

# New Breed

*Louis  
Dorion*

MAGAZINE

July/August 1994

\$2.00 per copy



# New Breed MAGAZINE

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Offices are located at:  
219 Robin Crescent  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7L 6M8  
Telephone: (306) 343-8285  
Fax: (306) 343-0171

Corporation Chairman - Philip Chartier  
Interim Board Members - Martin Aubichon and Edwin Pelletier

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## MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

**A**s summer draws to a close, families prepare for back to school and/or harvesting of wildrice or other more southern varieties of crops. Activities within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and our affiliates begins to pick up again as holidays are over within our internal workings and the vast network of agencies we deal with. The first legislative assembly of the MNS and Back to Batoche Days '94 have passed. Summer gatherings such as Tokyo Homecoming and Palmber Days are over.

The Metis of Saskatchewan are still questioning the origins and impact of the recent media attention given our organization. Those of you who were able to make it to the legislative assembly at Batoche were given an explanation of the audit completed by Deloitte & Touche. Those of you who were unable to attend may still be wondering about the audit. One cannot blame individuals for feeling confusion or even anger over the speculation brought on by misinformation and half truths given out by the media.



The NEW BREED is **our** media. We are the voice of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. Our side of the story must be covered. After months of taking a beating from mainstream media, we are finally feeling some vindication. I am sharing with our readers, a letter written by Don Gass, senior partner in Deloitte and Touche which explains that we did not dishonestly use public funds as some have accused us of. Some of you have already seen the letter. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Philip Chartier.



July 20, 1994

Mr. Philip Chartier  
Treasurer  
Metis Society of Saskatchewan  
219 Robin Crescent  
Saskatoon SK S7L 6M8

Dear Mr. Chartier:

On April 19, 1994 our firm released to members of the Board of Directors of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan the results of our audit which was conducted on behalf of a number of government departments in connection with their contribution agreements. During our meeting with your Board we provided a full report on the scope of our audit and its findings.

Unfortunately, during the last few months much of the media reporting has been on a relatively superficial level which has left some misunderstanding as to the specific results of our audit. Our audit reports and accompanying letter clearly explain the results of our audit and the errors we encountered. To help clarify the situation we can confirm to you that our audit did not disclose any unrecorded expenditures and that generally the errors we noted in our report resulted from a lack of documentation or support for certain expenditures. The purpose of this letter is to assist you and others in understanding the nature of the errors identified.

The majority of the dollar value of the errors noted in our report deals with the allocation of expenditures between the Core Funding Program and the Tri-Partite Program. Our report does not indicate that the funds were not spent for the benefit of the Metis Society but rather states that the internal accounting documentation was not adequate enough to allow us to determine if the expenditure had been charged against the proper program. Our report refers to \$592,000 of expenditures charged against the 1993 Tri-Partite Program which were paid for through the Core Program.

Our report also referred to errors that resulted from a lack of support for journal entries. Generally, these journal entries were prepared for the purpose of allocating expenditures from one general ledger account to another and were classified as errors as we were unable to locate copies of the journal entries to support the transaction.

The balance of the errors relate to payments made for which we were unable to examine supporting documentation. These errors do not suggest that the funds were not paid out for the benefit of the Metis Society but rather indicate that supporting invoices or documentation could either not be located or did not have evidence of appropriate approvals.

As we indicated to you in the past, the full nature and extent of the errors we identified are explained in our audit reports and accompanying letter. We encourage all interested parties to review our reports in detail and if you or others have specific questions we would be pleased to provide additional information.

Yours very truly,

DELOITTE &amp; TOUCHE

D. E. Gass, FCA  
Partner

# READERS OPINIONS

Janice Acoose July 29, 1994

**A**rriving somewhat late for the annual Sunday walk from Saskatchewan's Back to Batoche grounds to the church cemetery, my partner Clem, niece-daughter Alicia, and I found ourselves a fair distance away from the rest of the group. As we hurried to catch up, Alicia—fascinated by the many people who followed the colourful wind blown Metis Nation flag—innocently queried "Aunt, why are all those people walking?" Momentarily, I was stunned as I struggled to find the most appropriate words to explain the significance of the walk to a mere four year old child.

How do I begin to explain culture, the situation of the Metis both historically and contemporarily, or the importance of symbolism and ritual in terms of nation building, I wondered. Alicia's warm little hand nestled securely within my own as we journeyed down the gravel road triggered a long forgotten memory and reminded me of my own political awakening.

I remembered walking down a similar gravel road my own four year old hand safely enveloped in my Metis Grandmother's comforting grasp. Thinking back to that moment I realized that I certainly wasn't aware of the peculiar differences between my maternal Metis relatives and my paternal "Indian" relatives. Like many other Native peoples, I guess we just knew that we were not like the White majority.

Certainly we were reminded of that fact when we dared to drop in to places like the local confectionary or the beach area. Certainly, we were reminded of it very early in school when we were strongly encouraged to construct our reality around Dick's and Jane's sterile White middle class home. I was also reminded that anger laden words like "dirty halfbreed" or "stupid Indian"

too often venomously spit from the mouths of the local whites did little to affirm my own two distinguished cultures.

I began to understand that too many ignorant people who know nothing about the Metis Nation and culture thought "halfbreeds" were merely the poor bastard off spring of a White and an Indian parent. Also, according to that way of thinking, Indians could at least claim some legitimacy in terms of nationhood while the Metis (halfbreeds) were too often rejected by both their Indian and White relations.

Forced to fend for themselves, the Metis survived despite incredible hardships. I remember my mothers painfilled eyes as she recounted the extreme poverty of her youth or the senseless deaths (because they could not afford medical care) of her two siblings. Poverty also intruded upon her education, forcing her to quit school in grade three and lend a most needed hand to a desperate household.

That Sunday however as I stood beside the contemporary Metis warriors circled around the mass grave at the Batoche cemetery, I was profoundly inspired by their strength, enthu-



siasm, and seemingly unending reserve of energy. Offering prayers for the fallen heroes of the 1885 Resistance as well as words of encouragement for each other, Senators, and political and community leaders described the procession and gathering as rejuvenating, empowering, spiritually strengthening and politically important. I realized then that Alicia's political consciousness would be awakened just as mine had been, out of necessity!

