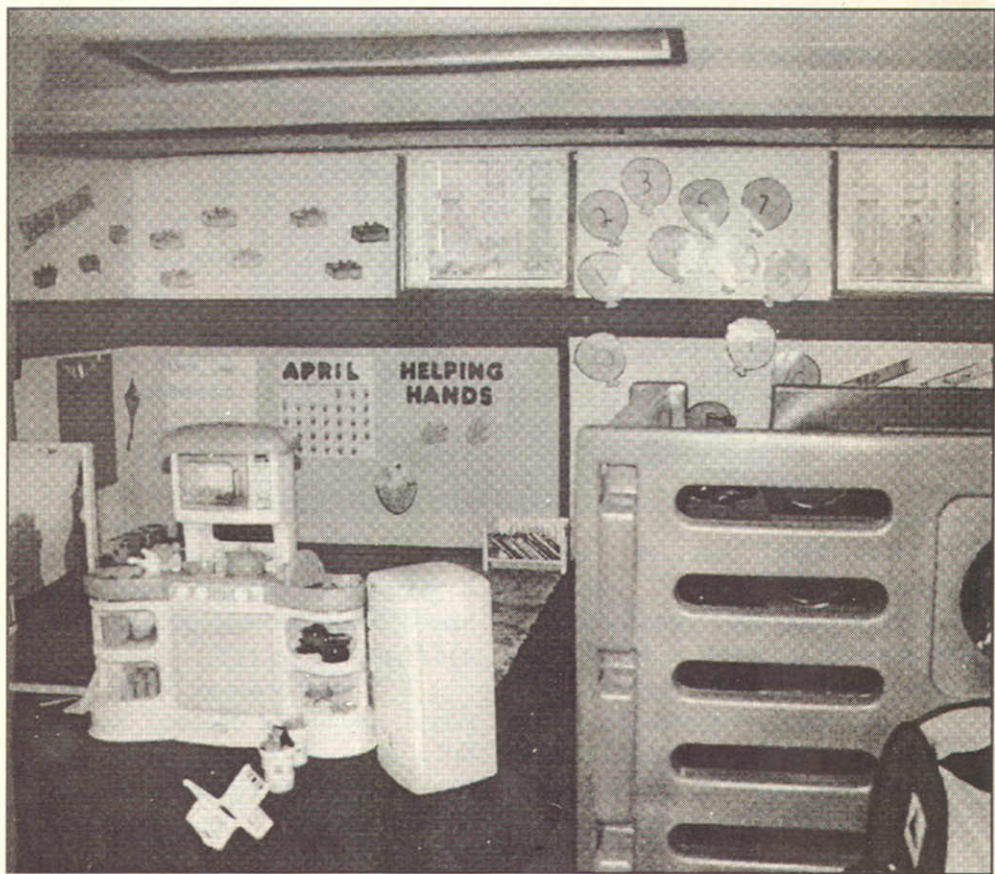
like the back of my hand. We had a birthday party here and we worked Easter break on the renovations - that's why I know it so well."

The federal government entered into the partnership with Local 121 to establish the special needs pre-school. Funding was provided under the Canada's Action Plan for Children Initiative (CAPCI), and local Metis people provided ninety percent of the labour for the renovations.

After the awards were presented,

Clem Chartier, President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, gave remarks. In his speech, Mr. Chartier recognized the efforts of the volunteers and the importance of what the community had achieved. Mr. Chartier stated that the Shellbrook Metis community had "set a model of success for other Metis communities."

The ceremonies closed after gifts were presented to the speakers by Local 121 President Roy Frederick, as a token of the communities appreciation.



## The Métis and the Study of Canadian History

by Darren Prefontaine

What is history? This question has been repeatedly analysed ever since the discipline of history was created by the ancient Greek thinker Herodotus (484 - 420s BC ?), the so-called "Father of History". History is the interpretation of past events through the use of written or oral primary and secondary source documents. It is the collective memory of past events over time, and its interpretations change as new primary source documents are found or when new schools of interpretation and thought emerge and replace old ones. To put it another way, history is the "living" science of past events because it evolves and is used to shape a particular group's vision of its past. For instance, an historical event, such as the 1885 Resistance, has a large body of facts which remain static, but with the emergence of a new document or a way of thinking, these events are reinterpreted.

