

# New Breed

MAGAZINE



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# New Breed

MAGAZINE

is a Publication of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan

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## Palmberre Days Gathering

August 1-3, 2003, Palmberre Lake

Article and Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

**E**very year, it is a treat to go north, to travel north through Buffalo Narrows and toward Turnor Lake, to sit by the quiet waters of Palmberre Lake, to drink tea from a pot over the fire, to eat

fresh whitefish, to watch the evening of dancing, to enter a nail-hammering contest, to take photos of the horseshoe throwing, to gaze upon the young people with their friends and families, swimming, flying their balloons, playing toss games. It is a treat to sit under an awning and play a round of bingo, or watch the women in a card match or at log sawing or the men at moose calling, or to see the canoe races, or to walk through the web of camp grounds with tarps hung to protect from the rain, to see families cooking over grills on an open fire, to visit with the many wonderful people I have come to know from North West Saskatchewan. If I am lucky, I come home with a new pair of beaded moccasins, made with the fragrant hand-tanned hide, or a new set of photos that I can share with you. If I am really lucky, I will get to go back next year. Next year, I hope to see you there, too.

This year's winners of the adult Métis Cultural Events were: Ladies Log Sawing Teams First place



Joe Moise with Clem Chartier

went to Eva Armstrong and Therese Janvier, who were challenged on a technicality and came back to win again on the second round. Second place went to Louise Janvier and Angel Sylvestre. Betty Machiskinic and Donna Morin came in third place. Ladies Nail-Pounding winner on the first round was Eva Armstrong, followed by Virginia Clark in second and Margaret Montgrand in third place. The second round saw Caroline Montgrand take first with Virginia Clark and Eva Armstrong coming in second and third respectively. Men's Nail-Pounding Winner was Frank Morin, seconded by Lawrence Piche. Third prize went to William Montgrand. In the Moose-Calling Mixed event, Lambert Sylvestre came in first, followed by Donna Janvier and with Eva Armstrong coming in third.

Youth Event winners were: In the Tea-Making competition, Brendan Chartier took first place, Marlee Durocher in second and Amber Pederson took third place. Log-Sawing competition winners were: Clayton Daigneault, Sneezer and Riley Sylvestre. In the Nail-Pounding category, Clayton Daigneault took first place, with Billy Janvier taking second place and Terrance Janvier. In the Bannock Making competition, Jasmine McCallum took first place. Kerry Morin and William Charles took second and third place. Finally, in the Trap Setting event, Billy Janvier took first place. Malcolm Herman took second with Aaron Pederson taking third place.



*(Left to Right) Ladies' Nail Pounding, Mens Log Sawing, and Ladies Log Sawing  
Top: Some of the many families and children attending Palmber Days*

# Amyottes Honoured

Article by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

**M**étis Nation Saskatchewan Local # 98 held a Memorial Gathering in honour of the Founders of Métis Local #98, Daniel and Marguerite Amyotte. The evening was held on September 13, 2003 in the Knights of Columbus Hall in Battleford, Saskatchewan. A supper was held and guests were invited to speak. The event was arranged by Gordon Amyotte on behalf of the Late Daniel and Marguerite Amyotte. President Clément Chartier honoured the family and the

## PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

AWARDED TO

THE LATE  
DANIEL AND MARGUERITE AMYOTTE

FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE  
MÉTIS NATION



SEPTEMBER 13, 2003

President Clément Chartier  
Métis Nation - Saskatchewan

memory of their parents by awarding the President's Award for the Contribution of the Late Daniel and Marguerite Amyotte to the Métis Nation.

## Building a strong Canada together



Aboriginal people are an important part of Canada's history – and our future. Together with the Government of Canada, Aboriginal people are succeeding in education and self-employment – and creating jobs that strengthen our economy.

A strong Canada depends on contributions from Aboriginal people. That's why the Government of Canada is funding specialized programs and services to help achieve even more success.

### IN SASKATCHEWAN, THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA IS:

- Supporting Aboriginal educational institutions such as the new First Nations University of Canada and the Gabriel Dumont Institute – after all, Saskatchewan produces more Aboriginal post-secondary graduates than any other province of Canada
- Investing in Aboriginal businesses, last year creating more than 800 full and part-time jobs
- Establishing commercial developments – such as Muskeg Lake in Saskatoon, home to dozens of Aboriginal-owned businesses
- Investing more than \$1 million in Métis sports and culture

### DID YOU KNOW?

Wanuskewin Heritage Park, an Aboriginal-run tourism venture near Saskatoon, is one of Saskatchewan's most popular tourist attractions and a source of cultural pride for all Canadians. In fact, Aboriginal-run tourism is one of Canada's most rapidly growing industries, worth \$270 million and employing nearly 16,000 Aboriginal people.

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# My Experiences at Residential School

Article Submitted by Pierre Chartier, Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan

**A**fter watching a documentary on residential schools for native people in Manitoba, I decided to write this article about my own experiences at such a school, which I attended in Isle-a-la-Crosse in the thirties.

I was taken there by my father when I was eight or nine years old. I spent the next three and a half years or so at this institution minus the two months of summer holidays. There were no other school breaks for us, as it seems that we

were forgotten for ten months of the year.

I did not have any knowledge of any sexual abuse being committed by any of the staff, but maybe we were lucky to have female staff (nuns) looking after us.

The abuse that we endured was of a physical and psychological type. We could not speak our native language at all, which made it very hard on most of the students, as they did not speak either French or English. I guess I was



School Girls - Ile a la Crosse, 1930s

one of the lucky ones in that respect as I spoke and understood the French language.

I saw young boys come in, in September, and possibly not utter a word until maybe January or February. Can you imagine the torment and loneliness and despair these young people went through? Here they were put into a strange environment that they had never experienced or even dreamed of. It must have been hell on earth for them. I especially felt sorry for the people who were from La Loche. They had never been away from their place of birth before, and here they were thrust into or amidst their long time enemies (Cree). Can you even start to imagine how they felt? Never knowing if and when they would be ganged up on and maybe even crippled for life. I salute the La Loche students for being such brave boys and going through this part of their life that I am sure they want to forget. They are a great people and many if not all of them have been and still are friends of mine.

Now for the abuse. It did not take much of an excuse to get a whipping with a bunch of green willows. I was usually handed a jack knife by the nun who lorded over us and ordered to go west of the school and cut a few small slender willows. These I would bring back and hand over to her. She would then make me undress (naked) and crawl on my cot (bed) with a thin sheet covering me. That's when the whipping would start. If you didn't yell and cry right away, the beating would continue. They had to believe that they had the upper hand and were breaking your spirit. (Somewhat like the way some cruel men break a horse). Of course in those years, the native people were just seen as savages that had to be civilized through any and all means and if that meant beating them into submission, then so be it. But some of the beatings I witnessed were really uncalled for and it was criminal abuse by today's standards. I saw this nun chain and lock this boy's hands

behind his back and then put him in a sack and sew the sack shut and then she proceeded to whip him with a strap. That man is no longer with us, as he committed suicide a few years ago. I am not saying this beating had anything to do with it, but it makes you wonder.

Many boys ran away, but you could not go very far as there were no roads leading away from this concentration camp. We were penned behind barbed wire and could not cross it for fear of a whipping. There was a board walk dividing the girl's and the boy's playgrounds and when playing ball, if the ball happened to go over the boardwalk into the girl's area, they could not throw it back to us, as that could be considered flirting. We were not allowed to even smile at our own sisters. That was a sin for which we might go to hell, if not hell, at least purgatory.

We were always hungry. When the mission workers dug potatoes up in the fall, they would pass by our yard with wagonloads of potatoes, and we would bug them to throw us a few potatoes, which we ate as if they were apples. No apple ever tasted as good as those spuds did. The mission had milk cows and chickens, but we never had any beef or eggs. That was for the priests and the nuns. Whenever they killed a cow, they saved the blood, which the cooks would then mix with flour and cook in big pans. After it was cooked it would then be cut into pieces which was then served to us at mealtime. We were always kept in a state of hunger, so of course, we would eat whatever was dished out to us, be it rancid fish, dry bread or anything that was on our plates.

Signed,

Pierre Chartier  
Box 21  
Buffalo Narrows, SK  
S0M 0J0

# MÉTIS FAMILY AND COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES INC.

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Setting the strategic direction of social services within the scope of child and family services for Saskatchewan Métis.

## COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN FOR CHILDREN

Helping community groups address health and developmental needs of high-risk children (0-6 years) and their families.





## MNA Wins at Calgary Stampede

**T**he Métis Nation of Alberta Zone 3 from Calgary Alberta won 2nd place in the Cultural Event this year at the Calgary Stampede. Photos courtesy of Marlene Lanz, MNA Zone 3 Representative.



*'Without a struggle, there can be no progress'*

*-President Audrey Poitras*

# Métis Nation of Alberta

## Celebrates 75th Anniversary

*Article and Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith*

**W**hile the story of the Métis in Alberta begins long before 1928, the Métis Nation of Alberta celebrates its 75th Anniversary marking a celebration of the collective voice of the Métis in their province. The celebration followed a two-day Métis Rights conference arranged by MNA Zone IV, under the direction of Jerry Letendre, Zone IV President and Minister of Children Services for MNA, and Cecile Bellrose, MNA Zone IV Vice-President and Minister responsible for Métis Nation Agenda. The conference opened with remarks by President Audrey Poitras, followed by presentations and discussions by lawyers, academics and community members on the issues, the research and the challenges ahead for the Métis Nation. Issues such as land claims and citizenship registration, Métis harvesting rights and Métis

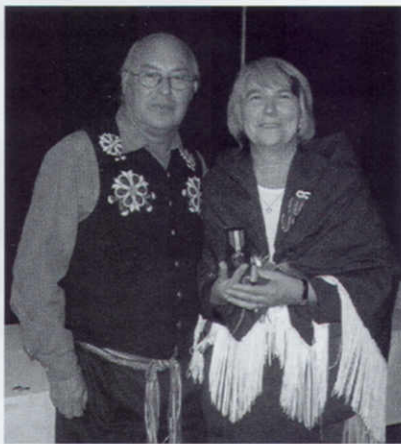
Nation judicial systems and governance were discussed.

The Anniversary celebrations, entitled *Celebration 75, The Métis Nation Legacy*, was held at the Mayfield Inn and Trade Centre in Edmonton and were opened with a procession of Métis Veterans, Elders and Dignitaries, to the sound of the Métis Anthem as sung by Lorilee Brooks. Opening remarks were given by President Poitras, on behalf of the Métis Nation of Alberta, Clément Chartier, on behalf of the Métis National Council, David Chartrand, on behalf of the Manitoba Métis Federation, Harley Desjarlais, on behalf of the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia, and Gary Lapinski, on behalf of the Métis Nation of Ontario. The Government of Canada's Métis Interlocutor, the Honourable Ralph Goodale gave

opening remarks, along with Senator Thelma Chalifoux. Several other dignitaries gave words of support at the opening of the 75th Annual General Assembly of the Métis in Alberta. Reports were provided by elected officials on the business of the Métis Nation since last assembly. During the lunch hour, Mrs. Mary Benoit was honoured as she celebrated her 100th Birthday. The evening's events



*Left: President Audrey Poitras and the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, The Honourable Lois E. Hole*



*Right: President Clem Chartier and President Audrey Poitras*

included a Gala which began with the entrance of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, The Honourable Lois E. Hole, who presented the Governor General's Medal of Bravery to Mr. Claude Delorme of Grande Cache, Alberta. The Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal was presented to Mrs. Audrey Poitras, as President of the Métis Nation of Alberta. After the delicious hot meal, a 75th Anniversary Time Capsule was presented by Vice-President Trevor Gladue, along with his many young companions. Following this, they held a series of presentation awards to special individuals who had made a contribution toward the strength and unity of the Métis Nation in an effort toward nation-building.

#### Honouring the Contributors to Nation Building:

Seventy five years ago, five men saw the need to come together collectively to address the destitute conditions being faced by Métis everywhere in Alberta. They understood the importance of having one collective voice if Métis were to be heard by the governments of the day. As we gather here this evening let us take time to reflect on the sacrifices made and struggles endured by men like J. F. Dion, Jim Brady, Malcolm Norris, Pete Tompkins and Felix Callihou to ensure our existence and well being as a Métis Nation. There are many of you here this evening that can identify at least one other individual who has participated in the building of our Nation throughout the 75 years. Many are no longer with us let us not forget their hard work and truly appreciate th legacy they shaped for us and for our children. Tonight, we honour just a few of these pioneers of the Métis Nation of Alberta. "Without a struggle, there can be no progress". President Audrey Poitras

Honours Went To: Walter Anderson; Pat Beacon; Herb Belcourt; Minnie Belcourt; William Boucher; Rene Boucher; Mabel Courtoreille; Chester Cunningham; Late Stan Daniels; Francis Dumais; Dean Franklin; Marge Friedel; Sophie Hiebert; Late Hazel Hopps; Ruth Kidder; Josephine Laboucane; Lloyd Norris; Peter Pelletier; Stan (Butch) Plante; Emery Poitras (Muskwa); Lloyd Poitras; Mary Poitras; Fred Reid; Alvena Strasbourg; Josephine Taylor; and Art Thiebert.



# Métis Nation Legislative Assembly

sits from July 4-5, 2003

Article by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) was convened earlier this year in order to enable the MNS to begin preparations for the elections to be held in May 2004, especially with respect to the issue of citizenship/membership.

The MNLA heard from the MNS leadership as well as Mr. Eldon Lautermilch, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs. The main items addressed at the MNLA were constitutional and legislative amendments, as well as the proclamation of the MNS election date. Several constitutional amendments were passed including changing the MNLA quorum to 60 from 75 members; providing that a member must be ordinarily resident in the community where the Local is situated in order to retain membership in the Local, otherwise the member must transfer his/her membership within six months to the Local in the community to which he/she has moved; and that the PMC not the MNLA shall elect from the PMC members an interim Executive member where a vacancy occurs on the Executive. These constitutional amendments, along with those passed at the December 2002 MNLA must now go to the MNS General Assembly for ratification before they become part of the Constitution. The General Assembly is scheduled to take in Saskatoon on

January 16 and 17, 2004.

The Elections Act was amended to provide that a member/citizen who is missed from the Electoral (Voters) List and produces his/her MNS membership shall be added to Electoral List and be allowed to vote upon filling out a Declaration Form and that the draft Electoral List shall be posted in the Regions and Locals and be accessible to all Métis citizens.

The Citizenship Act was amended to provide that all members currently listed on the Métis Nation updated Local Membership List shall be automatically entered into the Central Registry and receive the new Citizenship Card. Métis persons not listed on the Local Membership List shall have to apply for registration by filling out an Application Form and conforming to the registry requirements.

The MNLA also proclaimed that the next election of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan shall take place on Wednesday, May 26, 2004 and that the proclamation is to take effect on January 27, 2004.

The proposed MNC constitution was also addressed, as well as an update given on hunting and fishing rights. As part of the session, the Affiliates also gave their reports through their Ministers.



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# Back to Batoche Days 2003

Article by Brenda Smith, Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

The Back to Batoche Festival was held from July 24 - 27, 2003 on the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Batoche site near the National Historic site of Batoche. This year's festival attracted approximately 18,000 people throughout the week-end event, a wonderful turnout proving that the Back to Batoche Festival continues to grow.

The opening ceremonies began with the entry of Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Senators, Métis National Council Board of Governors and Federal and Provincial dignitaries followed by the Métis anthem and opening prayer.

*"Good entertainment. Wonderful treatment for seniors."*

Welcoming remarks were given by Peter Rudyck, Chair of the Back to Batoche Festival, Clément Chartier, Métis Nation -Saskatchewan President, Audrey Poitras, Métis Nation of Alberta President and Métis National Council Interim President, David Chartrand, President Manitoba

Métis Federation, Harley Desjarlais, President Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia, and France Piquotte on behalf of Tony Belcourt, President Métis Nation of Ontario. Senator Nora Cummings gave welcoming remarks on behalf of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Senate. Welcoming remarks were also given by Minister Eldon Lautermilch, Government Relations & Aboriginal Affairs, Minister Joanne Crofford, Culture, Youth & Recreation, Member of Parliament Hon. Rick Laliberte, Leader of the Opposition, Elwin Hermanson and Liberal Leader David Karwacki.

An emotional presentation was given by the RCMP Assistant Commissioner, Earl Montin to Senator Nora Cummings, returning Métis artifacts to the Métis Nation. These artifacts were housed at the RCMP Museum in Regina. They will now be housed at the Batoche National Historic Site. The Batoche Musical was performed by The Batoche Theatre Company and a dance followed the opening ceremonies on Thursday.

Canada's Deputy Prime Minister John Manley, was in attendance at this years festival and unveiled the Back to Batoche Festival Coin, part of the Canadian Mint's Canadian Summer Festival Series. The Métis National Council Board of Governors met with him before he addressed the festival goers. Premier Lorne Calvert, Minister Buckley Belanger, Minister Clay Serby and Minister Maynard Sonntag were also in attendance on Friday practicing up their jigging skills.

#### Batoche Festival Competitions

The Old Tyme Dance and Jigging Competitions are the crowd drawers to the Festival. Who can resist the sound of Métis fiddles and the sight of Métis dancers? This year the audience was entertained by some of the best dancing we've seen. We had 5 Junior and 5 Adult Old Tyme Dance Team's. We had a record number of Junior Jigging competitors this year, 71 junior jiggers! There were 35 Ladies competitors and 27 Men's competitors. The show was fantastic.

The talent competition is a popular

competition. Darren Lavallee and Trapline was the band for all our talent competitors. We have a tremendous amount of talent throughout the Métis homeland and the proof was at this years Back to Batoche Festival. There were 45 entrants in the three talent categories - Junior, Intermediate and Adult. Congratulations to all the entrants for their great performances!

Our Fiddling Competitions were entertaining as always. There were 15 Competitors in the three categories - Junior, Ladies and Men's. It's encouraging to see the amount of youth entering this competition to ensure our culture and traditions will continue for generations.

The Métis Voyageur Games, which are sponsored by the Manitoba Métis Federation, are a favourite event for the many people who attend the Festival. There are three categories in this event as well - Youth, Ladies and Men's. Some of the events in these games are: Hatchet Throw, Sling Shot, Women's 90 lb carry, Boy's 45 lb carry, Girl's 45 lb carry, Men's, Log Carry, 90 lb, Cream

## *Back to Batoche Days 2003*



Can Carry, 180 lb carry, Men's 450 lb Distance Carry and New to this year's festival was the Strong Man Medley. The Strong Man Medley is a timed competition. The contestants start by carrying a 450 lb of flour for 20 yards, then a 250 lb log 20 yards back, then 2 - 125 lb cream cans 20 yards and then a 320 lb rock. Pretty amazing strength when a competitor can complete the medley in just over a minute!

The Rodeo and Chariot/Chuckwagon Races were well attended as well as the Slow Pitch Tournament bringing out big crowds to watch these events. The Batoche Musical was held in the Main Stage area again this year. The musical is very popular for Batoche Festival as many people anticipate the next saga in Alphonse and Ernestine's lives.

A variety of food items were available for everyone as we had a total of 8 food booths, ice cream vendors. There was an air filled tent, playground and Craft tent for the children on site, as well, the Elder's Building which is operated and

sponsored by the Métis Elders Council of Saskatchewan is a place where the Elder's are provided free meals, card games, bingo games and a place to visit.

*"What a wonderful 4 day event, we thoroughly enjoyed it all, square dancing was great, great effort by all, keep up the good work."*

The profit from Back to Batoche 2003 will go towards start up costs for next year's festival as well as improvements to the Festival site. Construction of three cabins and a mess hall will begin shortly. These cabins will be used to facilitate Cultural Camps for our Youth, special meetings, etc.

The Back to Batoche Festival and the Festival Site continue to grow. This Métis Festival is a wonderful showcase of our culture, traditions and talent, giving the Métis a chance to get together and celebrate.

## Opening Ceremonies



*(left to right, top to bottom)*  
 Audrey Poitras, MNA President;  
 Liberal Leader David Karwacki receives gift from Senator Cummings;  
 RCMP Commissioner Earl Montin with Senator Cummings;  
 Senator Joe Perreault with Saskatoon Police Constable;  
 France Picotte, Metis Nation of Ontario; and  
 Peter Rudyck, Back to Batoche Committee.

# Mr. and Mrs. Batoche

Victor and Julia Boyer

**V**ictor Boyer was born on May 1, 1924 in Charlie Galloway's house in the district of Bellevue land rented by his father Sam Boyer. He went to school in St. Louis and achieved a grade six education. He was an expert marksman and kept his family supplied with wild game for food. He could shoot a jackrabbit on the run with his 44 Winchester rifle. He could compete with old Alphonse from the Batoche Musical. He is a great storyteller often found with people who are interested and willing to spend hours listening to real life tales of hunting, good times and hardship. He worked with his father on the farm until he could go into ranching full time on his own. He ranched all his life except for three years spent in B.C.

Article courtesy their daughter, Ornella; Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

working on the Pacific Great Eastern Railway and on the highway to Burns Lake driving a giant Euclid truck. He has always had horses, still does. He raced pony chuck wagons for 28 years with his brother Charles under the tarp of Boyer Bros. Some of his horses are still found in various racing circuits around the province. He has also raised cattle, sheep, deer and buffalo. He was president of one of the first buffalo associations in the area.

Julia Boyer (nee Hamelin) was born on March 21, 1919 on her father's farm near Duck Lake. They later moved to River Lot 13 at St. Laurent. She started school at Magnolia School in the Duck Lake district and finished her grade 8 at Fourmond School in St. Laurent. When she was in grade 5, she

## Mr. and Mrs. Batoche

## Senate



Victor and Julia Boyer



Back Row (left to right): Senators John Boucher, Esther Mulholland, Joe Perreault, and Albert (Hap) Boyer.  
Front: Senators Nora Cummings, Pauline Anderson, Collin Davidson, and Gilbert Pelletier



had to walk with her older sister Marianne from St. Laurent to Batoche to write their provincial French exams. They were in the same grade. That year Marianne had the highest mark in the province and Julia had the second highest mark. She was a gardener, picked berries and did all the canning for winter. She did all her own sewing and often made all her own clothes as well as costumes for school concerts. She made Métis handicrafts such as beaded moccasins, vests, mukluks and coats for sale to family, friends and craft shops. She was very involved in the chuck wagon circuit feeding with sister in law Lorraine Boyer all of the people running the three chuck wagon outfits that the Boyer Brothers had competing. She was also a horse person and often rode horses. Her main focus has always been family.

Julia Hamelin and Victor Boyer were married on March 9, 1943 and have now been married 60 years like Alphonse and Ernestine in The Batoche Musical. They lived with Sam Boyer in St. Louis for a few months until he moved to Duck Lake and they

could take the farm over. They stayed in St. Louis for a few years and then moved to River Lot 21 to start ranching there. They had four children: Kenny, who died at the age of 18 with cerebral palsy; Terry, Allan and Ornella. They have numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. There were always good times spent with family. House parties and gatherings were common. They also endured struggles through the Depression when they moved to British Columbia for a short time to accumulate some money to start all over again. Their persistence has paid off and they are now retired and remain living on River Lot 21 where they started. Both have always been proud to be Métis and have promoted the Métis culture whenever they can. Both still speak French Michif and now spend time with their newest granddaughter Kate in helping her to hear and understand the language so she can learn it as well. They are willing to share their life experiences with whomever is willing to listen.

## Walk to Gravesite



*Top (left to right): Prayers at gravesite; Rose Boyer and son Philip; Prayers at gravesite; Mr. Dumont, BC  
Bottom: Father Guy Lavallee leads prayers; Senator leads gravesite march; President Clem Chartier and Audrey Poitras*

# Competition Winners

## Back to Batoche 2003

### Square Dancing

#### Junior Square Dance Competition

- Duck Bay Metis Dancers, Duck Bay , Mb
- Kikino Northern Lights, Kikino Metis Settlement, Ab
- Churchill River Reelers, Buffalo Narrows , Sk

#### Adult Square Dance Competition

- Duck Bay Metis Dancers, Duck Bay , Mb
- Nordale Metis Cultural Dancers, Prince Albert , Sk
- Batoche Pickups, Batoche , Sk

### Jigging

#### Junior Jigging Competition

- Lance Boucher, Kikino Metis Settlement, Ab
- Robert Gardiner, Ile a la Crosse , Sk
- Megan Morin, Beauval , Sk

#### Ladies Jigging Competition

- Nicole Lavallee, Lac La Biche , Ab & Mellisa Lavallee, Lac La Biche , Ab
- Rose Aastveit, Dawson Creek , BC
- Charmaine Umperville, Prince Albert , Sk

### Men's Jigging Competition

- Darren Lavallee, Winnipeg , Mb
- Trent Lavallee, Lac La Biche , Ab
- Blaine Desjarlais, Lac La Biche , Ab

### Talent

#### Junior Talent Competition

- Alison Walmsley
- Dakota Caisse
- Marsha Morin

#### Intermediate Talent Competition

- Shalanda Desnomie
- Trevor White

#### Adult Talent Competition

- Carl Crane, Saskatoon , Sk
- Lisa Lambert, Meadow Lake , Sk
- Ray Lavallee, Stonewall, Mb

### Fiddling

#### Junior Fiddling Competition

- Sierra Noble, Winnipeg , Mb
- Brad Magy
- Jayleen Boulet

#### Ladies Fiddling Competition

- Cammy Romanuk, Sk
- Sarah Romanuk, Sk
- Fay MacKenzie, Cold Water, On

## Jigging and Fiddling



#### Mens Fiddling Competition

- Gary Pruden
- Martin Hamlin
- Efram Paul

*"Here for the first time. Very impressed with efficiency of organization, the real unsung heroes are those who clean the bathrooms, great work, great facilities et al. The crowds are wonderful"*

#### Bannock Baking

##### Bannock Baking Competition

- Shirley Martin, Beauval , Sk
- Dallas Gamble, Saskatoon , Sk
- Angela Bishop, Ottawa , On

#### Métis Voyageur Games

##### Girls 45 lbs

- Logan Topinka
- Nicole McNabb
- Raenne McNabb

##### Boys 45 lbs

- Ashton Brown
- Zack Laliberte
- Sage Yahyahkeekoot

#### Women's 90 lbs

- Joanne Brazeau
- Kristen Borgenson
- Kim Laliberte

#### Men's 180 lbs

- Jesse Gardiner
- Fred Maurice
- Terence Landrie

#### Hatchet Throw

- George Derocher
- Phillip Gladue
- Matthew Lavallee

#### Sling Shot

- Kyle Pendree
- Craig Lathlin
- Elmer Ross

#### Strong Man Medley

- Donny Sanderson
- Alex Maurice
- Brian Cooper

#### 450 lbs Distance Carry

- Terence Landrie
- Donny Sanderson
- Alex Maurice

*"Congratulations for a job well done!"*

#### Slow Pitch Tournament

##### 'A' Side

- TNT - James Smith
- Green Lake

##### 'B' Side

- Connections
- Wakaw

##### C' Side

- Those Guys
- La Ronge



## Voyageur Games



# Batoche Theatre Company

The Batoche Theatre Company formed in 2000 and performed its hallmark play, *The Batoche Musical*. Again, at this year's event, the Musical, showing three performances at the Back-to-Batoche Days celebrations at Batoche, filled the main venue and the hearts of many with pride and laughter. While every year is a funding challenge to the Company, the support of the community remains clear and it is a celebration to be able to perform just one more time. It is sheer excitement when the actors take to the stage, to sing and dance and perform for the Elders and the families, and to share a special story of the Métis Nation, the story of Batoche.

*Article and Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith*

This year, the board, actors and staff of the Batoche Theatre Company are proud to be performing the Métis Nation of Alberta's 75th Anniversary celebrations in Edmonton, Alberta, our first road trip and hopefully the beginning of many more. The Company will also perform at the Fringe Festival in Saskatoon and has performed at many conferences and gatherings of the Métis community throughout the year, including the AWASIS conference, the 2nd International Michif Conference and the Women's Festival in Saskatoon.

The Company thanks our funding agencies this year: Métis Nation of Alberta; Métis Nation

## *Batoche Musical*



*Batoche Theatre Company  
Actors (left to right):  
Lorne Duquette and  
Sara Loutitt;  
Krystle Pederson;  
Angus Merasty and Krystle  
Pederson; and  
Jeff Soucy and son Reggan  
with Joe Welsh and Maureen  
Belanger in back.*



Saskatchewan Clarence Campeau Development Fund; Canada Council for the Arts; Saskatchewan Arts Board; Saskatchewan Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs; SaskEnergy; SaskTel; Infinity Research, Development & Design Inc; and

all those who made personal donations to the Company. You can contact The Batoche Theatre Company by writing to: Box 21069 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7H 5N9.

*The Batoche Theatre Company Inc. is a community-based organization whose objectives include producing *The Batoche Musical*, increasing awareness of Métis culture through live theatre, and creating learning opportunities for young people and emerging Métis artists. The mandate of the Batoche Theatre Company is:*

- 1) To give voice and expression to Métis culture, language and heritage through the arts;*
- 2) To create learning opportunities and artistic forms of expression for young people to express personal and cultural identity;*
- 3) To promote the performing arts (theatre, dance, music) as ways to teach and celebrate the collective story of Métis people; and*
- 4) To build mutual respect across cultures.*

## Batoche Musical



*Batoche Theatre Company  
Actors (left to right):  
Lorne Duquette and David Knight with Joe Welsh and Maureen Belanger in back; Lorne Duquette; Maureen Belanger; and lower left: Children in audience.*



Métis Nation Attends  
*World Intellectual Property Organization*  
Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and  
Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore

*Article and Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith*

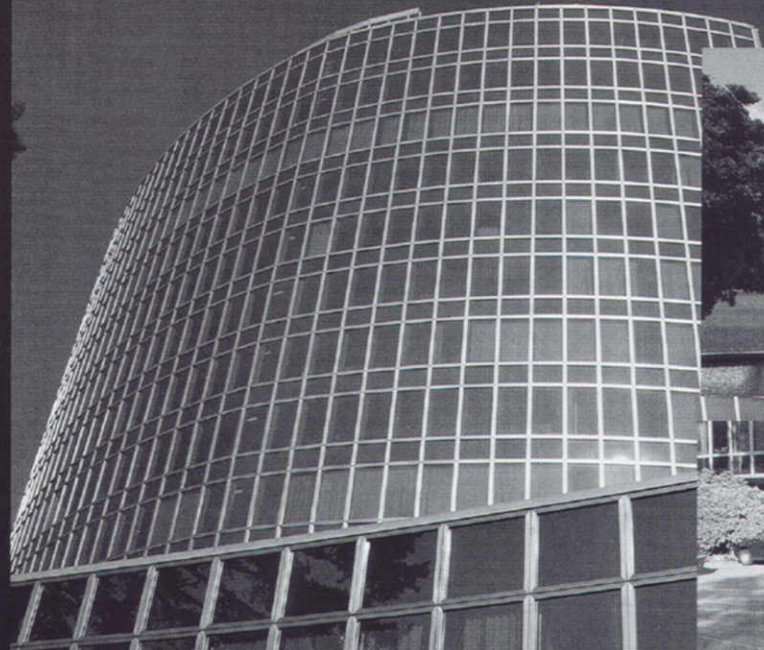
Genève, Switzerland  
July 7-15, 2003

### Introduction

"WIPO is an international organization with the United Nations dedicated to helping ensure that the rights of creators and owners of intellectual property are protected worldwide and that inventors and authors are, thus, recognized and rewarded for their ingenuity. This international protection acts as a spur to human creativity, pushing forward the boundaries of science and technology and enriching the world of literature and the arts. By providing a stable environment for the marketing of intellectual property products, it also oils the wheels of international trade."  
([www.wipo.int](http://www.wipo.int))

WIPO established an Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Folklore. This IGC Committee has

done significant research on these topics which include legal analysis of Intellectual Property law and the ability or inability of these laws as they currently exist to protect the collective interests of the Aboriginal community. Many times in our community we talk about the importance of the words of the Elders, of the contribution of the Métis Nation in terms of knowledge and experience and teachings. We recognize the clear contribution of experts in various areas and this research allows us to consider the true value of Traditional Knowledge in our communities and in our Nation and to determine whether or not the knowledge held by our community is properly protected and respected through Intellectual Property laws. These are the kind of issues that the IGC research considers. There is the issue of proper classification or identification of ownership. For example, how do we identify what is Métis amongst a collection of items? How do we know that a cultural artifact is indeed a cultural artifact of a specific nation? How do we protect our folklore for future generations through processes of



*Above: The World Intellectual Property Organization building  
Top Right: A sculpture and water feature adorns the WIPO grounds  
Bottom Right: Clem Chartier in front of the WIPO Building*

identification? Who holds the authority within an Indigenous nation to authenticate traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore? What is needed for measures of protection as it relates to these areas?

In this modern world, as in the past, ideas are very valuable. The Elders have always said that the mind is the most important part of the person. With our minds we are able to imagine and to dream and to remember and to learn. Our Elders pass on important information of how to live off of the land, of how to protect the land and its resources, of how to conserve, of how to treat one another and of the important stories of the past and predictions of the future. Our parents and grandparents tell us many important things. In some countries like Peru, Brazil and South Africa, companies or individuals are using the Intellectual Property system to put patents and copyrights on images or ideas or concepts which arise from the traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore of Indigenous people. One example of this can be seen through the taking of

medicinal plant knowledge and producing medicines for sale amongst the general population. Once these processes for making medicine are patented, they become the property of the company or individual who owns the patent. Under current Intellectual Property law, these companies or individuals are able to do this. There is discussion about the role of the Indigenous peoples to have some control over this process through the role of customary laws. There is the question of ownership. There is the question of transfer of ownership. There is question as to whether existing laws of Intellectual Property can properly protect Indigenous interests as it relates to traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore. This is all part of the discussions of WIPO and the IGC in Geneva, Switzerland.

### Representation

The Métis National Council has Consultative Status at the United Nations. Clément Chartier attended the meeting on behalf of the Métis Nation, and I attended in a personal capacity.



Many documents were prepared for consideration at this session of the Intergovernmental Committee. Canada had also drafted a position on this matter. Canada facilitated a discussion amongst the Aboriginal Peoples in Canada, a meeting which was held in Ottawa about four weeks prior to the July 2003 departure and attended by MNC Minister Responsible for the Environment, Allan Morin and Yvonne Vizina, Métis Nation Saskatchewan Environment Coordinator. From this meeting, Canada prepared its position for discussion at this event.

### Meeting Observations

One of the most important issues was the desire of Indigenous Peoples to drive or significantly influence this process.

There is much debate amongst the Indigenous NGO's as to whether or not the current legal structure for Intellectual Property protection is adequate for the task of protecting and ensuring access and benefit sharing as it relates to Traditional Knowledge, Folklore and Genetic Resources. For example, one of the requirements for gaining copyright is by proving ownership of the knowledge. Without documenting processes (such as might be captured through TK Studies and Archiving of these Studies into formal processes and mechanisms), individuals would be hard pressed to show ownership of cultural knowledge. Further, many Indigenous People believe that cultural knowledge is not owned by one individual and should not be sold or copyrighted for profit by one individual or agency. These Intellectual Property Rights laws as they currently stand could allow for this to happen. Much of this discussion has resulted because of drug companies gaining access to traditional medicines, harvesting and creating drugs for sale on the market, incurring profit and harvesting of existing natural resources without protection and access for benefit sharing by Indigenous Peoples who hold this knowledge. Examples of this piracy were provided from countries such as Peru and Africa. Often this knowledge, which is held as cultural knowledge, would have been given up by one individual from the Indigenous community on behalf of all others. While this has been recognized as an abuse and an injustice, it has also brought the topic of traditional knowledge to the forefront of WIPO, which is, ironically, a very good and timely thing.

It is my opinion that the Métis community needs to ask itself a number of questions in order to decide the position we might take in these discussions: For example: a) What knowledge do we possess which we wish to protect into the future?; b) What knowledge do we wish to share for the purposes of development and revenue generation?; c) What processes would govern such protection and such sharing?; and d) What capacity do we require as a people to protect our knowledge for future generations? It is my opinion that our communities need to be part of these discussions and these decision-making processes if we are to find solutions which meet our needs as the Métis Nation and ensure we have something for our children to inherit.



*Top: Chairman of the IGC*

*Middle: Member States at IGC Meeting*

*Bottom: Member States at IGC Meeting*



## Meeting Outcome

All member states and Aboriginal NGOs agreed on the importance of the work of the IGC on the matter of Intellectual Property Rights and Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Folklore. There was unanimous agreement that this work must continue through the IGC committee structure.

The meeting came to an end, however, without having reached an agreement on the future work of the IGC, although the delegates came very close. The main item of debate was over whether or not the IGC would begin immediate work on the development of an International Legally-Binding Instrument on Intellectual Property Rights as it pertained to Folklore, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge. It was Canada's position, along with those of the B Group, that it was intellectually impossible, if not politically impossible, to carry out such work at this time. Canada stated that they wished to continue a "Norm-building process, rather than a Norm-setting process, elaborating principles for the protection of Intellectual property as it related to these three areas." They supported efforts toward this potential end of an internally binding legal instrument, but felt it was not possible to begin these negotiations at this time. More research was needed before such work could be undertaken. The developing countries (ie: A Group from Africa; Asian Group) stood steadfast on their position for the need for internationally binding instruments.

There was also the question of funding for the process which included a solution to the funding paid out of the current WIPO budget (which was already pressed), the establishment of a voluntary fund which may or may not be funded adequately, to ensure the work could continue, or some combination of the two. Also, the question of participation of Indigenous Peoples came up and whether or not WIPO or this Voluntary Fund would fund such participation and whether or not this funding would be accessed by Indigenous Peoples through member states? Through direct processes? There was no agreement on the future of the funding question for future work.

Six Aboriginal NGO's made statements supporting Canada's position that it was too soon to begin negotiating a treaty or other legal instrument. The Aboriginal peoples felt that they did not have the capacity currently to participate fully in such negotiations and that this needed to be addressed first. Secondly, there needed to be much more work put into the research on Tribal Law on these three matters. They requested that the future work of the IGC be set on studying the potential for "Sui Generis" methods which respect the inclusion and consideration of Tribal Laws which govern this knowledge currently, and to determine methods other than those suggested in the Toolkit and other Secretariat documents on the matter of intellectual property rights laws as they currently exist. These laws currently protect individual interests, including matters of copyright, however, it was felt that these discussions were too narrow as it related to Aboriginal Rights. This position was stated in the document tabled by Merle Alexander on behalf of the eight NGOs and the Assembly of First Nations.

In light of this inability to reach an agreement on the future work of the IGC, the decision was set over to the WIPO General Assembly.



*Top: Member States at IGC Meeting  
Middle: Indigenous Caucus meets over lunch at IGC Meeting  
Bottom: Attendees from Canada include: Tracy O'Heame; Merle Alexander; Clément Chartier; Kathy Hodgson-Smith, unknown; Greg Young-Ing; Violet Ford*

# Michif

A Language of Our Own

## Activities on Michif Language

The Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Cultural Committee oversaw a number of Michif language projects this year as part of the Aboriginal Languages Initiatives of Canadian Heritage. These projects were extremely short projects, taking place between January 1 - March 31, 2003. There were four categories of projects this year: promotion and recognition; teaching aids and curriculum; community learning, and developing leadership. As part of this initiative this year, New Breed Magazine received some funding support to engage in activities related to the Michif language. You will notice this new addition in past and future issues. As well, the Métis Nation Senate of Saskatchewan, under the direction of Senate Chairperson Nora Cummings, compiled a Michif Languages Speakers biographies and stories which have been reprinted in this issue. Rossignol High School of Ile-a-la-Crosse carried out their Michif Language Festival on March 18, 2003, in Ile-a-la-Crosse, for families, children and youth. As well, they have developed on line Michif language curriculum for Kindergarten to Grade five and for high school Michif 10/20/30. You can view these curricula on line at [www.kcdc.sk.ca](http://www.kcdc.sk.ca). The Yorkton region of the Métis Nation also continued the work they had begun on Michif

Article by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

language, translating past materials into Michif and are in the process of creating a CD Rom from this material. The Regina Region of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan also carried out Michif language activities this year and sought out additional funding to maintain this activity in the future. They are also working on a compilation of biographies on Michif language speakers in Regina. Yvonne Vizina held a Traditional Environmental Knowledge workshop this year at Wanuskewin, on March 21st and 22nd, 2003, where the Michif language played a vital part. Last but not least the Saskatchewan Institute on Métis Culture began the pre-production work on a Michif Language Video highlighting the central issues surrounding the language and conducting interviews with individuals working for its retention and survival as part of the Canadian Heritage effort to protect and revitalize Aboriginal languages. Included in this issue are some of the interviews conducted by the Senate as part of this initiative. Thank you to Judy Elliot and April Gardipie for preparing these for use in the magazine, and for the excellent work done as part of this project. Next year, the Gabriel Dumont Institute will oversee the Michif Activities.

## Michif Language Dictionary

By Kyle Vermette and Bruce Flamont

### Summer

### L'otee

Sun	<i>li salay</i>
Sunburn	<i>pihkashouhk avik li salay, maenshchishoo</i>
Tree	<i>aen awbr</i>
Flower	<i>en floer, en flueur</i>
Grass	<i>li fwaen</i>

We had a hot summer last year.

*Ki kishitayw l'itee passee*

Yesterday was quite warm.

*lyary ki kishitayw.*

Go and play outside.

*Doomaytaway dahor.*

### Go Hunting

### A la saes itouhtay

Boat	<i>aen canoe</i>
Moose	<i>aen nariyael</i>
Deer	<i>aen shouvreu</i>
Duck	<i>li kanawr</i>
Rifle	<i>aen feezee,</i> <i>aen vaendeu</i>

I shot a deer.

*Aen shouvreu geepawshkishwow.*

Deer stay in the forest.

*Lee shouvreu dawn li grawn bwaw ayawwuk.*

I like to carry a bow and arrow.

*Nimiyayhtaen aen nark pi en flesh chitackounamawn.*

# Evangeline (Eva) Aubichon

**E**va Aubichon was born on June 3, 1931 in Beauval, Saskatchewan. Her parents were Ernestine Lariviere and John Aubichon. Eva grew up with four brothers and one sister in the northern community of Beauval. Eva started to go to school when she was seven. When her father worked it became necessary for her to stay home to look after the family. As a child Eva would milk cows and picked berries to help with the family chores. Eva's memories of her grandmother include her as a midwife and bannock baker. Her grandmother would deliver babies in Beauval and the surrounding community because the distance to the hospital was too great to travel for many. After her parents passed away Eva moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Eva had Tuberculosis, a common disease at the time, and had to stay in the Prince Albert Sanatorium. When that facility closed she was moved to the Saskatoon Sanatorium. All together, she was ill for three years.

Eva worked at the Saskatoon Trading Post making mukluks, mitts and moccasins. After five years at the Trading Post, Eva decided to look for employment that would pay her a wage. She applied for a position in the Veterans Home and was employed there for approximately six years. Eva was also employed at

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardipie



the North Battleford Indian Hospital for three years.

Eva has been married to Gabe Aubichon for a little over forty-six years. She has raised her sister's children, one nephew and a niece. Eva and Gabe have not been able to have children of their own, but in turn have been able to love and enjoy a family life from the children that they have raised. Eva loves to dance, jig and socialize. She enjoys taking part in gatherings that bring her back to her Metis traditions and she participates in many Metis social activities. Eva Aubichon has a wonderful spirit and a positive perspective on herself and the others around her. She loves to talk about her family and tell her stories.



*Eva with her sister Mary and her father, John*

# Gabriel (Gabe) Aubichon

**G**abe Aubichon was born on February 23, 1934 in Green Lake, Saskatchewan. His parents were Antoine Aubichon and Philomena Morin. He has six sisters and four brothers. Two of his siblings passed away at very young ages due to childhood diseases. Gabe's father, Antoine used to raise horse and cows for a living. Antoine was a skilled trapper and hunter; this is how he would feed the family. Antoine never attended any educational institution; he learned to work on his own. His mother Philomena went to an Indian Residential School in Duck Lake, but she had to eventually quit. Gabe attended school but he was also needed to stay with the family and help with daily chores at times.

Gabe remembers Green Lake as a large Metis community. While he grew up there he remembers berry picking and how good he was at 'stealing the nuts off a squirrel'. (Every year the chipmunks would hide food for hibernation and Gabe would locate the squirrel's hiding spots and take the nuts.)

When Gabe was seventeen years old he joined the army. As soon as the army found out his real age he was sent home. He waited until he turned eighteen years old and enlisted, again. For his service in the army he received five medals: Service



Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardippie

Medal, Korean Medal, German Medal, the Metis Medal and the Aboriginal War Veterans Medal.

Gabe has been married to Eva (Evangeline) Aubichon for a little over forty-six years. Gabe Aubichon has a wonderful sense of humor and makes the world laugh through his words and smile. He always expresses his love for his family and his Metis culture.



Aboriginal war Veteran Medal and Metis medal



Eva and Gabe Aubichon

# Alice Ausland

**A**lice Ausland was born on March 17, 1938 in Ile-la-Crosse. Her parents were Charlie Lariviere and Claudia Elcrow. She has eleven siblings. Two siblings passed away at young ages from the measles and one from whooping cough. Alice has many fond memories of her family in Sandy Point. She expresses a love for her father and mother in a very generous way. Her father, Charlie Lariviere was a skilled trapper and was an excellent provider for the family.

When Alice was a child, the family moved to Sandy Point. She can remember having to travel back and forth in the winter by dog sled and by canoe in the summer. Alice can recall New Years Day in Sandy Point, every year their uncle would take them on a sleigh ride.

She attended school at St. Joseph Convent. She recalls that the Grey Nuns would not let them speak their own language, Michif. She remembers it was difficult trying to learn the English language. Although she found it difficult to learn the language, she feels that she received a good education from St. Joseph Convent. When Alice was fifteen

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardippic



*Alice's baby shoes on display in front of a photo of Alice as an infant, her mother Claudia, and her sister Beatrice*

years old she left Sandy Point and moved to Buffalo Narrows.

Alice worked with the City of Saskatoon Police as a matron for ten years. She was also employed by the Indian & Metis Friendship Center and received an award for her excellent work habits.

Alice Ausland has eight sons, two daughters and four grandchildren whom she loves very much. Alice has had some complications with her health. She has undergone knee surgery and suffered a stroke. She also has diabetes. Even through these difficult times, Alice seems to be able to smile and make others around her smile too.

# Peter Bishop

**P**eter Bishop was born on June 17, 1940 in Green Lake, Saskatchewan. His father, Alexis William Bishop, was born in Muskeg Lake, Saskatchewan in 1886. Peter's mother, Isabelle Fraser, was born in Green Lake, Saskatchewan. His family consisted of four sisters and two brothers.

His father, Alexis, worked for the Hudson Bay Company, hunted, trapped and fur traded. He was also an excellent gardener. When his father was a child he attended St. Michael's Indian Residential School in Duck Lake, Saskatchewan. His mother stayed home and raised the family.

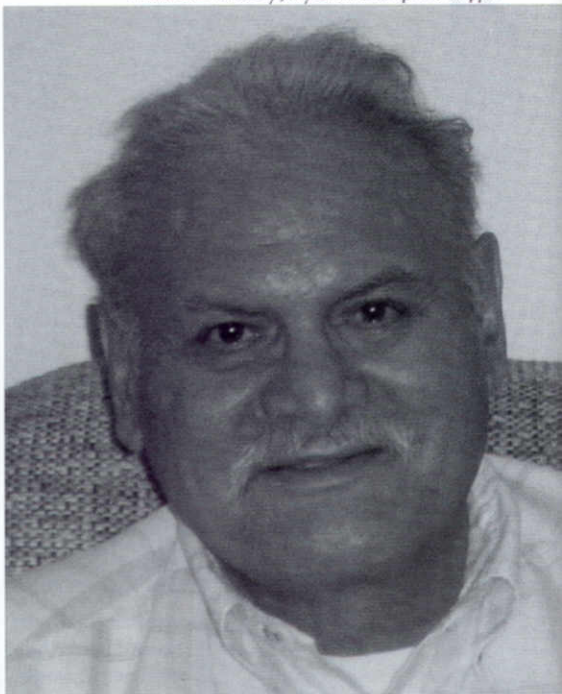
Peter had attended St. Pascal School in Green Lake, Saskatchewan and was taught by the catholic nuns. He can recall how the nuns would become abusive when he would use his language at school. He had to learn English quickly.

Peter was involved with the Metis Nation-Saskatchewan from 1973-1977; he worked as a field worker in the southeast area of Saskatchewan.

This position had him visit the Metis locals and deal with their issues. He was also an Area Director for the southeast from 1973-1975. Peter was also a teacher for ten years. He taught adult classes and grades five, six and ten.

In 1995 he was nominated for teacher of the year. He was involved in the *Westmont Community School Association* and *Communities for*

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardippie



*Children* for five years. In *Communities for Children* he would address issues that at-risk children would face. Peter was a part of the *Urban First Nations Healing Project* for four years and he is an original *Quint Development Corporation* board member.

Peter Bishop married in 1965 and is now separated. He has two sons named Robin, (the oldest), and Allan, (the youngest). Peter loves his children very much. Peter is an articulate man with a long knowledgeable past. His pride in his heritage and culture is evident by his collection of articles associated with it. Peter is dedicated to his family, his community and his culture, which he



Peter Bishop at 19 years of age

# Yvonne Corrigan

Yvonne Corrigan was born in Ile-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan on July 8, 1940. Her parents were Claudia and Charles Lariviere. Yvonne had eleven siblings. Unfortunately, at very young ages, two of the children passed away from measles and one other child from the whooping cough.

When Yvonne was young she and her family moved to Sandy Point, Saskatchewan. Sandy Point is located nine miles from Ile-la-Crosse. She can recall the days when the family would work on chores together, especially when the men would be sawing the wood and the women and kids would be off to pick berries for canning.

From the ages of seven to fifteen years old she attended a boarding school (convent) administered by the Grey Nuns. The school years were hard on her family. She would go to school from September to June and was only allowed to see her family at Christmas and during the summer holidays. Yvonne had learned how to embroider and to sew with a machine. She especially disliked the idea of not being able to use their own

language within the school or even on the grounds.

At the age of twelve, Yvonne worked for the nuns serving breakfast, cleaning, planting gardens and harvesting in the fall. At the age of sixteen, Yvonne chose to move to Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. She decided it was time to move on with her life. Later on in life,

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardippie



Yvonne worked for two and a half years at the Key Lake Mines Kitchen.

Yvonne has five children and lived up north on her own with the children when they were very young. She remembers that it was a hard life. She recalls the washing by hand and the hauling of water every day for various chores, no matter the season. She remembers having to go out in the middle of the night, carry in wood and chop it to restart the fire to keep her home and children warm.

In April of 1970, she and her family moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and have lived here since. Yvonne now has twenty grandchildren that she loves very much. Yvonne is a strong woman that has many family values. She has a great personality and possesses a very free spirit. Her way of early life presents a picture of the history of many Metis lifestyles during these years.



Yvonne modelling 'Le Shawl'

# Clem Cummings

**C**lem was born on May 21, 1948 in Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan. However, he celebrates his birthday on the day of his baptism on May 30, 1948. His mother was Adeline (McKay) Cummings and his father was Charles Cummings. Clem is the youngest of three children in the family. He has one brother and a sister.

Clem was raised on the trap-line and fishing line. He would attend school for about three months out of the year. Education was not a priority in their lives. It was traditional to learn to be able to provide for your family. His mother was quite good at birch biting, (biting into birch bark to make pictures in the grain of the bark). Clem cared for his mother before she passed away with cancer.

Clem was then placed in an orphanage to be cared for. Being in the orphanage made him feel as if nobody wanted him; he ran away at the age of eleven. He provided for himself by hunting and trapping just like his father had taught him. He remembers that his family had spoken in three

d i f f e r e n t languages. His grandfather spoke 'Chip' [Dene language], his mother spoke Michif, (Cree and French) and his cousins spoke only English. The family had a hard t i m e understanding each other but the language barriers didn't stop him and his cousins from having fun.

In 1967, Clem worked for the

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardippie



RCMP for two years and then moved to Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan to become an Industrial Mechanic. Clem decided he needed to have a job change so he went to work in constructions across Canada.

Approximately three and a half years ago, Clem suffered a massive heart attack. Doctors marvelled that he had survived. Not a single doctor would believe that he experienced a near death experience and received the gift to heal. Today, Clem's health is fair, and he has a strong spiritual sense about life. Clem will assist anyone seeking his help. He believes himself to be a Spiritual Healer and heals people through traditional medicine and



One of Clem's Moose Antler Carvings  
(work in progress)



# Henry Cummings

**H**enry Cummings was born on February 11, 1938 in Ile-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan. His parents were Charles Cummings and Adeline McKay. His grandparents, Celestin and Lucia McKay, raised him. He has one brother and a sister. His grandfather, Celestin, was a trapper and a fur trader. This is how he provided for the family. They resided in Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan. His Grandmother took care of the household chores and caring for the children.

Henry attended school in Buffalo Narrows for three months out of the year. When he was not in school he was helping his grandfather trap at Martin River, Saskatchewan. Henry often thinks about how his grandfather had taught him to jig. His grandfather would make him do the steps over and over again until he got it right. As a reward Henry received a three-piece suit from his Grandfather.

In 1954, Henry quit school and started working at a mink ranch for \$1.50 a day to help provide for a healthy life. In 1961, Henry lived in Regina and worked as a hotel manager for 11 years and in construction for three years. He moved on to work in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan as an Area Director for the extreme north.

In 1980 Henry moved to Saskatoon,

*Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardippie*



Saskatchewan. He has been involved with the Metis Nation-Saskatchewan (formally known as the Metis Society of Saskatchewan) for 32 years in various aspects. In 1994, he became president of the first local in Saskatoon, Local 11 Gabriel Dumont Local.

Henry has two sons and a large step family. In 1995 Henry and his wife Nora, were honoured to receive the award of Mr. and Mrs. Batoche. He has been together with Nora for eighteen years.

Henry plays several roles within the Metis Nation-Saskatchewan, but most importantly, he is a role model. His enthusiasm and commitment to his culture and heritage, as well as Metis rights, encourages others to partake in their heritage and live their culture.



*April Gardippie Interviewing Henry Cummings at his home*

# Irene Dimick

Irene Dimick was born on January 6, 1918 in Round Prairie, Saskatchewan. Her parents are Peter Trochie and Justine Landrie and they were born in the United States. She has four brothers and three sisters; unfortunately one brother was lost due to illness.

Round Prairie is where Irene grew up. It was her family homestead. Irene turned fourteen years old and the family moved to Saskatoon. The younger children in the family were able to go to school; Irene was needed to stay home and take care of her mother.

When Irene was seventeen years old she worked at the Ferguson's home as a maid. From 1967 to 1969 Irene owned a store in Ile-la-Crosse. In 1970, she and her brother Clarence Trochie began a treatment center called the 'Native Alcohol Center' (NAC House) and it is now known as the Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Incorporated. She was a founding board member of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan now known as the Metis Nation-Saskatchewan. In 1972 Irene was a representative of the Native Women's Organization.

In 1974 Irene operated a halfway home that held up to 33 people; she held this position for eight years. During this time she worked with many prominent individuals within our society such as Ben Wolf, Judge King and Judge Taylor. She owned and managed two second-hand stores, one on Avenue B, another on 20th Street, in Saskatoon in 1977. Through all these accomplishments Irene has also succeeded in having 34 years sobriety.

Irene was married for over thirty years to

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardipie



her first husband Jerome (Jerry) Ouellette. Irene remarried Lester Dimick in 1965. Irene had three children, one son and two daughters before adopting a son, making her family complete.

Irene recalls many joyful memories in her past such as sledding down really big snow hills with their homemade sleighs as a child. She remembers how on New Years everyone would travel to eat and visit with friends and family from all around and how happy the sounds of travelling bells from afar would make her.

Irene is a wonderful, knowledgeable woman, with a long history of success. She is looked upon as a highly respected Elder and a prominent woman within our society. Her past is definitely one a person can admire.



Irene prepares for her interview

# Mary (Tilley) Dumont

Tilley Dumont was born on June 13, 1930 in Brock, Saskatchewan. Her parents are Elizabeth Schaffer and Bill Letendre. Elizabeth Schaffer was born in Fort Benton, USA. Bill Letendre was born in Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. Including Tilley, there were ten children in the family.

The family used to go to Red Pheasant Reserve to pick berries that would be dried for food. Tilley grew up around Battleford, Saskatchewan. Tilley did not attend school. At that time it was not mandatory to receive an education and many parents felt it was more important to be home with the family and assist in chores such as cooking, cleaning or even watching the younger children.

Some of her fondest memories are of her grandmother. She would translate for her grandmother while they were shopping, as her grandmother spoke Cree French (Michif). Tilley speaks Michif and English, but cannot read due to her lack of education.

Tilley Dumont married and moved to Big River, Saskatchewan. During the marriage she had six children. She was married for forty-three years. Tilley is now married to Herve Dumont. Together they share fifteen grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren.

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardippie



Tilley skillfully knits heavy sweaters, mitts and slippers. Along with her love of knitting, she enjoys square dancing. Tilley Dumont carries within her the knowledge of the Metis lifestyles through her life experiences. When she shares this knowledge, she makes you laugh and cry and when she speaks in Michif she expresses her feelings through every word.



Tilley being interviewed by April Gardippie

# Margaret Maurice

**M**argaret Maurice was born on September 7, 1919 in Ile-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan. Her mother, Marie Caplette, was also born in Ile-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan. Margaret never knew her birth father, Joe Desjarlais, as he drowned while fishing in the Ile-la-Crosse Lake when her mother was pregnant with her. Her mother later married Harry Maurice. Margaret always thought of Harry Maurice as her father. Margaret grew up with three brothers and four sisters.

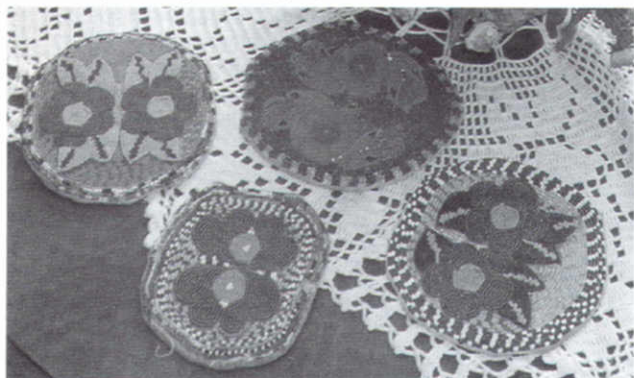
*Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardipic*



Margaret did not attend any schools, but she did attend a convent in Ile-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan. Like many other children in her day, she was needed to help at home and take care of the family and therefore received little education. Margaret remembers that while growing up in Ile-la-Crosse, the women would dry berries, (such as Saskatoon berries), bake bannock, and dry the meat that the men would hunt for. Margaret remarks that the women in Ile-la-Crosse would work just as hard as the men. She remembers that in her community that they never locked their doors. They would tie them shut with a string and if anyone needed to come in, they could. They could get warm, prepare themselves a meal

and then leave. That was their way, everybody would share.

Margaret worked at the Trading Post for many years. Margaret was skilled in the areas of beadwork to be used on jackets and moccasins. The jackets and moccasins were all sewn by hand, as there were no machines to use like there are now. Margaret Maurice is recognized for her excellent beadwork, her leather coats, and her dedication to her family. Her cultural talents shine through in everything that she does. Margaret is a very soft-spoken person and highly respected for her knowledge of history both within her family and her community.



*Beaded Coasters by Margaret Maurice*

# Mike Maurice

**M**ike Maurice was born on May 18, 1939. His mother is Margaret Maurice and he considers his grandfather Harry Maurice to be his father figure. He has one brother and a sister. When Mike was baptized he was named Michel, (French pronunciation), but he goes by the English pronunciation 'Michael'.

Mike remembers his grandfather as being very soft spoken and caring towards the family. His mother had taken care of many of the duties within the household such as drying berries and meat for food and taking care of many daily chores.

Mike attended school from the age of seven to the age of fourteen completing a partial grade eight education. He received most of his knowledge from reading books on his own. In his adult years Mike took an adult education class on learning to make resumes. Before he had taken that class, he had never heard of anything called a 'resume'.

For twenty-three years of his life Mike worked for Provincial Plating. During his employment with them, he only missed half a day, due to an illness called pneumonia. He left Provincial Plating because he suffered an on the job injury. Mike has been employed with Wal-Mart Canada Inc. for four years now. During his employment at Wal-Mart he

Article and Photos by Judy Elliott and April Gardipie



also delivers donated food items to schools for lunch programs that provide food to the children. Mike has been employed at the White Buffalo Lodge in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan for two years as a Metis Elder. Mike has had involvement with the Metis Nation-Saskatchewan for a little over fifteen years and has enjoyed it very much.

Mike has one daughter and one son from previous relationships, along with six grandchildren that he spends much of his time with. He is happily married to Faye Maurice. Mike loves his family and enjoys watching his grandchildren grow. He takes pride in his family, community and heritage, which shows through his willingness to teach and live his history.



Mike Maurice at his interview

Crescent Lake Métis Heritage and Cultural Society  
*Holds Métis Culture Days*  
 August 30-31, 2003

The Crescent Lake Métis Heritage & Cultural Society is dedicated to the re-establishment of a home base where the Métis people of Crescent Lake can meet and continue to practice the traditional Métis way of life. This year's Opening Ceremonies were hosted by Ed St. Pierre, with Gerald St. Pierre organizing the co-ed Horseshoe tournament. Verna Peepeetch looked after the details of the Croquet tournament and Victoria Flamont organized the afternoon Bingo. Myles Pelletier, Métis Nation Saskatchewan Area Director, organized the Slow Pitch tournament, with Mervin Pelletier looking after the Slingshot contest. Martha Lafontaine hosted the Bannock-making events, with Debbit Pelletier organizing the Children's Foot-racing, Three-legged races and Children's Ball Throwing contests. That afternoon, White Lighting Band was to perform for the enjoyment of all. On the first evening there was a talent contest, hosted by

Ed St. Pierre. Dancing was until 1:00 am. The next day was the same as the first, give or take a few small changes. A nail hammering contest was held at 4:00 pm with closing ceremonies at 5:00 pm. This year's gate fee was \$5.00. Next year, make sure you save a weekend to celebrate at Crescent Lake, just south of Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

Article by Kathy Hodgson-Smith



dream  
plan  
build

**SERVING METIS TRAINING AND  
EMPLOYMENT NEEDS**

Métis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan is operated by Métis people for Métis people. Our focus is to increase the skill levels and participation rates of Métis people in the workplace.

Career counselling - Employment preparation - Resume writing

Job referrals and job postings - Access to financial support for eligible clients

*Metsi is now accepting resumés from around  
Saskatchewan in various fields.*

course: 4th year Bachelor of Science & Nursing student, University of Saskatchewan

*"I plan on going back up North to work in a northern aboriginal community, mostly Dene and Métis. I speak Michif. I'm proud to be Métis. I think it's important to have Métis organizations and to be aware of our Métis culture."*

**DOROTHY ALCROW**



Schooling: RCMP Training in Regina, SK  
Posted to: Onion Lake, SK

*"Without funding, I wouldn't have been able to take the program. I mostly work with First Nations people and I enjoy that. I would like to thank Metsi for giving me the opportunity to do this training."*

**PERNELL ST. PIERRE**



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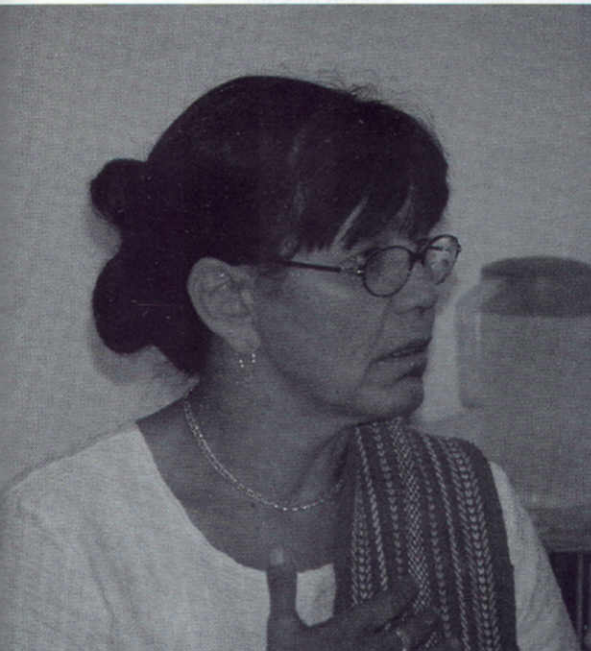
METIS EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING OF SASKATCHEWAN INC.

# Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Eastern Region II Presents to Nipawin School Division Teachers

Article and Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

**M**This year, I was fortunate to be facilitator for Eastern Region II in their presentation to the Nipawin School Division teachers led by Helene Johnson, Métis Nation Area Director. She followed up on an invitation made by the Nipawin School Board for their annual fall preparations conference that they held this year in Waskesui, Saskatchewan. As part of the range of workshop options for staff, the Métis Nation provided an opportunity to reflect on the experiences of the Métis from the region, to hear the stories and the wisdom learned through living as a Métis person in a public

school system. It gave opportunity for presentors to share their stories, some very emotional and some very funny, and open the doors for on-going cooperation in providing the best quality education for the young people of that area. Nipawin has recently been designated a community school. It was felt by many that the path to the future, lies in knowing the past and working together in the present. On that day, bridges were built. Congratulations to Helene Johnson, Fred Belhumeur, Ethel Lee Flanigan, Carol Lennox and the Nipawin School Division teachers for working together for children.



*Above: Helene Johnson  
Top Right: Nipawin teachers and Eastern Region II Workshop  
Right: Carol Lennox*



# John Arcand FiddleFest 2003

## FIDDLING WINNERS

### JUNIOR

James Steele – Saskatoon, Sask.  
Sarah Romanuck  
Sierra Noble – Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Bryn Rees – Outlook, Saskatchewan  
Blaine Constant – Winnipeg, Manitoba

### SENIOR

Gilbert Anderson  
Don Pfeifer – Saskatoon, Sask.  
Len Dumont – Saskatoon, Sask.  
Real Croteau – Fort Kent, Alberta  
Arnold Finan – Saskatoon, Sask.

### OPEN 1

Desmond Legace  
Jodie Smith – Allan, Sask.  
Kannade Sawitsky – Saskatoon, Sask.  
Eric Smith – Allan, Sask.  
Willy Sawrenko – Saskatoon, Sask.

## JIGGING WINNERS

### JUNIOR

Sierra Noble  
Charmaine Ahpay  
Shalane Bouvier

### MENS

Raymond Shumi  
Timothy Cote  
Henry Hince  
Ray Isbister

### WOMENS

Madeline Thomas  
Michelle Bear  
Kathleen Stienhauser

### PAIRS

Timothy and Lawanda Cote  
Geraldine Atimoyo and Raymond Shumi  
Cheryl Arcand and Ray Isbister

### OPEN 2

Ed Peekeekoot – Crofton., B.C.  
Larry Martineau  
Sarah Quick – Columbia S. Carolina  
Fay MacKenzie – Coldwater, Ontario

### TRADITIONAL METIS

Gilbert Anderson – Edmonton, Alberta  
Daniel Gervais – St. Paul, Alberta  
Victor Rose – Lloydminster, Alberta  
Sierra Noble – Winnipeg, Manitoba

### GOLDEN AGE

Henry Hince – Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Lucien Chabot – Zenon Park,  
Saskatchewan  
Gorden Radu – Regina, Saskatchewan

### NOVICE 1

Alex Lamoureux – Swan Lake, Man  
Celest Smith – Allan, Sask.  
Sarah Tavantez – Biggar, Sask.  
Sarah Hails – Saskatoon, Sask.  
Jesse Elian – Delisle, Sask.

### NOVICE 2

Haven Rees – Outlook, Sask.  
Kalle Thornsteinson – Asquith, Sk  
Collin Lajoie – St Paul, Alta  
Taylor Fayant – Biggar, Sask.  
Gabriel Brien – Belcourt, N.Dakota

### CHAMPIONSHIP

Daniel Gervais – St. Paul, Alta  
Lucas Welsh – Blaine Lake, Sk  
Allison Granger – Calgary, Alta  
Karmnell Sawitsky – Saskatoon, Sk





# Twin Lakes High School Graduation

Buffalo Narrows, Sk

Article by Yvonne Vizina. Photos courtesy Norman Hansen

May 29, 2003 was a special day for the Grade 12 graduating class of Twin Lakes High School in Buffalo Narrows, Saskatchewan as they were honoured by their families, friends, teachers and community members. Leaving behind one important stage in their lives, Melissa Laliberte, Jeremy Tinker, Lacey Laliberte, Jenna Robson, Brittany Woods, Gina Peters, Timothy Chartier, Albert Hansen, Nicole Chartier, Bryan Morin, Fawn Chartier, Ashley Petit and Angela Montgrand are now looking to new worlds of possibilities. Métis Nation leaders, Norman Hansen and Philip Chartier, paid tribute to the graduating class with words and gifts, wishing them well in the future.

A special presentation was made to Ms. Ashley Petit, who was nominated as the first recipient of the Kenneth Hansen Memorial Scholarship. Sponsored by the Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (MACSI), the new \$500.00 scholarship is given to a graduating student who has persevered through difficult life challenges and who is considered a role model that other youth can learn from.



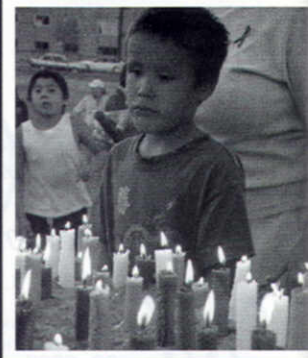
Ashley Petit is presented with the \$500.00 Kenneth Hansen Memorial Scholarship

Kenneth Hansen, who tragically lost his life at 28 years of age, was the youngest son of Norman and Cecile Hansen. As a legacy of their son's life and death, Mr. & Mrs. Hansen established the Kenneth Hansen Memorial Scholarship through MACSI as a means to celebrate and honour young people who live a positive lifestyle.





## EGADZ Holds 4th Annual *Day of Mourning*



Article and Photos by Kathy Hodgson-Smith

The 4th Annual "Day of Mourning" took place on August 14th 2003 in Pleasant Hill Park from 6:30PM - 10:30PM. The EGADZ youth committee organized the event. According to the press kit, this day marks the 8th year anniversary of the murder of a young girl involved in the sex trade in Calgary Alberta. This date has been recognized by the Provincial Government of Saskatchewan to honor the lives lost to overdose, disease, murder and suicide, resultant of the sex trade.

The past three years has been well attended by many community members as well as significant officials from the City of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Government and Federal Government along with the Aboriginal Leaders and Elders. This year was no different.

The Day of Mourning started with a candlelight vigil, prayers, and a march through the

area in Saskatoon where the sex trade is most prolific. This event reminds us to join with others to show our concern for the lives that continue to be lost to the sex trade. By acknowledging the cycle of abuse faced by these young members of society we can begin to instill in them a sense of belonging in the community, and subsequently a feeling of hope, self respect and dignity.

This event was overseen by Bill Thibodeau, Executive Director, and Gwen Bramwell, Street Outreach Worker, EGADZ Youth Centre.



*Above (left to right): Clem Chartier participating in March; Children; Young boys get close look at patrol cycle; Balloon release. Top: Candlelight Vigil, Middle Right: Healing Drums.*

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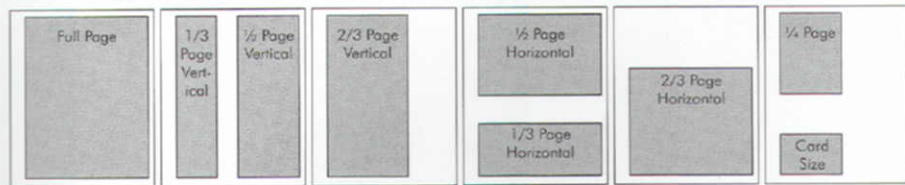
Since its first publication in the early 70's, New Breed has been the "voice of the Métis in Saskatchewan." We take pride in knowing we have become an important media source for Métis and Aboriginal people throughout Saskatchewan. Through means of feature articles, editorials and submissions, we bring forth a strong sense of identity, history and pride among Métis people. Our magazine also serves as an important communication outlet to highlight important information, current events and issues within our communities on matters of employment, training, education and others. It also focuses on many of our accomplishments, future endeavors and includes profiles of successful Métis individuals, programs and businesses.

We welcome your organization's participation and thank you for your support. A *New Breed Magazine* inquiry can be directed to New Breed Magazine, by calling 306 343-8285, by fax at 306 343-0171 by e-mail at [kathy@newbreedmagazine.com](mailto:kathy@newbreedmagazine.com).

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The following rates apply to advertisements published in New Breed Magazine. Ads appearing on the back cover are in full colour - these ads are subject to a 30% surcharge. All other ads are in black and white. There is a 20% surcharge for ads requested to be positioned on either the inside front or inside back covers. GST must be added to these rates. Please make all cheques payable to New Breed Magazine.

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