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# No Remembrance for Metis Soldiers

By Dwayne Docken

All veterans of Canada, who fought for their country during the World Wars and Korean conflict carry some heartache from their war days. The situation is intensified for Metis Veterans who returned. Fifty years have passed for veterans of those wars and yet many have still not been compensated for their efforts. Metis veterans have rallied together to take on Veteran Affairs for their lack of support shown for benefits they should have received.

The Metis Veterans of Canada under the Metis National Council met with the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples to express their unjust treatment of Metis Veterans on April 26, 1994 in Ottawa and again on June 16. The presenters gave a detailed report of the struggle of Metis from the earliest takeover of the Northwest by the government of Canada in 1869. According to the presenters, the political economy of the people



(L to R) Chartrand, Gaudry, Jules Haggerty

Photo Courtesy of Edward King

was destroyed and our people have been dispersed throughout western Canada as the oncoming

settlers assumed rights over our lands. The Metis have been a big player in the formation of Canada with the formation of Manitoba and the Manitoba Act, along with the Dominion Lands Act which recognized Metis claims to Aboriginal title. Yet the Federal Government still refuses to deal

with the Metis claim.

This is the same pattern that Veteran Affairs is seeming to follow when they refuse to open discussions with Metis on land issues flowing out of the Veterans Land Act. The veterans went on to list some of the reasons why many veterans did not receive benefits. Many veterans were not aware of education and land benefits or low-interest loans available for housing and business start-ups. Metis veterans went home after the wars and were far away from newspapers and Legion magazines and many could not read or write in English. The Veteran Affairs however did not make available applications in Cree or French and Michif. "It has left many Metis disillusioned and betrayed said Senator Len Marchand". The veterans are continuing to ask for a committee to undertake an independent investigation on these matters or allow the Metis veterans to undertake the task.

"We need funds for such a task said veteran Vital Morin". They allowed the Indian veterans \$300,000 for the same task as we are asking for and in that investigation the Metis were never consulted. So how today can Veterans Affairs say they have never denied rights to benefits for Aboriginal Veterans. The veterans went on to say that this National Aboriginal Veterans Association (NAVA) has never consulted the Metis veterans and would like to know who these people are. The conclusion that causes the most resentment for Metis veterans is that there were grievances in individual cases, but Veteran Affairs still has not done anything about these cases. "We know of other cases as well and this is why we would like to do our own study with some funds from Veteran Affairs."

**REMEMBERING  
METIS  
HEROES AT  
BATOCHÉ**  
St. Joseph's Day  
July 24

Greetings to  
the Metis Nation of  
Saskatchewan at  
**"BACK TO BATOCHÉ  
1994"**

GORDON KIRKBY  
- M.P. FOR PRINCE  
ALBERT CHURCHILL

I wish to take  
this opportunity to  
congratulate  
the Metis Nation of  
Saskatchewan on  
**"BACK TO BATOCHÉ  
1994"**

Celebrating Metis Culture  
at Batoché  
since 1879!!!

CHRIS AXWORTHY  
- M.P. FOR SASKATOON  
CLARK'S CROSSING



# Dumont Technical Institute and SIAST Sign Federation Agreement

For more information, contact:

Bill Derby  
Communications  
Education, Training and Employment  
Regina  
Phone: 787-1001

Art Knight  
President  
SIAST  
Saskatoon  
Phone: 933-7328

Anne Dorion  
Principal  
Dumont Technical Institute  
Saskatoon  
Phone: 934-4941

**A**ssociate  
Education,  
Training and  
employment

Minister Keith Goulet; Ian Wilson, chairperson of the board, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology [ SIAST ]; and, Philip Chartier, chairperson of the board, Dumont Technical Institute [ DTI ] today announced the signing of an agreement which established a federation between SIAST and DTI.



(LtoR) Ian Wilson (SIAST Chairperson), Keith Goulet (Associate Minister of Education), Philip Chartier (Chairperson GDI)

"The SIAST and DTI federation is a major step toward fulfilling the need for education and training programs that are in harmony with Metis culture," Goulet said. "We recognize the important role Metis people play in our province's education and training system and fully support partnerships like the one formed today."

The federation agreement will permit SIAST and DTI to integrate academically and enhance access to, and completion of, technical-vocational education and adult upgrading by Metis individuals.

The agreement will also enable collaborative planning efforts between SIAST and DTI to improve communications, maximize use of existing resources, generate innovative solutions to meet the training needs Metis people, and reduce duplication of programming.

"The signing of this agreement establishes another important partnership for SIAST, and provides culturally and educationally relevant opportuni-

ties for the Metis students," Wilson said.

The federation agreement will provide for increased involvement, decision-making, and accountability of Metis people in technical-vocational,

adult upgrading and basic education. The federation will also facilitate the delivery of adult basic education and vocational-technical training programs by DTI.

"Increased involvement in decision-making and program delivery is essential to successful education for Metis students," Chartier said. "Our partnership with SIAST will give us the resources and freedom to provide high quality educational opportunities in a culturally compatible environment."

DTI adult basic education programming in conjunction with SIAST will begin in September.

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Phone: 787-0894



## METIS PATHWAYS SECRETARIAT

George Girouard - Co-ordinator  
Dave Morrison - Comptroller  
Trinia LaRose - Secretary

219 Robin Cres., Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M5  
Telephone (306) 668-7671

SERVING METIS TRAINING  
AND EMPLOYMENT NEEDS



# Metis Health Concerns Brought Forward

By Dwayne Docken

**M**etis Minister of Health, Max Morin held a press conference on July 14/94 to bring to the attention of the government health issues that are not being addressed for Metis. "We are very concerned about being left out of the process. The government many times associates First Nations and the Metis as the same and we are not the same. Our people are a distinct identity as one aboriginal group within Canada. We as Metis congratulate the Indian First Nations people and their government for achieving some of their health rights and we support and recognize their health jurisdiction as we struggle with ours. We as Metis people have been left out of negotiations at Federal and Provincial levels on Health plans. The term 'Second class Aboriginals and third class Canadians' certainly holds true for the Metis in Canada and in Saskatchewan".

Mr. Morin presented a list to the media on issues that were not being addressed for Metis people.

\* No formal establishment or recognition of Metis Health structures and authorities.

\* Insufficient data on the health status of Metis people and communities.

\* No formal Metis health training for health positions available from mainstream health institutions or Metis communities.

\* No long term care so our Metis seniors can spend their last days in their communities with their families or friends.

\* Limited health programs and promotional/preventative information targeting our children, (Daycare availability) youth, elders, and women.



(Center) Max Morin - Batoche

Many concerns for the Metis in the north are essential health needs. Substandard housing, water supply, waste disposal. Many of these problems are associated to much bigger problems such as poverty, unemployment, racial discrimination and literacy. The initiative for the Metis health board is to keep existing health programs going such as Metis Addiction Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (MACSI). This program celebrates its silver anniversary in summer 1994. "To lose a program of this nature would be disastrous for our people. We want to increase our involvement in health programs not decrease," said Morin.



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## Partnerships

### Metis Local Aboriginal Management Boards and Kelsey Institute Extension/Development Division

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 **Kelsey**  
INSTITUTE  
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# Metis Land Rights Litigation

By Clem Chartier

Throughout the years, Metis people and organizations have been seeking the recognition of their right to a land base. In the 1930s, the Metis Society of Saskatchewan was very active in pursuing its peoples' Aboriginal rights to land and resources. They were unsuccessful at that time. In the 1970s, the Metis Society of Saskatchewan again began to focus on land issues, which witnessed extensive research between 1976 and 1980. The land rights of the Metis however were rejected by the federal government in 1981.

With the constitutional process between 1983 to 1987 and again with the Charlottetown process in 1992, the Metis Nation pressed for the constitutional recognition of the right of the Metis to a land and resource base. These efforts were not successful, but would have partially addressed our land issues if the 1992 Referendum had been in favour of the Charlottetown Accord and the companion Metis Nation Accord.

With the rejection of our land rights in May 1981, the Manitoba Metis Federation began court action for the recognition of their land rights under the **Manitoba Act, 1870**. That court case is still on-going, as the government of Canada has been using procedural tactics to prevent the case from being heard. However, in 1990 the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that the Metis of Manitoba have the right to bring their case to court. It is likely that the case will go to trial in the next little while.

That case however only affects the Metis of the original province of Manitoba which in 1870 was only about 1/20th of the current province. The rest of the Metis outside the original province of Manitoba are not affected by that case, unless they are descendants of those Metis who were living in that postage stamp province in 1870. The majority of the citizens of the Metis Nation, outside 1870 Manitoba, were covered by the federal government's **Dominion Lands Act**. That Act was used by the federal government as authority to distribute scrip. (For an explanation of this legislative history, refer to the last issue of the *New Breed Magazine*).

Because of the failure to have our rights recog-

nized through the political/constitutional process a decision was reached by our people to launch court action. This action has been undertaken and is being participated in by the MNS/MSS and the Metis National Council (MNC). In order to be more effective in preparing the case, and to ensure the best factual situation, it was decided that only a small area of the Metis Homeland should be used in order to set a precedent which would benefit everyone



(LtoR) Martha Herman, Marguerite "Crow" Herman

Based on the facts, it was decided that Northwestern Saskatchewan would be the most suitable location to proceed with, as it contains a number of Metis communities and scrip was issued there as recently as 1906/07. In addition, there are five Metis Elders still alive whose parents received money scrip on their behalf. The other contributing factors were that the Metis of the area were still dealing in furs as a means of exchange (therefore not being familiar with money) and if they in fact wanted land, they would have had to move about 300 miles south, basically to the area around North Battleford. In fact, scrip related records show that Metis from Ile a la Crosse and La Loche supposedly travelled to places such as Moose Jaw, Sask and Calgary and Lethbridge, Alberta to claim their land and turn around and sell it immediately.

This court action was filed in Court of Queen's Bench in Saskatoon on March 1, 1994. The action is against both the federal and provincial governments. Against the federal government because it is the level of government that passed the legislation impacting on Metis rights, and against the provincial government because the crown lands were transferred to the province in 1930.



Theophile Laliberte

Basically, we are asking the court to make a declaration (ruling) that the Metis still have existing Aboriginal rights and title, which have never been extinguished or surrendered and that those rights and title include the right to land and resources, the right to hunt, trap and fish and the inherent right of self-government. We are also seeking a declaration that the federal and provincial governments have an obligation to negotiate a mutually acceptable land claims agreement within the meaning of s.35(3) of the **Constitution Act, 1982**.

The federal government filed its statement of defence on April 29, 1994 denying the claim, stating that the Metis never had any Aboriginal rights or title, and even if they did, that such rights and title had been extinguished by the issuing of scrip. They also stated that the Metis have no right to bring this case forward as we have waited too long to do so (statutes of limitation). On May 13, 1994 the province filed its statement of defence and basically took the same position as that of the federal government.

In order to prepare our case and conduct the necessary research and legal analysis, a Foundation with its own Board of Directors has been incorporated as a separate legal entity. MNS and MNC members and supporters are requested to make contributions. Cheques or money orders can be made out to: "Sask Metis Land Claims Research Foundation Inc. Trust" and mailed to 219 Robin Crescent, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7L 6M8.

Your financial support is critical.



# Metis Fishing Rights Case Begins October 31, 1994

**T**wo young Metis fishermen from Turnor Lake, Saskatchewan in December 1993 were charged with several violations under the Saskatchewan Fisheries Regulations, including fishing without a licence and fishing in a closed lake.

While they cannot afford legal counsel, Clem Chartier has agreed to represent them on a pro bono basis (free of charge). The trial is now set to begin on October 31, 1994 and is expected to run for four days. The trial will take place in Buffalo Narrows.

Mr. Chartier will be defending his clients on the basis that as Metis, they have the Aboriginal right under s. 35 of the **Constitution Act, 1982** to fish for both subsistence (food) and commercial purposes. As a precedent, Mr. Chartier will be using the land-mark decision of the Court of Queen's Bench in Manitoba that Metis have the Aboriginal right to hunt under s. 35.

As these charges occurred prior to the passing of the wildlife legislation on July 21, 1994 by the Legislative Assembly of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, that legislation will not have a direct bearing on the case.

On the other hand, the case could be precedent setting if it goes forward to higher courts on appeal. If that is the case, then it will have an impact on the land claims case which also deals with fishing rights. Because of that potential, it is important that this fishing case be taken seriously. As litigation



is costly, including conducting the necessary research, case preparation and expert witness travel, it is important that our people and Locals make financial contributions.

Anyone wishing to make a donation can make their cheques or money orders to "Snowman Legal Defence Fund" and forward them to 219 Robin Crescent, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7L 6M8 attention of Clem Chartier.



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**contact: Clem Chartier**  
219 Robin Crescent, Saskatoon, SK. S7L 6M8  
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# Gun Control Laws Cloud The Future of Hunting And Trapping

By Larry Fillo

**G**un control laws affect hunters, trappers, target shooters, ranchers and farmers. The recent changes brought in by the Federal Government are complex, confusing and expensive. Yet before most of us have been able to learn about what they are and how they will be implemented Ottawa's new Minister of Justice Allan Rock is proposing again more restrictive gun laws for this Fall.

Under the 1978 law brought in by the former Liberal gov't. a Firearms Acquisition Certificate became necessary for either borrowing, buying, receiving or inheriting a firearm. If you paid \$10.00, were 16 or older and did not have a record of criminal violence within the last five years, answered twelve simple questions then you were granted an F.A.C. within a few days. It was good for five years.

Now the application costs \$50.00 ( they keep it if they turn you down ), a firearms safety course \$25.00 ( about 6 weeks ) must be taken, two passport size photos ( \$15.00 ) must be submitted, and also requires two references, who have known the applicant at least three years and work in a provincially accredited or licensed occupation, and answer 35 personal questions. Question #35- " In the past two years have you experienced: Divorce, separation, or relationship breakdown? Failure in school, loss of job or bankruptcy?" " If so give details below, if sufficient space attach additional sheet of paper. " Also they are required to take at least 28 days to complete processing the form, which in practice has often taken 2-4 months. Clearly, without planning ahead at least six months it will be easy to miss an entire hunting or trapping season waiting for a firearms license. Is this process designed to discourage firearms ownership or to create a black market in firearms?

The next most important changes are the "Regulations" governing storage, handling, display and transportation. It is a criminal offence to do anything contrary to one of these regulations. One example is that firearms are now required to be stored unloaded and either in a locked contain-

er which cannot be readily broken open (whatever that means?) or disabled by removing the bolt or by means of a secure locking device. The unofficial interpretation for the latter requirement option is some type of trigger locking device. Ottawa seems oblivious to the fact that most trigger guards come off with a screw driver. A gun left unattended in a vehicle and the vehicle must be locked. There are many regulations and while some may seem to promote safety they may not be practical in some circumstances. They also do not bring the criminal code. They are victimless crimes.

The next most controversial aspect of the law is covered in a white book called "weapons: Restricted and Prohibited by Order in Council a Reference Manual". This is a list of firearms and other things that the gov't. believes are too dangerous for citizens to possess. The decision as to what goes on the list is arbitrary and includes some guns which have been used for hunting as well as others which have been sold in hardware stores including some 22 rimfires. Any firearm can be added to this list without going through Parliament, and no compensation is offered for guns suddenly becoming illegal without notice.

The firearms Control System is beginning to come under criticism and the most notable one is found in the report of the Auditor General of Canada. He states that the system has never been evaluated, a partial evaluation done by the dept. of Justice was not

valid and could not be relied on. He goes on to say that the gov't. did not have data to support the new laws and calls for an evaluation of the entire system at the earliest possible time.

What is the Fed. Gov't.'s response to the report? The new Minister of Justice, Allan Rock has promised more restrictive gun control laws for this fall. One idea being promised is to require the registration of all rifles and shotguns at a user pay cost of likely \$60.00. This would not only create another gun law crime it would be a massive tax grab for the bureaucrats as there is somewhere between 12 to 20 million firearms in Canada. Such a registration system would also make it possible for the gov't. to confiscate more rifles and shotguns as they have threatened to do with handguns. Clearly, the future of firearms ownership has been placed under a dark cloud and so therefore has that of hunting and trapping.

P.S. note the criminal code provides for a waiver of the \$50.00 fee for an F.A.C. for sustenance hunters and also sustenance hunters may temporarily borrow a firearm for hunting-though what constitutes sustenance hunting is not clear in law.

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## GIVE US YOUR VIEWS

MLTC seeks your views and guidance on the used Nuclear Fuel storage project. Everyone must be involved in the decision making process. Over the next few years we will be gathering information about the project. Tell us your concerns. We want to be sure we are answering the questions you need answered.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

please mail to MLTC, Highway #55E, Meadow Lake, Sask.S0M 1V0

# No Charges Laid Against Metis: RCMP End Probe

**T**he RCMP will not lay charges following a seven-month probe into the financial affairs of the Metis Nation of Alberta.

The RCMP's commercial crimes unit and Alberta Justice decided not to press charges against Metis officials after reviewing the evidence.

The investigation wrapped up in March and will likely not be reopened unless new evidence comes to light, the RCMP said in a written statement.

Gerald Thom, Metis Nation president, said he was pleased to learn the investigation is over. "I'm relieved, my family is relieved," he said, adding the RCMP probe had cast a cloud of doubt over the Metis Nation and his leadership.

Now, Thom says, "we can move our agenda forward without worrying that the government may be hesitant to deal with us." Self-government negotiations will be at the top of the Metis Nation's agenda, he said.

Thom says he knew nothing of the investigation until several months after it was launched. He was disappointed it dragged on and says it may have fuelled internal squabbling at the MNA that ended in June.

**THE METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
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# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

*On the first sitting of your  
Metis Legislative  
Assembly*

*The struggle of Riel and  
Dumont at Batoche  
Continues through the  
efforts of Metis Leaders  
today!*



*From President  
Gerald Thom  
and the  
Metis Nation of Alberta*

# METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN HOLDS F

BY LORNA

**M**The Metis Senate declared a quorum of members of the Metis Legislative Assembly at 1:00 p.m. July 21, 1994 and the first sitting of the legislature opened to the Metis National Anthem. Members of the Legislative Assembly were sworn in at this point. Rules of conduct/protocol were adopted by the representatives.

Murray Hamilton and Robert Doucette were elected as speakers by the assembly. Doucette would later vacate this position in favour of offering his input into the meeting.

Senator John Boucher reported on restructuring of the MNS and recalled the laws of the Buffalo Hunt as the basis for Metis political organization in the past. He also commented on the introduction of the Wildlife and Conservation Act. Boucher's grandfather had told him a story about the Batoche and area Metis practising conservation on a small herd of buffalo in the vicinity. He felt that Metis have always been known to protect and conserve our wildlife.

Executive reports took up the bulk of the afternoon. President Gerald Morin focused on the achievements of the past few months within the MNS, Affiliates and MNC with a particular emphasis on the inherent right to self-government and a land base. He touched also on Metis rights to traditional lifestyles, justice issues, educational initiatives, citizenship and enumeration as well as gaming in the province



of Saskatchewan.

Provincial Secretary Bernice Hammersmith reported on her activities with the membership registry. She pointed out differences which she had with the other members of the Provincial Metis Council and elaborated on the reasons behind her involvement in the recent upheaval within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

Treasurer Philip Chartier addressed the recent controversy over funding with his report. He presented representatives with a letter from auditor Deloitte and Touche which indicated that there were actually no funds missing from the MNS treasury but that there were procedural problems which had led to the audit and controversy over finances. Chartier stated that measures had been taken to rectify problems with accounting procedures.

All three executive members fielded questions after the treasurer's report. This question period included the hot debate which is typical of MNS meetings. This concluded the afternoon session.

The evening session included ratification of the council of ministers and some discussion on the terms of reference which surround the ministerial portfolios. Two Acts were introduced in this session. The Wildlife and Conservation Act (see article by Clem Chartier in next issue) passed and the Education Act tabled. The July 22 session contained discussion on the Wildlife and Conservation Act, ministerial reports, a report



# FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT BATOUCHE

DOCKEN

from the Metis Senate and discussions surrounding citizenship and elections. Resolutions in the afternoon were mostly centred around the new Act and upcoming MNS Election. A resolution passed which dictates that we will be going to the polls in February of 1995.

The assembly allowed guest speakers to have a few words. Provincial MLA Armand Roy spoke on his role in the legislature and expressed great concern over health care issues. He fielded a great many questions. Metis commissioner for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, Paul Chartrand spoke on the importance of place and identity for the Metis and wrapped up by stating that "The interests of the Metis people lie in looking both in the past and the future." Metis Nation of Alberta President Gerald Thom offered his congratulations to the MNS on our first legislative assembly and filled representatives in on the Alberta struggle.

The Assembly closed with our Metis National Anthem and the promise of great achievements for Metis in the future. Also on July 22, "BACK TO BATOUCHE '94" kicked off with opening ceremonies featuring various dignitaries. (See the Back to Batoche story in this issue.)



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# Back To Batoche: Bigger and Better Than Ever

By Lorna Docken

Photos by Bob Rock

**B**ack to Batoche 1994 was a huge success by anyone's standards. There was a record crowd in attendance, the weather was incredible and there was something to appeal to everybody's tastes. Organizer Paul Daigneault and his capable crew ensured that everything went smoothly.

Changes to the grounds included a Tree Plan Canada Project with 22,000 new seedlings planted, and a newly completed soccer field with foot racing track surrounding it. The track is a result of Gabriel Dumont Institute's heavy equipment operator certificate course which trained 11 persons to use all types of heavy equipment. It still requires grass planting and fencing.

Opening Ceremonies featured various dignitaries including Edwin Pelletier, Minister of Batoche, Culture and Recreation. Pelletier welcomed everyone to the three day celebration in his usual warm style proving once again that he is certainly an able ambassador for the Metis Nation.

Chuckwagon and chariot racing entertained the crowd once more this year. There was much dust rousing exhilaration along with some very minor mishaps which are part of the life of a cowboy.

Traditional Metis cultural events held the crowd's attention for the most part. Square Dancing, jigging and fiddling are the largest crowd pleasers each year and this year was no exception. People packed the grandstands, both in and outdoors in the sweltering heat to watch competitors from across the country perform.

Bannock Baking is always a popular event with no lack of volunteers for judging. Veteran Marlene Laliberte was on hand to flaunt her talents and treat the tasters. King and Queen Trapper events complimented the show this year with activities such as flour packing, axe throwing, water boiling and animal calling.

Talent Show contestants are always part of the entertainment at Batoche. They provided hours of listening enjoyment as they competed for top honors.

The Children's events were once again handled by the Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (MACSI) They had summer students entertaining the little ones with activities such as fish pond, face painting and a teen dance. (see write up in Fall issue of New Breed on the



summer student project) There was also an arcade for the youth this year and horse drawn wagon rides.

The Horseshoe event was held in the future soccer field area. This year there seemed to be more interest than usual in the event.

St. Joseph's Day was celebrated Sunday morning with a mass and procession to the gravesite at the

Parks' Canada Historical site. This solemn occasion was led by Metis leaders and Senators who reflected on the battles fought for Metis self-determination over the years.

The Slow Pitch Tournament was the last event to finish up on the weekend. The crowd favourites, Pinehouse Mighty Metis, did not let their fans down, defeating the Prince Albert Land Sharks in the final game. Saskatoon Cardinals came in a close third place.



From the large variety of activities to take in to the overabundance of food booths to choose from, one could not help leaving satisfied with this year's event and looking forward to next year.

As one who has attended every Back to Batoche since 1972 and organized a few myself, I tip my hat to the organizers and say that the Metis who celebrated as far back as the 1870s would approve.

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In this challenging position, the Counsellor will be responsible for delivering treatment program activities and counselling clients in the Treatment Centre. As well, the counsellor will assist the Program Director and Senior Counsellor in program development, planning and on evaluation to meet the current and evolving client needs.

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- sound knowledge of counselling theory, human behaviour, alcohol and drugs solvents,
- experience in treatment program planning, client therapy counselling, in-service training and community referral liaison systems,
- proven counselling ability in addiction treatment and prevention work,
- experience in one or more of the following is an asset: recreation, culture, nutrition, youth or life skills,
- Should be of Aboriginal ancestry, and have an awareness and knowledge of Metis and Indian culture and community life.
- Cree or second language an asset.

Deadline for resumes is September 16, 1994. Interested applicants should forward resumes and references to:

Bertha Ouellette  
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# TOKYO DAYS PHOTO PAGE



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## news release

## communiqué

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale du Canada

not to be released before:

ne pas publier avant:

Ottawa, Ontario

ATTN: Mr. James PARKER  
Saskatoon Star  
Phoenix

A/S: Mr. James PARKER  
Saskatoon Star  
Phoenix

RE: Metis national  
Council

Object: Metis National  
Council

In reference to our Press Release of 94-04-29, concerning an allegation of fraud involving the Metis National Council, the RCMP Ottawa Commercial Crime Section has determined that same is unfounded.

En référence à notre communiqué du 94-04-29, concernant une allégation de fraude impliquant le Metis National Council, l'unité des délits commerciaux de la GRC à Ottawa a déterminé que celle-ci est non-fondée.

94.06.30

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# ACTING UP

By Bruce Sinclair

There is a lot of drama and theatre happening in Saskatoon these days, from appearances at the Fringe Festival by SUNTEP Theatre Prince Albert and Upisaskik Theatre based from Ile-A-La-Crosse to reading and writing workshops at 25 St. Theatre. As one who has been involved in creating a theatrical voice for Indian and Metis people in Saskatchewan since 1986, I'd like to share some of my thoughts on this subject.

First, I'd like to encourage you to come out and support us when we present our drama and theatrical productions. If you did not come out to the Fringe and see the Metis actors mentioned above I have to ask you why not? It is vital for the survival and challenge of this art form that you, as the Indian and Metis community, support us. I've been fortunate to work with an incredible number of talented individuals in the community here in Saskatoon since 1986 and we have been able to perform a number of productions in the province and beyond.

A lot of the work has been possible through Saskatoon Native Theatre which is based at Joe Duquette High School. We've performed plays and taught drama classes to the students with a particular focus on the healthy lifestyles program. In this program important issues are met head on guided by teachings based on traditional Indian spirituality and healing. As well, we've taken our message to the jails, youth centres, universities, conferences, reserves, and theatres across Saskatchewan. We have worked with young and old alike, from my son, Koonis, who debuted at the tender age of seven months to different staff members at Joe Duquette High whose age will remain a mystery. We have learned so much, relating to others, accepting those that are troubled, learning about ourselves, our knowledge, our purpose, and what is a friend. We have appreciated the process of drama and theatre, acknowledged its power to heal and affect change. Over time, there have been many that have approached us about acting so we know the interest is there.

We also know the stories are there and full of love, caring, music, and laughter that we all experience as Aboriginal people. We also know the sadness, fear, hate, and death exist in our communities and we have to deal with these things



(LtoR) Bruce Sinclair and fellow actors Carrie LaFramboise, Don Freed

the best way we can. Personally, I have found that these painful issues can be released through the theatre and drama as well as expressing our joy of living and being grateful for what we have. In our work, we dance and pray and sing. We get angry, bitter, inspired, and exhausted. But when the stage lights come up, the first scene begins to unfold, we share with our relatives, our friends and those we do not know. We have something to say and we will strive to share that message through our culture and our beliefs. It is an experience that we will never forget.

For those that wish to be involved with theatre and/or drama please let us know. There is a play and a place for you whether it's acting, writing, stage design, or a hundred other things you could do to make a play work. We have a need for more Metis traditional performers that jig, act, or play fiddle. We have performed many legends from the Cree through the teacher, Wesakechak, but there are many nations here in Saskatchewan to learn about, the Saulteaux, the Dene, Assiniboine, and the Dakota. Please join us and share your stories. This is your home.

Time is a strong commitment and we sometimes forget in our priorities how important it is to live and present our culture to others. That is why we also need traditional language speakers helping us. There are so many to thank for our past performances, the encouragement, the financial support, the space to work, and the lessons to teach. Come and find out what we are about. You will not regret it.

SASKATOON NATIVE THEATRE

Saskatoon Native Theatre is a collective of Indian and Metis actors, writers, storytellers, dancers, and musicians that perform various theatrical productions across the province. Originally based at Joe Duquette High School in Saskatoon, Saskatoon Native theatre has expanded its vision to include the community as well as Indian and Metis students in their productions. Our mandate is to express the voice Saskatchewan First Nations and to educate and entertain with respect to these cultural traditions and beliefs.

#### NOTE ON THE AUTHOR:

Bruce Sinclair is a Metis educator, actor, writer, and artist originally from Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. A graduate of SUNTEP [Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program] in Saskatoon, Bruce presently is working in a dramaturge position at 25th Street Theatre in Saskatoon. As an actor, Bruce has performed in numerous plays including 'The Crackwalker' by Judith Thompson at Persephone Theatre in Saskatoon and in 'Dairy of a Crazy Boy' by John McLeod produced in Toronto by Native Earth Performing Arts. His writing credits include the play 'Dreamkeeper' recently published by Coteau Books, the theatrical presentation at Wanuskewin Heritage Park's Grand Opening co-written with Kelly Murphy and Duane Favel, and 'Wild Moon', a theatrical piece performed at the World Indigenous People's Conference in Wollongong, Australia, December 1993. Bruce lives in Saskatoon with his wife, Lucie Joyal, and their son Koonis and daughter Wascana.

# Metis Presence Growing At Louis Riel Day

By Lorna Docken

I remember first watching Louis Riel Day on television as a teenager. Louis Riel Day is the kick off each year to the Saskatoon Exhibition and thousands turn out on the riverbanks to enjoy the festivities. My mom, a Metis Society employee and I viewed the coverage with more than a little surprise and dismay. There was really no Metis content the day's events. We wondered why an event which featured tug-o-war, cabbage role eating and relay was called Louis Riel Day. After all, Riel was not even a voyageur. We also questioned why our own Metis dignitaries were not involved in the planning and opening ceremonies. Also, why would there be a gun salute by the red coats? Were they not the bad guys who fought against Riel and his forces?

In 1990, I was finally in a position to ask real questions. As Executive Director of MSS, I marched into CFQC television, the sponsor and demanded that there be more Metis involvement. The organizers appeared surprised that we Metis even cared and welcomed our participation. That year we had involvement in the opening ceremonies and I sat at a modest display in which people showed little interest. Still I thought maybe we had to just horn our way in and volunteer our involvement more strongly next year.

Each subsequent year though I notice that things are looking up. There are more Metis involved in displays and more interest in them. Last year the

MSS was requested to participate along with the Midland Battalion in the opening with Metis dressed in 1885 battle gear. This is something to be looked at for future. The event features two sound stages. As my family and I listened to the Rock and Roll Stage last year I heard something that I was not sure how to take. The performer



(LoR) Janelle Henderson, Sunny LaPlante - MACSI Summer Students



(LoR) Zak McKenzie, Arthur Ratt

was handing out thank yous. He stated "I'd like to thank our sponsors CFQC TV and Beatrice Foods, and ... Oh yah! Louis Riel for being such

a great dude" That was quite a tribute.

This year was a pleasant surprise. Although it could be expected that the media controversy would cast a shadow on the events, there seemed to be more Metis involvement than ever and more interest. Although the opening ceremony was disappointing because none of our dignitaries were speaking, the rest of the day had a positive feel to it. Displays of Metis crafts were set up as was Metis Local #126, New Breed and the Metis Addictions Council. People seemed to flock over for information.

There was also a team entered in the relay which consisted of primarily Metis northerners called

Cogema/Cluff Lake Flyers as well as Saskatoon Native Sports Orientation and the Eb's Sail and Sport team, which could boast having the well known Zak McKenzie and Arthur Ratt of Stanley Mission as team members. McKenzie at age 22 has been paddling for 10 years, 7 of which have been in competition. This is his 6th year at the Riel Relay. He has been on top teams for most of those years. McKenzie has taken a break from studies at The University of Saskatchewan where he was a

top student to go and work for Solomon Carriere, professional paddler. The Carriere team is planning to participate in a 140 mile race in Michigan later this year.

Riel Day 1994 was enjoyable and 1995 promises to be even bet-

ter. Watch for more Metis teams in the relay and other events such as tug-o-war.

# Appeal Heard On Sentencing Circle

By Lorna Docken

**O**n May 20th of this year five Justices of the Court of Appeal for the Province of Saskatchewan heard the case of the Queen vs Morin. Ivan Morin, a 35 year old Metis originally from Green Lake, Sask, was the first Metis to be sentenced through a Metis Sentencing circle. The Sentencing Circle which was held in Saskatoon was also the first to be held in an urban center the size of Saskatoon.

Morin, along with an accomplice, had been charged for robbing a service station of just over one hundred and thirty dollars. A Metis Sentencing Circle consisting of a number of Metis, the victims of the crime, supporters of the victims, police officers, a psychologist, a parole officers and others sat for one full day discussing Morin's background and family history before making a final recommendation. Their final recommendation to the Mr. Justice J.D. Milliken was that Ivan Morin should serve 18 months in prison and six months on an electronic monitoring well as being on probation for a period of one year. Justice Milliken passed the sentence recommended by the Sentencing Circle on June 15, 1993, but added six months to the probationary period to accommodate the six month electronic monitoring aspect of the sentence. Two days after the sentence was passed the Crown prosecutors office filed an appeal against the sentence and the Sentencing Circle held for Ivan Morin.

At the May, 1994 hearing in the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal the five member panel stated they agree with the principle of Aboriginal Sentencing Circles and that they felt that the process was a good process. Chief Justice Edward Bayda stated that whether or not a sentencing circle should be held should depend largely on the community and the parameters for each Circle held should not be restricted by too much bureaucracy.

Gerald Morin, President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan stated that he was happy with what the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal has stated. He also said that Sentencing Circles are an important, but small step in the evolution of a Metis only justice system.

Morin has since been released from prison and has been working off community hours at the gas station he robbed, as well as, volunteering his time in the Metis community, which was another condition of his sentence.

A decision is expected to be reached by the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal in the late fall.

## CARRIERE WINS \$6,000 IN RECORD RACE

Reprinted with permission of The Star Phoenix

Soloman Carriere of Cumberland House teamed with Serge Corbin of St.Boniface, Que, to win the Weyerhaeuser Ausable River marathon canoe race in record time during the weekend in Oscoda, Mich.

Carriere and Corbin covered the 120-mile course in 13 hours, 58 minutes, eight seconds to beat the previous record by more than 20 minutes. They won \$5,000 for the victory, plus a \$1,000 bonus for the record.

Dean Ashton and Stefan Gudmundson of Saskatoon were 24th in 16:20:26.

Carriere is two-thirds of the way towards capturing the triple crown of marathon canoeing for a second straight year. He won the General Clinton Regatta in New York earlier this summer and would complete the sweep with a win in La Classique in Quebec.

## TO YOUR SUCCESS

**On behalf of the Province of Saskatchewan, I would like to extend my best wishes to all Metis students and their families for the coming school year. Commitment to your goals will not only lead to personal success but also to benefit all Saskatchewan residents with your increased contribution to the social and economic fabric of our Province.**



**Saskatchewan  
Indian and  
Metis Affairs  
Secretariat**



**Robert W. Mitchell, Minister**



Rosalie Lerat, daughter of Paul Acoose looks on as Acoose is honored.

# Sports Heros Honoured in Saskatchewan's Indian Sports Hall of Fame

Janice Acoose August 1, 1994

**T**oo often when we think of heroes, we look outside our own communities and families. We think

about heroes as giants or people who are somehow detached from so-called ordinary people like you or I. In this province however the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations is encouraging Native people to remember, honour, and pay respect to some of our own sports heroes. On Thursday, July 14th therefore five First Nations athletes were inducted into the Saskatchewan First Nations Hall of Fame.

Born around the time "when the Saskatoons bloom" the year of the Resistance at Batoche in 1885, Paul Acoose/Man Standing Above Ground (of Sakimay Reserve) grew out of a family that was honoured and respected for their prowess as runners. As an amateur runner in Saskatchewan in the early 1900s Paul's reputation as a champion runner spread quickly. Paul turned professional in 1909 and in a 15 mile race against English champion Fred Appleby he finished in world record time: 1:22:22. One time referred to as the fastest runner alive, Paul is best remembered out West, as the man who beat the Onondaga champion Tom Longboat on March 30th, 1910.

Renowned hockey player Freddie Sasakamoose grew up on the Whitefish Lake Reserve to a Cree Indian father and a Metis mother. Sasakamoose's reputation as a hockey player was established during the years he played with the Moose Jaw Canucks of the Western Canadian Junior Hockey League. His reputation was enhanced when he played 11 games for the Chicago Blackhawks during the 1952-53 season and again from 1954-56.

Well known runner, Alex Wuttunee Decoteau of the Red Pheasant Reserve made his reputation in numerous races throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan. In 1909 in Lloydminster, Alex set a Western Canadian record in a five mile race and in 1910 emerged victoriously in the Alberta Provincial Championships in Lethbridge in the five, two, one, and half mile races. Later in Montreal, as the champion 5000 meter race, Alex became the only Saskatchewan or Alberta athlete to qualify for the 1912 Olympic games in Stockholm. Although he did not come home a champion, he finished sixth in the 5000 meter event.

Art Obey—known in sport and recreation circles—as "builder and leader in the area of recreation and sport" grew up on the Piapot Reserve. Among his many outstanding athletic accomplishments, Obey was a distinguished baseball pitcher who played for the Notre Dame Hounds, Balcarres Braves and the Fort Qu'appelle Sioux. As a hockey player, he played for the Intermediate "c" Provincial Hockey Champions and the Fort Qu'appelle Sioux Indians in 1956-57. He received the Tom Longboat Medal for the best Indian Athlete in Saskatchewan in 1951 and in 1960 for the best Athlete in Canada.

David Greyeyes Steele [born December 31, 1914 on the Muskeg Lake Reserve] who competed in both hockey and softball, was also distinguished

as an outstanding soccer player who was selected to the Saskatchewan All-Star team. In 1937 he played against the Charleton Athletics and in 1938 against the Islington Corinthians. Following a distinguished military term during World War II, in 1949—representing Saskatchewan—he played against the Newcastle United. In 1942, during the War as a Canadian Machine Gun Reinforcement Unit member, he played soccer for their team and won the Overseas Army Championship. After the War, he also played for the Canadian team in the Inter-Allied games.



(Lior) Hockey Great Freddie Sasakamoose and family

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# METIS NATION WELCOMES REMOVAL OF RIEL STATUE

Calgary—July 27, 1994—The Metis National Council welcomed the removal and replacement of the statue of Louis Riel on the grounds of the Manitoba Legislature.

Billyjo DeLaRonde, President of the Manitoba Metis Federation, and Executive member of the Metis National Council called the removal of the disfigured symbol of Riel, "the removal of a dark and painful stain upon the memory and accomplishments of Riel and Metis people. While the abstract statue may have been well intended at the time, it has not been a source of inspiration our pride that Metis people have been looking for."

DeLaRonde further stated "had there been consultation with the Metis people and other Manitobans, we would not have had to take these measures today." DeLaRonde also applauded the leadership of the Manitoba government and their willingness to honour their commitments of consultation and cooperation with the Metis of Manitoba.

Gerald Morin, President of the MNC called the move "a positive step towards the reconciliation of Metis and the governments of Canada and follows upon the recent recognition of Louis Riel by the Parliament of Canada and the Manitoba Legislature."

The removal and replacement of the statue was the product of extensive consultations between the Government of Manitoba and the MMF. DeLaRonde was at the forefront of these consultations in all capacities of his career in the past years.

## MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer  
P.O. Box 20038 3310 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg Manitoba R3K 2E5  
Telephone 949 4030 Fax 949 4032

### DECLARATION OF RESULTS OF ELECTION

Pursuant to Article XXX-1 of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. Election By-law 1, Alvin Chown Hamilton, Chief Electoral Officer, hereby declare the following persons, who received the greatest number of votes, to be elected to the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc. at the election held on June 16 and 23, 1994.

President		Billyjo DeLaRonde
Vice President	Interlake Region	Robert Gaudry
Vice President	North West Region	Harvey Monych
Vice President	South East Region	Denise Thomas
Vice President	South West Region	Ron Erickson
Vice President	The Pas Region	Cecil Asmus
Vice President	Thompson Region	Sydney McKay
Vice President	Winnipeg Region	Lionel Allard
Board Members	Interlake Region	Oliver Monkman Bernice Potoski
Board Members	North West Region	Elbert Chartrand Rosemarie McPherson
Board Members	South East Region	Roberta Carriere Marielee Nault
Board Members	South West Region	Norman Fleury Rita Cullen
Board Members	The Pas Region	Muriel Parker Marie Johnson
Board Members	Thompson Region	Norm Fontaine Elsie LaJambe
Board Members	Winnipeg Region	David Chartrand Maurice St.Cyr

Dated this 3rd day of July, 1994

A.C. Hamilton

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### THE METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

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who made the MNS first Legislative Assembly  
and Back to Batoche 1994  
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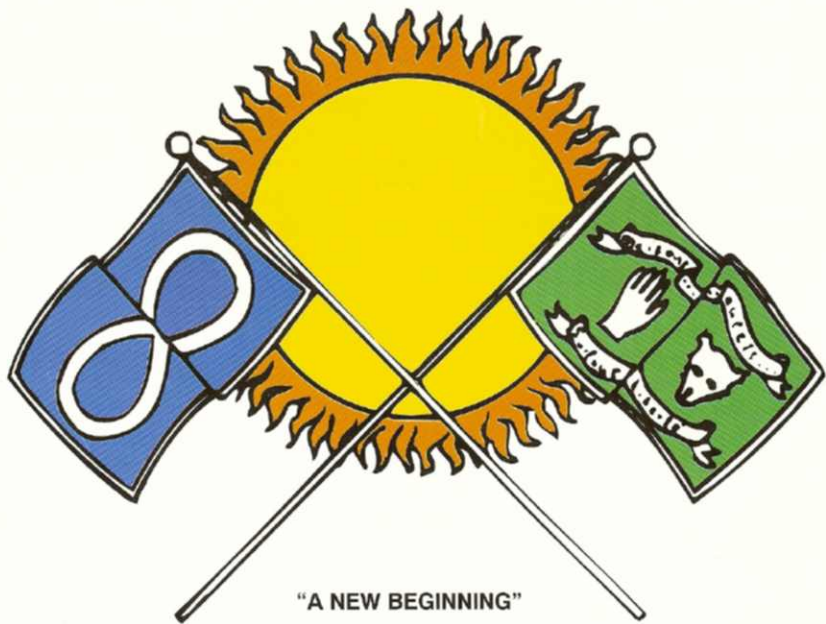
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