In the past, historians traditionally focused on the careers of English and French-Canadian political elites. This historical canon, the Great Man of History Theory, was in vogue from Pre-Confederation

times until the 1960s. Rather than studying society as a whole, one talented individual, either good or evil was analysed. When non-dominant groups were mentioned in the historical narrative -- the "great" man, such as Louis Riel or Pontiac -- was the focus of attention. Ethnic and visible minorities often served as foils to the "nation-building" policies of the dominant male group. For instance, Stanley (1961), Flanagan (1979; 1983) and Giraud (1945) argued that Louis Riel was the sole impetus behind the two Métis "rebellions", which resulted in a "primitive" Indigenous culture confronting the "progressive" Canadian state. This meant that traditional history was written from an ethnocentric perspective. As a result, the Canadian historical narrative was skewed since the Métis and other marginalized groups could not write their own histories. (Indeed, history, the world over, is all too often told by the dominant group in society.)

The liberation of thought in the 1960s, led to an explosion of writing by regional, feminine, Aboriginal and

**Cont'd next page**

## History Cont'd

ethnic historians who wrote their own interpretations of the past. (To many "orthodox" historians these attempts to more fully understand the past were often despairingly called "revisionism"). For the Métis, this meant that the Métis experience as a whole and not just Louis Riel's triumphs and travails would begin to be analysed. However, this would be a slow development, particularly for events after the 1885 Resistance.

The Post-Resistance Period (1885-1945) was a key turning point in Métis history. During this era, Métis people were deprived of their land base (and identity) through Scrip speculation and by such concerted government policies as the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act (1935), which gave the state the power to forcibly remove Métis people from their homes. Despite its historical significance, no monograph exists on Métis dispersal and dispossession. While there are obligatory references to the 1869-70 and 1885 Resistances in most historical surveys of the Métis people, there is no causation of these events to those in our century. Cause and effect are the basis of sound historical writing, and, in this instance they are lacking. Zelig (1987) and Payment (1990), using interviews with Métis Elders, document how

Métis people were dispersed following the 1885 struggle, forced to squat on "Road Allowances", and forcibly removed from their communities. Obviously, Canadian history still has not addressed the full impact of the 1885 Resistance upon the Métis people.

Things are changing, however -- if only slowly. Currently, the dominant scholarly history journals in Canada -- The Canadian Historical Review and the Revue d'Histoire de l'Amérique Française, as well the major popular history magazine The Beaver -- use a number of interpretations of history, with no one interpretation predominating. Aboriginal history is given a particularly strong focus in these journals, as it is in Prairie Forum, B.C. Studies, Saskatchewan History, Ontario History and Acadiensis. Additionally, Métis-specific academic, educational and popular history are being written by people throughout the world. Recent historiographical works -- such as J.R. Miller's *From Riel to Métis*, or the Gabriel Dumont Institute's "Resources For Métis Researchers" -- have articulated many, if not most, of these much needed changes in historical writing. These essays and other historical works discuss many aspects of past Métis existence, not just Riel's struggles.

# *Back to Batoche Days*

## *1999*

*July 23, 24 and 25*

For further information please contact  
Claude Petit, Events Coordinator at:

Phone (306) 384-0565  
Fax (306) 382-6587  
Cellular (306) 227-3987

## MBC Network Radio

Broadcasting 24 hours a day  
in English, Cree and Dene.  
To approximately 50 communities  
Throughout Northern & Central Saskatchewan  
Distributed via a Digital Audio System  
Saskatchewan's Aboriginal  
Radio Network  
**Share the Vision  
of communication**

*"Bringing  
People to  
the People"*

**M  
B  
C**



**Y'atthe Askin  
Productions**

Video & Audio  
Production Services  
Off-Line Editing Suite  
Audio Post Production  
State of the Art Digital Cameras  
MEDIA 100 Non Linear editing system  
2D/3D Visual Effects Software  
**Capture your earth, land and sky**

**MBC is dedicated to  
the preservation and  
promotion of  
Aboriginal cultures  
in Saskatchewan**

**Toll Free Request Line  
1-877-425-4101**

**Prince Albert Sales Office**  
#77 - 11th Street West  
2nd Floor  
Prince Albert, Sk. S6V 3A8  
ph: (306) 922-4566  
fx: (306) 922-6969

*Dedicated, Committed  
& Responsive*

**La Ronge Broadcast Center**  
**Radio & Video Production**  
P.O. Box 1529  
La Ronge, S0J 1L0  
ph: (306) 425-4003  
fx: (306) 425-3123

*Saskatchewan's Aboriginal Communications*

**Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation**