

# New Breed

## MAGAZINE

Spring 1994

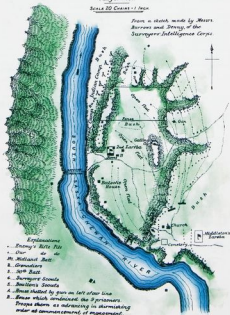
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PLAN  
OF POSITION AT  
**BATTLE OF BATOCHÉ,**  
May 18<sup>th</sup> 1855.

Scale 20 Chains = 1 Inch

From a sketch made by Messrs.  
Barrows and Dray, of the  
Surveyors Intelligence Corps.



# New Breed MAGAZINE

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#104, 219 Robin Crescent  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7L 6M8,  
Telephone: (306) 244-7441  
Fax: (306) 243-0271

Corporation Chairman - Philip Chartier  
Interim Board Members - Martin  
Arbichon, Albert Delaine and Edwin  
Pelletier

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### About the cover:

The map is contained in Gabriel Dumont Institute's Atlas of Aboriginal Settlement

# Looking Beyond Controversy: The Next Step

Saskatchewan Metis have a strong history and tradition of commitment to justice and equity. Our resistance to the social, economic and political oppression of the past is well documented. Our struggles with the Hudson's Bay Company and with Canada were and are struggles to secure a place of honour that contributes to the social, economic and political self-reliance of all Metis, within the context of Saskatchewan and Canada.

To this end Saskatchewan Metis have developed political, economic and social institutions that serve our needs both individually and collectively. Through Metis collective and individual initiatives, we are recognized in the Constitution as having a special status within the Canadian nation. We have established the Gabriel Dumont Institute as a highly reputable institution for the training of teachers, human justice workers, entrepreneurs, managers and administrators. In addition we have entered into an affiliation agreement with the University of Saskatchewan to establish the Gabriel Dumont College, and we are working towards the establishment of two more post-secondary institutions that will contribute to the academic, technical and vocational advancement of the Metis. Politically, we have asserted our inherent rights of self-determination by creating Metis law, regulations and procedures to serve and protect the interests and rights of Saskatchewan Metis. Included within the legal framework is the recognition of the special status and role of the Metis Elders Senate, Metis Youth and the Metis Women of Saskatchewan as important stakeholders in the policy and service issues affecting all Saskatchewan Metis.

The recent assault on the Saskatchewan Metis has been an unwelcome intrusion into our internal affairs. At a time when we are making significant progress in the provision of services to Saskatchewan Metis, there have been selective attacks on the Metis leadership and the institutions they represent. Perhaps we should not be surprised. For 200 years our leaders and our institutions have been attacked by powerful interest groups. Cathbert Grant, Pierre Falcon, Guillaume Sayer, Louis Riel, John Bruce, Gabriel Goulet, Francois Chaullette, Bob

O'Leary, Elmar Goulet, Roger Goulet, Alexander Fisher, James Turner, James Ibbister, Michel Dumais and Moose Chaullette are but a few Metis who sacrificed themselves in the Metis struggle for justice. The institutions they represented were social, political and economic in nature; not unlike the institutions being promoted by the Metis of the 1990's.

We have created agencies responsible for health, justice and social services, housing, education, finance, economic development and trade, intergovernmental affairs and urban development, culture and heritage, communications, women, employment and training, land and natural resources and environment, community affairs, electoral and emancipation, and human resources, labour and administration. This increasingly complex set of activities reflects the needs and interests of Metis residing in both rural and urban Saskatchewan, and demands that more sophisticated management

and administrative structures be established. In addition, it demands increased accountability to the Metis citizens of Saskatchewan. The Metis population of Saskatchewan is the most important reason for the existence of these institutions.

The next step in achieving the results demanded by Saskatchewan Metis is to take both individual and collective responsibility for the required actions and choices. Responsible leadership, management and staff can deal with any challenge. The key to our success is our willingness to commit ourselves to a successful outcome. Our ancestors recognized these principles and conditions for success and accepted full responsibility for pursuing them. We can do no less.

This issue of *New Breed* is focussed on a successful Metis initiative, Gabriel Dumont Institute and the 1885 struggle at Batoche.

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**"The key to our success is our willingness to commit ourselves to a successful outcome. Our ancestors recognized these principles and conditions for success and accepted full responsibility for pursuing them. We can do no less."**

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Philip Cloutier - Metis Minister of Communications

**"Through Metis collective and individual initiatives, we are recognized in the Constitution as having a special status within the Canadian nation."**

The following is Gabriel Dumont's account of the battle of Batoche  
May 10 - 12, 1885 as taken from Don McLean's book -  
Home from the Hill: Copies may be obtained at GDI

**M**eanwhile Middleton was encamped at Fish Creek, on the right bank of the Saskatchewan, where he had brought his left column back across the river, waiting for reinforcements and especially the arrival of the steamer Northcote which was descending the river with provisions, two companies of the Midland Regiment, and a Gatling gun.

The vessel which had been put in a state of defence with pieces of wood, sacks of oats etc., having arrived at Fish Creek on May 5, Middleton embarked 35 men of "C" Company, School Corps, and set out on the 7th for Gabriel Dumont's ferry, where he halted and the boat anchored. This ferry is 30 miles from Clark's Crossing and 6 miles from Batoche.

It was there my farm was located. The troops burned my house and pulled down my stables to strengthen their steamer which they made arrow proof all round. They also destroyed the outbuildings of my neighbour Jose Vardal.

On May 8, Middleton marched eastwards, then northeast on the open prairie, for fear of being surprised.

The English troops debouched about 9 miles from Batoche, on the main road from Humboldt to Batoche, and they set up camp there for the night.

It was my wish to go to meet them among the wooded groves, because I knew well that if our men were to fight at Batoche, their resolution would be weakened by the cries and tears of the women and children.

When I learned that the enemy had torn down my stables to strengthen their steamer, I concluded the steamer was descending to Batoche to take part in the impending attack and to divert the attention of a part of the defenders. These were in fact the orders which Middleton had given.

I had a body of men placed opposite the Batoche church, to keep the crew from landing. Since the boat, which had set out on the 9th,

had to pass through a rapid caused by a bend in the river, before it could continue on its way, I had suggested that at this spot we cripple the helmsman, so as to set the boat adrift, and that an iron cable, thrown across the river, would make the vessel capsize.

My men did, in fact fire on those who were on deck and several of them threw themselves into the water. And the boat, as I had foreseen, went adrift. I galloped on horseback along the bank to give the signal to lower the cable, but it was done too slowly, the cable only caught the funnel which was torn away and a fire started. The crew however extinguished it, although my men fired on any that showed themselves on deck.

Arriving at a widening of the river, opposite the home of my late brother Isidore, the boat dropped anchor about 9 in the morning of the tenth. They were kept there in check all day long, and in spite of the bugle calls, no one came to their aid, and it was not until 6 at night that they raised anchor and went a few miles further down stream to meet for the night.

Meanwhile Middleton, encamped on Jean Caron's farm, where he had had earth works built, pushed forward on the hill at Batoche, about half a mile from the new catholic church, at the place where the road overlooks the river before turning and going down into Batoche.

The enemy began firing with several shots from the Gatling gun, and then advanced to the top of a little hill dominating Batoche.

Seeing them advancing, I had my riflemen posted on the slope of the hill, spread over an area of a mile and a half.

We numbered about 175 men, besides the squad of 30 men who were watching the Northcote.

The fighting began around nine in the morning and lasted all day without the enemy being able to advance.

I stayed well forward on the prairie, seated on one heel with a knee on the ground, my men were brought into action on a knoll, about a

mile away, constantly threw shells into Batoche, and into the Baker house from which the flag of the Holy Virgin was flying, on the other side of the river. Another flag of Our Lord was in our midst, on the Council house.

The red hot cannon balls landed two or three times on the wooden exterior of Baker's house, setting fire to it, but the fire was put out as though by a miracle.

An old deaf man by the name of Norbert Sasse, who was in the house, didn't realize that they were firing on it from this side, until one of the cannon balls went right through it from one end to the other. Then someone ran in to tell him to flee.

We held the enemy in check for three days and each night they went back into their holes. And during those three days they didn't kill a single man; they only hit some dummies which we stuck up for them and on which they concentrated their shots.

During the fighting Riel walked about unarmed in front of the lines, encouraging the fighters.

Meanwhile, the Northcote could have slipped away towards Prince Albert, but it seems, according to Captain Smith's report, that they came back upstream to Batoche with the steamer Marquis, but they did not arrive until May 13, that, after the battle was over.

We learned from a thoroughly reliable source: Middleton even though he had received reinforcements, despaired of defeating us, when some traitors, whom I don't wish to name, advised him that we were almost out of ammunition, and that apart from a few, all the Metis were discouraged. That besides, if the besiegers didn't hurry, and would soon arrive to reinforce the besieged.

These traitors were continually in communication with the enemy and with those of our men whom they persuaded to lay down their arms by offering them a safe conduct.

What contributed greatly to the confusion of our soldiers, was that they were refused all religious aid, for themselves, their wives and their children!

On the fourth day, the 12 of May, around 2 o'clock in the afternoon, on definite information furnished by those who betrayed us, that we had no more ammunition, the troops advanced and our men came out of their trenches; it was then were killed. Jose Quillette,



PICTURE OF LOUIS RIEL'S COUNCIL IN 1865, TAKEN BESIDE REGINA COURT HOUSE AT THE TIME OF THEIR TRIAL.

1. Johna Samoyett, 2. P. Proulx, 3. Pierre Gaudin, 4. Philip Garret (Riel's Secretary), 5. Albert Manderson, 6. Pierre Vandal, 7. Babine Vandal, 8. Toussaint Lacroix (seated), 9. Maximilien Dubois, 10. Thomas Short, 11. Tourond, 12. Emmanuel Champagne.

93 years of age; Jose Vandal, who had both arms broken first and was finished off with a bayonet, 75 years; Donald Ross, first fatally wounded and speared with a bayonet, also very old; Isidore Boyer, also an old man; Michel Trotter, Andre Batoche, Caliste Tourond, Elvaz Tourond, John Swan and Danise Carriere, who first had his leg broken and whom the English then dragged with a rope around his neck tied to the tail of a horse. There were two Sixes also killed.

The balance sheet of these four days of desperate fighting was for us, three wounded and 32 dead, as well as a child killed, the only victim during the campaign of the famous Garrying gun.

The report of Graveley, the brigade surgeon, testified that during the attack on Batoche, from May 9 to May 12, the army lost 8 dead and that there were 46 wounded.

I want my report to be exact, but I believe that as at Duck Lake, those brave Englishmen only collected the bodies of the regulars, and left behind the bodies of the volunteers.

When the troops entered Batoche, they numbered several thousand; our men had at first fallen back half a mile. I myself stayed on

the high ground with six of my brave fellows. I held up the advance of the enemy for an hour. What kept me at times I said to him "Father, we must retreat." And the old fellow replied "Wait a minute I want to kill another Englishman." Then I said, "All right, let us die here.

When he was hit, I thanked him for his courage, but I could not stay there any longer, and I withdrew towards my comrades from whom I learned that a barrel of powder had been left behind in young Tourond's tent.

I went with Charles Tourond to look for it, and he gave it to one of our men. I then went down the side of the river where I met 7 or 8 men, who, like many others, were in flight. I asked them to come with me and lie in wait for the enemy. When they refused, I threatened to shoot the first one who tried to escape. Then they came with me and we again held the English in check for half an hour.

We turned back again along the river where I met the man to whom Charles Tourond had given the barrel of powder and he told me he had left it in a house which he pointed out to me, about 700 yards from the enemy. I told him to go and get it, he admitted he was afraid, so I

asked one of my nephews, Monone Smith, if he was afraid too. "Hold my gun and my shoes," he said to me, "and I'll dash over there." As a matter of fact, he brought me back the barrel.

After that I rejoined a group of our friends who had taken refuge in a large wood where Riel was urging them to fight. When he saw me he said, "What are we going to do? We are beaten." "I told me I was exposing my self too much. I replied that the enemy could not kill me. And I confess I was afraid of nothing.

I then went to the tent where the blankets were, about 50 yards from a house where the mounted police were. I saw a policeman in the doorway and I knocked him off his feet; another came to see the body, and I killed him too; I then took two blankets and two quilts which I carried to my wife who was in the woods where our people had taken refuge, about 600 yards from our camp. I instructed her to give these coverings to Madame Riel for herself and her children during the night; but Riel didn't want to take anything but the blankets.

I went back to our camp to look for some dried meat and flour. This time, I saw no one, I

*continued on page 4*

instructed my wife to divide the food among the women who had children.

When I saw the others wanted to seek safety still further away, I asked my wife to wait for me there, telling her: "If the enemy captures you and blames you for my actions, you tell them that since the government couldn't manage me, it wasn't easy for you to do so."

Then I left for the third time to look for some horses which had remained in the camp. But the police had reached there and I had to go back to my wife who remained alone in the woods. I led my wife to another patch of woods, and set out again to capture some horses. On the way, my attention was attracted by a white object which I never called upon to answer; and it was when I threatened to shoot that I heard a voice say, "It is us." I approached and recognized Madame Vandal, whose husband had been killed, and whose daughter she had carried thus far on her back, because she was paralyzed, but the poor child was exhausted, and they had stopped there.

I went on a little farther, and hearing voices, I hid in wait in a little house I was getting ready to shoot, when I recognized three Metis who were looking for something to eat. They had a sack of flour.

At that moment I saw a Sioux horse and a Canadian stallion. I told the Metis to take the one and I would take the other. And I went towards the river bank with the stallion on a rope. I met Henry Smith and young John Ross, whom I asked if they had seen any horses. They told me that had seen some running loose, and they helped me to catch a mare. I saw a house where I took a few dishes, and I tied the horses up there while I went to find my wife. The neighing of the stallion had attracted a band of horses, and thinking it was the police I waited for them without stirring, resolved to knock over a few of them. When I saw they were horses I let the stallion go with them.

I put my wife with the sack of flour on the mare, and I led it to a clump of trees where we camped. I was only in shirt sleeves and it was not warm.

The next day I had my wife a little further away, and I went back to the river to try to find Riel.

I saw the houses at Batoche, and below Batoche with white flags flying from the roofs. I saw that everyone was surrendering. I learned

that the group on the other shore, led by Napoleon Nault had also given themselves up, then I met James Short with two women who were fleeing, as well as a Sioux, who told me he had left his horse further along the hill.

As I was going to look for it I saw the three young Trotteurs who came with me, and they and I each caught an abandoned horse. I went back to find my wife, and then I began looking about for scattered families whose tracks I followed. Not far from there, I found a group of women and children as well as a few men. My brother Elie had killed a cow to feed them, and he had cut some hay to cover them.

It was distressing to see these poor creatures lying in the hay like animals. Seeing the bare feet of the children, I made them a kind of shoe out of rawhide. The women appeared very brave and even laughed over their situation.

I looked for Riel for four days despite the urging of my wife who begged me to cross the frontier so as not to be caught. I couldn't make up my mind to leave without knowing where my unfortunate friend was.

On the third day I sent my wife to my father's home, three miles from Batoche. I followed to protect her and didn't leave her until she was out of danger, telling her that she should go to see my father that night.

All the time I was hunting for Riel I was picking up ammunition.

There were a couple of hardened horsemen looking for me in front while I was behind them. I hid myself in the woods during the night, and I watched them on the hill during the day, determined to knock over those who left the main body.

The night my wife went to my father's house, I went there and acquainted him with my plan to spend the summer harrying the police. He told me it was a bad idea. "I am proud," he said to me, "you haven't given in, but if you follow your idea of staying to kill people, you will be looked upon as a silly fool," and he advised me to go across the border. I told him that I had always taken his advice, and that I wanted very much to follow it again. I told him I would leave if I didn't find Riel.

My father then informed me that Meise Quellet, my brother-in-law, had a letter from Middleton for Riel. I went to see Quellet, who told me that the letter had been read to him and

that it said in it that Riel and I should have justice. I said to Quellet, "Go to the devil! the government has skinned you like sheep as you are told." He put it up to me that they had surrendered out of love for their children.

"You tell Middleton," said I to him, "that I am in the woods, and that I still have 90 cartridges to use on his men."

I saw Quellet again, he told me he had given the letter to Riel, and, he added, "he went immediately to see the English general." I had the idea of catching up to Riel before he gave himself up at the enemy camp, but Quellet led me to believe that he had already surrendered, although this wasn't true.

The good Lord did not wish me to see poor Riel again, I wanted to advise him not to surrender, but he right well have torn me over to his way of thinking.

When I saw I was the only one left, I made up my mind to take refuge in the territory of the United States. It was May 16.

I sent one of my nephews, Alexis Dumont, son of Jean, to get some dry cakes from my father, and to tell my wife I was leaving.

He brought me six cakes about three quarters of a pound each. These were all the provisions I took with me for a journey of 600 miles. Jean Dumont, my brother, and a few young men came to say good bye to me.

I saddled my horse, which was the best charger in Batoche, and they came with me to the edge of the wood.

I had only gone 100 yards when I heard some one shout behind me. I saw Michel Damas, who had formerly accompanied me to Montana, when I had gone to look for Riel. He wanted to go across the line with me. He was unarmed, and he too had only a few dried cakes for provisions. We set out by the grace of God.



# PROFILES OF:

## MOISE OUELLETTE

By Lorna Docken

An often ignored hero of the Batoche 1885 Resistance, Moise Ouellette was one of the most eminent citizens of the Batoche area at the turn of the century. He was well respected and looked up to as a community leader.

Moise Ouellette has gone down in history, along with James Ibbotter and Michael Dumais as one of the men who accompanied Gabriel Dumont to Montana in 1884 to bring back Louis Riël. One does not hear much more about him, although he was thought to be involved enough in the resistance that his wife's claim for damage compensation due to the battle was disallowed.

Ouellette's family connections are interesting. He was married to Elizabeth, the sister of Gabriel Dumont. There seems to be a tradition of intermarriage between the Ouellettes and the Dumonts. Elie, brother of Elizabeth was married to Françoise Ouellette, sister of Moise. This tradition was seen in other instances as well. Moise's parents were Joseph Ouellette, who was killed at the battle of Batoche, May 1885 and Theresa Houle.

In piecing together information on Ouellette, one sees the profile of a concerned, benevolent patriarch emerge. He is mentioned often in the oral testimonies and written information gathered by Diane Payment in "The Free People - Ojipemisiwak" Batoche, Saskatchewan 1870-1930.

It would have been easy for Ouellette to ignore the plight of other Metis in the area and not become involved at all in the resistance, as his own family was well off. Those citizens who remained "loyal" to the crown were compensated for losses due to the resistance.

The sons of Joseph Ouellette, particularly Moise, were credited as some of the most prosperous farmers and ranchers of the area in the 1870s. Although he and his wife lost a whopping \$828.00 in the resistance to army pillaging, he continued to prosper in the post war era up until his death in 1911. Moise managed to utilize scrip and add onto his land holdings as did other Metis of the area, due to the efforts of the resistance.



The pioneers of Batoche and of St. Laurent, ca. 1900. Seated, William Boyer and his wife Juliette Bousquet, standing from left to right: Moise Ouellette, an Armand ("Joe"), Baptiste Daverton, Father F.-X. Simeon, Joseph or Nancy (Mokan) Armand, Felicité (Boyer) Rivland, Helene (Boyer) Rivard, Josias Alexius, Canadian Parks Service, Winnipeg, Batoche Collection, CR 3827.

In 1877 Ouellette was given "credit" for instigation in an incident whereby the Metis attempted to take control of their own education. The Metis wanted to move the church run school from the mission on the west side of the (South Saskatchewan) river to where the people lived on the east side. In addition, they wanted to have more input in its direction. The church officials were not impressed.

Ouellette, like others in the area would not allow the memory of the 1885 resistance to die. In 1889, a committee was established under his direction, to gather contributions for the purpose of erecting a monument to the fallen

Metis and Amerindian warriors of 1885. In 1901 such a monument was erected and the Metis each year laid a wreath to pay homage to these heroes.

He was noted as donating an ox for the annual July 24 St. Joseph's Day celebrations in 1889. The importance of this act should be noted. The animal was slaughtered in the manner of the buffalo hunt of the plains. It was shot with arrows and roasted over a fire so that everyone got a piece. In 1890, Ouellette became the principle organizer of St. Joseph's Day. He served here for an indefinite period.

Ouellette's grandchildren, Lorna Dubray of Meadow Lake and Elmire Boyer of St. Louis recall their mother saying that he was a strict tough old man and that he travelled around by horse and wagon quite a bit. Elmire, 85, remembers Grandma Ouellette as living in a little house just south of the St. Laurent ferry. The old lady used to cook eggs which the little boys of the area would gather from all kinds of bird nests. Elmire was saddened by the fact that all of the old homes of the area were not preserved, with the exception of the Canon house at Batoche.

Ouellette had 6 children. They were Moise Jr. (Marie Dumont), Baptiste (Marie Gervais), Marie Bremner, Angelle Boyer, Lafleur Gervais and Virginie Gervais mother of Lorna and Elmire. They all settled in the St. Laurent/Batoche area. Their children and grandchildren have migrated all across Canada and the U.S.

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## ATTENTION



All former **GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE STUDENTS**  
1980 - 1993

Please contact GDI Student Services concerning formation of an  
**alumni association**

121 Broadway Ave. East, Regina, Sk S4N 0Z6  
or phone **347-4100**

## **BRODRICK J. DESJARLAIS** GDI Staff Member By Lorna Docken

Jean (Desjarlais) and George Pelletier must be proud of their son Rick. He has achieved highly on a personal note as well as for Metis in general. He is part of the team that works on curriculum for Gabriel Dumont Institute. Rick and his wife Shawna have an 11 month old daughter by the name of Shayla who manages to keep him on his toes during his spare time. He is also an avid sportsman, playing both indoor and outdoor sports.



Brodrick J. Desjarlais

Rick has lived in Regina since 1973. There he completed high school and The SUNTEP program, specializing in Reading, Language Arts, Social Studies, Indian Studies and Cross Cultural Education. These specializations and a belief that Metis history has not been well portrayed in mainstream education systems have produced a top notch curriculum development officer for GDI.

Rick finds working for the institute to be challenging and enjoyable. This is his first exposure to the publishing world and he has learned the business first hand. He laughingly states that he operates best in an environment where he is challenged and allowed to use his skills creatively. "The best thing about working for GDI is the people" states Rick. He feels comfortable working with other Metis people in an institute that is focused on Metis culture and education. He has also spent time working for Youth Unlimited, Gabriel Housing, St. Paul School and the Library in Regina. He enjoyed working in those jobs as well.

GDI has an energetic and enthusiastic

employee in "Ricky D". He has two large projects and several smaller ones on the go. He has devoted much of his time to publishing a book on Metis veterans. The book will include profiles and perspectives of about 35 Metis veterans. The 220 page publication will be launched at Batoche on St. Joseph's Day, July 24. Rick has also been heavily involved in the development of cross-cultural training modules which GDI will be able to market nationwide.

## **MICHELLE DEMONTIGNY**

Yorkton GDI Metis Management  
and Administration Student  
By Lorna Docken

Michelle was born in Russell, Manitoba and raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Her parents Leo Demontigny and Rose Ducharme were born in St. Madeleine, Manitoba. Michelle's grandparents were among the families who were forcibly relocated from St. Madeleine, a thriving Metis settlement, during the enactment of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act at the height of the depression years.

A single mom, Michelle has 2 daughters aged 8 and 5 as well as a three week old baby boy! She has managed to excel in her studies which commenced in June of 1993, along with all of her other responsibilities. Michelle finds her program to be both challenging and rewarding. She quickly mentions that there is a lot of studying involved and that her instructors are helpful and understanding. She states that she really likes the program.



Michelle Demontigny

In her spare time Michelle enjoys listening to country music, reading and working with computers. She also loves to spend time with her family.

Past educational and employment achievements include a SIAS high school certificate and work in the secretarial, clerk/cashier, and service industries. Michelle's enthusiasm will help her to achieve in her present training as well.

Michelle's goals are centered around the establishment of her own business. She would like to own either a clothing store or a grocery store. These ambitions will certainly be fulfilled through her own personal qualities and the training she is receiving.

## **RANDY ISBISTER**

GDI Board Member  
By Lorna Docken

Randy Isbister was born to Myron and Dorothy Isbister 23 March, 1954, at Big River. He has four brothers and one sister. He received his schooling at Crutwell and Prince Albert. He worked as a welder in Yorkton for awhile before seizing the opportunity to travel to Europe on an exchange trip. After this he worked several short term jobs including a stint of self-employment. His last job was with Molson's Brewery at both the P.A. and Regina locations, where an injury eventually caused him to lose his leg. He has worked hard at rehabilitation and is ready to go back to work.

Randy is a single parent. His son Trevor is 16 and his daughter Crystal is 12. He enjoys many activities with them. Randy has a history of working with children, having been a Big Brother, an officer for the Navy Cadets and a coach for minor sports. He cites his children as being a motivating factor in his involvement with the Metis movement. His main focus has been on education as he believes this is the key to competent self-government.

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Randy has an interesting heritage. He traces his ancestry back to James Ibbister, first settler of P.A. James would have been an uncle to Randy's grandfather. The following is taken from documents provided to GDI by Randy.

James was born 1833 at Red River settlement. He and three of his brothers emigrated west. He worked for the Hudson Bay Co. before settling with his wife Margaret Bear at Prince Albert in 1860. He is thought to be the first person to grow wheat in Saskatchewan. He would go back working for the HBC 1864-71 until he settled his family permanently on River Lot 16 in St. Catherine's parish. He lived in the parish until his death in 1915. It should be noted that James was a scholarly individual who taught his own and other people's children in his home in Prince Albert and at various HBC postings.

In the 1880s Ibbister and other settlers were unhappy with the Canadian Government over land title, timber rights and lack of parliamentary representation. At a meeting in Lindsay Church, spring 1884, James was elected to accompany Moise Ouellette, Gabriel Dumont and Michel Damas to Montana for the purpose of asking Louis Riel to return to Canada. It was hoped that Riel could help them to achieve their rights. After the return with Riel, James took an active part in organizing support and preparing petitions to the government. He and the other Prince Albert settlers withdrew from involvement when radical rather than constitutional means were used, although he would be imprisoned for his activities.

In a letter from James to Louis Riel September 4, 1884, he states his concerns. First of all, he felt that things were not progressing quickly enough for the people of the Prince Albert district. He credited Riel with good intentions, putting the blame on the Canadian government. He was also concerned that the Catholic clergy were attempting to break the unity between the Protestant Halfbreeds and the Catholic Metis. He stressed the importance of bringing the clergy on side.

James Ibbister certainly contributed to the resolution of Metis claims in the Northwest. GDI wishes to thank Randy for this information as well as his time spent on Metis education issues.

## THE LETENDRE FAMILY

By Alan Tremayne

The influx of "white" settlers immigrating to the western frontier during 1870's combined with tensions at Red River, pushed many Metis further west. Batoche is a prime example, in the early 1880's few families chose this valley as a wintering livestock settlement. Each year they would return and camp while on the annual buffalo hunts. The families of Louis Letendre and their relatives found a level plain ideal for agriculture. In 1872, Xavier Letendre, his father Louis Sr., and Louis Jr. his older

brother wintered in this new land, the next year Xavier Letendre built a ferry where the Carlton Trail crossed the Saskatchewan River.

As more families moved into area, soon a little village sprang up along the banks of the river. The original settlers of Batoche were related in some way to the Letendre family. I was involved in a research project that looked at four riverlot communities that formed along the South Saskatchewan River in the Batoche area. The pilot project looked at Batoche Settlement, St. Louis de Langlois, Vandalia and Gabriel's Crossing, and St Laurent de Grandin.

*continued on page 8*

# Canada

## Drug/Alcohol Program Officer

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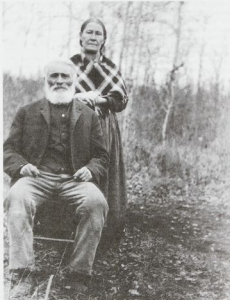
The Batoche and St. Laurent settlements were of special interest to me because of my family ties to these communities. I am a descendant of the "Letendre Family". My grandmother, Rose Tremayne [nee] Letendre was born on September 12th, the autumn of 1882 just two and a half years before the Battle of Batoche. She was the first born child, of William Letendre, son of Louis Letendre dit Batoche and Melanie Fayant, daughter of Cuthbert Fayant and Isabelle McGillis. Isabelle McGillis' father, was married to Cuthbert Grant's sister. The members of the Letendre, Fayant, McGillis, and Grant families were proud of their Metis heritage. This proud heritage was passed onto their children. This story is about one of the children that believed in a separate and distinct identity of the Metis people. My grandmother Rose, always spoke about her family.

Although she was very young, she heard many stories about the battle. She was still a child when Louis Riel came back from Montana to help the Metis fight for their rights. Many of the early meetings with Gabriel Dumont, Louis Riel and others were in the back of Xavier Letendre's store. Xavier Letendre let the Metis people use the store as a meeting place, while he moved his family to Fort a La Corne, another Metis Community, where he had earlier set up a trading store. Her grandfather, old Louis Letendre and his son stayed at Batoche to defend their homeland.

#### \*\*\*Note on the Author

Alan Tremayne is an employee of Gabriel Dumont Institute. He works in the Curriculum Development Unit in Saskatoon as a Curriculum Development Officer. Alan has put his GDI/SUNTEP Bachelor of Education Degree to work by teaching Native Studies to Grades 1-11 in Cross Lake Manitoba. Alan has begun work on a Graduate degree as well. His work experience is varied, having done everything from maintenance to working for the Metis Society. His areas of specialization include cross cultural education, and English as a second language.

Extra Curricular activities for Alan include Conference planning and coordination as well as development of computer programs. Alan and his wife Anna enjoy spending time with their four children.



Louis (Laurent, Oveshenko) Letendre and his wife Angele (Dumas). Date ca. 1900

Alan exemplifies a GDI graduate. He worked hard to complete his own program and then came back to work for the institute so that he could help other Metis get ahead in life. His is a story of inspiration to all young Metis.



Alan Tremayne

# GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE HOLDS ALL STAFF MEETING AT CEDAR LODGE

By Lorna Decken



Cheryl Villeneuve, Margaret Ombres, Eileen Rands, Amber Gosson

The fourth of a series of staff thinktank meetings for GDI was held at Cedar Lodge, Blackstrap Lake, April 13 and 14, 1994. About 55 persons were in attendance.

Day one was opened by comments from GDI Executive Director Isabelle Inpey. Metis Nation of Saskatchewan President Gerald Marin wrapped up the morning session with an update of the developments within MNS

and the Metis National Council in the past couple of years. Marin spoke of a resurgence within the Metis Nation and focussed on the constitutional entrenchment of Metis self-government. The issue of the MNS controversy over finances was addressed in a factual manner. He fielded questions from staff members to wrap up his presentation.

The afternoon session was spent in a

process where all staff had input into the drafting of a Metis Education Act which is to become legislation under the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan's self-governance strategy. Also reviewed was a policy document which will be subsequent to the Act.

Day two included reports from all GDI departments and an update on the achievements of GDI staff members by DDI Principal Anne Derion. Several staff members are in the process of taking advantage of GDI's professional development policy by upgrading their education and several staff members have personal achievements worthy of recognition by their peers. A motivational workshop by consultant Jerry Hammersmith wrapped up the day. Hammersmith stressed the components of success and ended his session with an assignment related to policy development.

Evenings were spent with staff acquainting or reacquainting as the case may be, themselves with co-workers. Informal socializing complemented the daytime working sessions.



Ted Amundt, Kuan Ren Yang, Paul Desjardins, Marilyn Belliveau, Sherry Farrell Racette

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# GDI CURRICULUM UNIT DEVELOPS CULTURAL AWARENESS TRAINING PACKAGE

By May Henderson

The following is taken from a proposal for a cultural awareness training package developed by the GDI curriculum department:

As Metis people we face many barriers to racism and harassment in the workplace and in educational institutes. So far it has been apparent that there is a need for Cultural Awareness Training for both Metis and non-Metis people.

The Gabriel Dumont Institute is continually approached by groups of individuals and organizations who require cross-cultural seminars and educational workshops on the Metis culture. When such request undertaken, there has never been available a formal curriculum for the Institute-designated speaker to follow. Few individuals within the Institute, and within

the Metis community in general, have the expertise and presentation skills to undertake such an assignment so often the presentation goes unmade.

A three-stage project is needed to properly develop and deliver a Metis cultural awareness training package. The three stages are:

- 1) the development of a set of Metis cultural training modules;
- 2) The piloting of the cross cultural package in specific settings such as an educational institute and a workplace;
- 3) the training of Metis as presenters of the training modules.

The goal is to undertake the first stage of the Metis Cultural Awareness Project by developing a set of Metis cultural training modules.

As a completely Metis-directed cultural and educational institute, the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research is well qualified to produce, market and deliver such a package. Its status as the first aboriginal controlled education institute in Canada represents a major step toward the realization of self-determination in education, training and cultural development.

The Institute has been designated as the official educational arm of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. Close to five hundred students annually benefit from the Gabriel Dumont Institute post-secondary education and training programs which are delivered in communities across the province.

*continued on page 11*

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For more information on child restraints call the Consumer Department of CAA Saskatchewan at 791-4300 (in Regina) or toll free 1-800-667-3018.

# SGIII

The main office of the Institute is in Regina, although other permanent offices are located in Prince Albert and Saskatoon.

Library services in both Regina and Prince Albert offices.

Cooperative arrangements with both the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina, as well as the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAT) ensure full accreditation and recognition of GED programs.

Most recently the Gabriel Dumont Institute has moved into the area of corrections and through a contract with the Provincial Department of Justice, has established (1989) Saskatchewan's first Community Training Residence for female offenders. This residence is located in Saskatoon.

The Metis cultural awareness package will be divided into a series of teaching modules which can be delivered as separate entities or as a whole. There are eight modules. Each of

the teaching modules will follow a general outline including:

- (a) Historical Perspectives
- (b) Contemporary Issues
- (c) Future Directions and Priorities

Modules are as follows:

- Module One:** Demographics and Definitions
- Module Two:** Traditional Lifestyles
- Module Three:** Economic and Employment Overview
- Module Four:** Social and Health Overview
- Module Five:** Justice Overview
- Module Six:** Education and Training
- Module Seven:** Governing Structures, Organizations and Legislation
- Module Eight:** Community Initiatives and Relations

The end product has the potential to benefit a large number of people and organizations in the province of Saskatchewan, including both the private and public sectors. Importantly, it's time for our story to be told in a cohesive, non-judgmental fashion.

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# SISTERS WITH A TRADITION OF WORKING FOR METIS

By Lorna Docken

Lorna Sarchuck and May Henderson have a long tradition of devoting their time to worthy causes. Gabriel Dumont Institute in particular has benefited from the efforts of the ambitious sisters.

The sisters were brought up by their parents George Parenteau and Dorothea Vandale to be hard working, honest and conscientious. This has helped them to get to where they are in life. Born and raised in Prince Albert, they have seen an evolution within the Metis movement and have always tried to do their part to help. May has a 16-year-old daughter and Leona has 3 daughters as well as two grandsons. They have worked to instill the same values in their children.

Leona is GDF's newest board member, but no stranger in the Metis community. She has served as Native Coordinating Council/Family Services board member for 12 years, SIASI Native Advisory Committee member, P.A. Mayor's Committee member, P.A. Housing Authority board member and has held the positions of Prince Albert Metis Society Local #7 President and Vice-President of Metis Women of Saskatchewan.

Leona works for Saskatchewan Justice. She has spent the past 25 years with the provincial government.

Past board member, May Henderson served the Metis of Saskatchewan through her involvement on the Gabriel Dumont Management Board from 1980 - 1983. During that time she

spent countless hours volunteering her time as Treasurer, Chairperson of the SUNTEP review committee, on negotiating teams for the institute and as a board member for the Community Training Residence.

May has served the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan as well through her involvement with Prince Albert Local #7, having been a member for 20 years and held the positions of President, Treasurer, and Vice-President. She has also served on the boards of the P.A. Friendship Centre, P.A. mobile crisis unit, Native Women, SIASI Native Advisory Committee and as a moderator for the Spicer Commission.

May spent seven years working for the Provincial Government and fifteen years working for Aboriginal service delivery agents in the city of Prince Albert. She now works for Dumont Technical Institute in Saskatoon.

Leona and May have a heritage which can be traced back to the Batoche area at the time of the 1885 resistance. Their great grandparents all resided in the Fish Creek/Batoche area. Napoleon and Rosalie Parenteau (Dubois) lived between Gabriel's Crossing and Batoche as did Antoine and Alphonsine (Vilkenace) Vandale and Louis Parenteau (married to a Letendre woman). John and Juliette (Deforme) Fidler also resided around Batoche. All of these people were right in the thick of the battle. Some were among those persons claiming for damages inflicted by pillaging Canadian Army Troops.

May and Leona have certainly carried on the family tradition of being involved in the Metis struggle. Gabriel Dumont Institute thanks May and welcomes Leona.

# POSSIBLE BREAKTHROUGH FOR HUNTING RIGHTS IN MANITOBA

Manitoba Metis may be on the verge of achieving the same hunting rights as Indians and Inuit in that province says a Winnipeg lawyer.

Lionel Chartrand was the attorney for two Metis hunters accused of poaching moose in the Pis area. His reading of a December 7 ruling in Manitoba's Court of Queen's Bench is that Manitoba Metis have the same hunting privileges as Indians and Inuit.

Mr. Justice Robert Schulman acquitted John Jack McPherson and Henry McLeod Christie who were accused of poaching a moose on January 6, 1990. The two were charged under Section 20 of the Wildlife Act of Manitoba which prohibits killing of wild animals during times of the year when hunting is prohibited. Schulman said he made his ruling because the Metis, like Indians and Inuit, rely on traditional resource uses like hunting and fishing in order to survive.

Metis are free to hunt because they hold the same rights as other Aboriginal people Chartrand said. The ruling could mean between 50,000 and 90,000 Metis in the province could gain the same rights to hunting and fishing as Indians and Inuit.

In spite of Schulman's contentions, the head of wildlife enforcement in Manitoba, David Parvis, said hunters will be charged with poaching unless they can prove they were hunting or fishing for subsistence.

Chartrand insisted the Aboriginal right to hunt applies to all Aboriginal people because Aboriginal rights have always been seen as rights which apply to an entire group, not just individuals.



Lorna Sarchuck



May Henderson

# A NEW CONSTITUTION IN PLACE

By Jeff Campbell

Saskatchewan Metis voted overwhelmingly to back the new Metis Society Constitution at this year's annual assembly.

The new constitution, which aimed to bring more power to presidents of MSS locals, remove the society from the jurisdiction of the Non-Profit Corporations Act, and set up a Metis Legislative Assembly, dominated the business during the first day of the MSS assembly in Saskatoon, December, 1993.

Gerald Morin, who spearheaded the drive towards the constitution's acceptance was delighted with the results of the afternoon vote.

"You have done justice to the rich legacy of our ancestors. Today you have gone a long way toward fulfilling the dreams of both Riel and our ancestors," Morin told the delegates.

Morin told delegates before the vote was called their right to govern themselves stemmed from within themselves. He said rejecting the constitution might mean a long wait until the next vote.

"If we wait for someone else to give self-government to us, we might have to wait another 20 years," said Morin.

He said even with the acceptance of the constitutional amendments, there was still work to make amendments.

Even with Morin's solid backing, there was not unanimous support for constitutional changes among the MSS executive.

Provincial Secretary Bernice Hammersmith said she was pleased to see better representation in the constitution for women, youth and elders which she had fought for, yet there remain many other problems with the document, she said.

"This constitution has many wants, and many, many problems and problems because no one has discussed it with you delegates," Hammersmith said prior to the vote.

She said under the constitution, voters were given the choice between having a legislative assembly or representation through the annual assembly. Hammersmith said these really should be both. She called for inclusions of a code of ethics, conflict of interest guidelines and provisions for an official opposition in the legislature.

Philip Chartier, MSS Provincial Treasurer said the Non-Profits Corporations Act handcuffed any self-government initiatives on the local level so it was crucial the new constitution be adopted.

"I'm a formal local president and I understand your frustration, we were basically bingo caller fundraisers under the Non-Profit Act and we have to get from under that," said Chartier in his opening remarks.

Passing the constitution marked a turning point for Metis because they were taking self-government into their own hands rather than have other governments give it to them, Chartier said.

"I think the youth delegates here today are going to be senators before self-government is handed to them," he said.

Hammersmith said even though there was not unanimity at the head table of the assembly, debate was healthy for the whole organization.

"People say there is fighting at every assembly but people fight because they want to be heard by other Metis people," she said.

## ANNUAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

- The proposed constitution was adopted on December 3, it provides for the establishment of the Metis Legislative Assembly, expanded roles for the Elder's Senate, a continuation of the annual assembly to aid grass roots input from members, and reserved seats in the Legislature for Metis Women.
- The Metis Society of Saskatchewan has a new name, the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan. Delegates adopted the name change on day one of the meeting, December 3.
- Among the inductees sworn in at the Assembly, Harry Daniels was officially made Area Director of Western Region III, and Senators Rose Ledoux and Nora Ritchie were sworn in.
- The Metis Hall of Fame has three new members. Founded last year with the naming of original members Louis Riel, Gabriel Dumont and Cuthbert Grant, this year's inductees were Joe Amyotte, Malcolm Norris and Jim Brady.



## CHARTIER RETURNS AS VICE PRESIDENT OF WORLD COUNCIL



World Council of Indigenous Peoples executive: Clow Chartier, Jorge Valente, Noeli Posadera.

Clow Chartier is back on the executive of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples. He was proclaimed as vice-president of the Council representing Canada and North America by acclamation at the assembly which ran from December 4 to 10 in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.

Chartier had served as president of the World Council from 1984 to 1987.

Other executive council members elected are Jorge Valente of Argentina, President and Noeli Posadera of Venezuela, Vice-President representing South and Central America.

Along with electing a new executive, members of the assembly passed a motion of the support of the Metis struggle to regain land, resources and traditional resource use on December 10.

In other business, the assembly set up a constitutional commission to deliver a paper on direction and restructuring for the next decade of the council which will be 25 years-old in 1995.

Assembly members rejected and condemned the Human Genome Diversity Project, a project to collect samples of the blood, saliva and tissue of Indigenous Peoples for genetic study. Chartier said the assembly rejected the project on the grounds that the research could be used to create biological weapons to harm Indigenous Peoples. A similar project, the Human Genetic Diversity Project (HGDG) has recently come under fire for trying to patent the blood of Guaymí Indians from Panama as a way to combat AIDS, leukemia and other types of cancer.

## TWO NEW METIS SPECIAL CONSTABLES

Three new members of the Saskatoon Police Service were sworn in December 13 and two of the three are Metis.

Metis special constables Charlene Lasalle, a former MSS employee and Roy Rodgers, formerly of Prince Albert joined the ranks in a special ceremony attended by Chief Owen Maguire and several of their friends and family. Lasalle and Rodgers were sworn in with fellow special constable Randa Pally.

The three were hired as the best qualified candidates among the hundreds who applied for a position last year. They will work inside the police station. Among their duties inside the station are guarding holding cells, answering calls to the 911 emergency line, dispatching calls and taking complaints from residents.

Sgt. Al Sather said the hiring of Metis special constables is part of an effort to balance the make-up of the police force with the city's population.

NewBreed  
MAGAZINE



# LUCY'S STORY

By Arden Moore

The department of Metis Family and Community Justice Services of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan, located in Saskatoon began a program called Metis Family Connection last March. The goal of this program initially was to reconnect permanent wards of the Minister of Social Services with family members and/or their home communities.

Throughout the last several months, we have come to realize there are many adults who also want to be reconnected with their families. These adults were at one time permanent wards of the Minister of Social Services and as adults, they want to be reconnected with their parents and/or siblings. Others are parents and siblings who are looking for their parents or siblings who were at one time permanent wards of the Minister. As a result of this recognition, we have extended a our services to those who are looking for their parents, or adult children or siblings.

Two months ago, Lucy Matechuk approached us hoping we could help her locate her mother. Lucy had not seen her mother in over 26 years, not since she was 11 days old.

On August 1, 1957, Lucy's family was

spending a day at the lake when Lucy's father Ken broke his neck while swimming. He was rushed to the hospital. After many months of rehabilitation, Lucy's father was healed and experiences no major physical effects from the experience. On the day of the accident, shortly after Lucy's father was admitted to the hospital, Lena, Lucy's mother, left and never returned. Lucy and her brothers, Ken and Ron, never heard from their mother again.

Lucy, Ken and Ron became permanent wards of the Minister of Social Services. They grew up in a variety of different foster homes and lived in an orphanage for 10 years. During this time they had contact with their father and eventually left the orphanage to live with him and his new wife. Lucy and her stepmother did not have a good relationship, so Lucy returned to live in foster care until she was eighteen.

Over the years, Lucy felt a variety of emotions and feelings about her mother. She experienced emotions of anger, hate, rejection and hurt. Lucy at times fantasized about her mother wondering what she looked like, where she was and that she loved Lucy.

Shortly before Lucy's paternal grandmother died, she shared with Lucy her beliefs about why Lucy's mother left. She told Lucy that Lena and Ken's marriage was a difficult one. She also told Lucy that Lena experienced a great deal of

racism from Ken's family as she was Metis and Ken's family was not. They did not accept her.

She finally told Lucy that Lena was not the woman her father had described to her. She told Lucy that Lena was a loyal wife who truly loved her children. After Lucy's grandmother shared this information with Lucy, she began looking for her mother but with no luck. Recently, Lucy's stepmother told her that Lena had called her father looking for Ken, Ron and Lucy but that she had refused to tell Lena where they were. This information again initiated a search by Lucy for her mother Lena.

When Lucy came to us, she was desperate for help in her search for Lena. Lucy shared with us what little information she knew about her mother. After many phone calls and letters, we located Lena in Alberta. Lena was overwhelmed with happiness and relief when she realized we were telling her that her children were looking for her. Lucy was also overwhelmed with emotion when we told her that we had located her mother. Her years of searching are now over.

Lena, Lucy, Ken, Ron and each of their families will meet again in the near future. We wish them all the best.

If you or anyone you know is looking for a lost family member, please contact us at 242-6886.

## Women & Wellness Conference V

A Gather of the Women



SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27, 1994

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Of all the teachings we receive this one is the most important:

Nothing belongs to you of what there is,  
Of what you take, you must share.

- Chief Dan George

### OBJECTIVES

- \*to provide an opportunity for women to come together in the spirit of sharing, unity and support.
- \*to provide a safe place for sharing and discussion about family crisis situations.
- \*to explain ways and means for the healing to begin and lead to the healing of the mind, body and spirit.
- \*to continue the knowledge, where no one here is not acceptable.

### SPECIAL GUESTS & SPEAKERS

Elders will be present

Sarah Neri

7 Deer Image

High Prairie, Alberta

Lenny McMillan

Stephen & Associates

Lehrbach, Alberta

Jane Middleton-Mur

Clinical Psychology

Bellevue, Washington

Eleanor Campbell

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Michelle Thomas

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For more information call (306) 352-6377 or fax 352-4007

# METIS SENATORS SUPPORT EXPANDED ROLE

**M**etis Elders Senate members gave their approval for a new expanded role for their body.

Once the proposed Metis Legislative Assembly is established, the Elder's Senate will be the standard dispute-settling body on questions of appeals. The Senators will have the right to refer questions back to the legislature if they desire. Senators will deliver their recommendations but leave the final decision to legislative members.

During the two-day meeting on November 15 and 16, 1993 in Saskatoon, Senators decided to take on more and varied roles within the MBS.

Besides their work as a dispute-settling body, the Senators will also be responsible for membership and enumeration, a central registry, the administration of elections and bi-elections and appeals. Other duties include administration of ceremonies and protocol, a draft code of conduct as well as Metis veterans.

Among the other changes from the most recent senator's gathering was the attendance by Metis Women's Senator Nora Ritchie, bringing the number of Senators up from 12 to 13.

MBS President Gerald Morin said in spite of the changing role for Senators, there will be no changes in how Senators are appointed. Senate members are now appointed by the 12 regional councils within the MBS with the 13th member being appointed by Metis Women.

The Senators were solidly behind a term of service extending for the lifetime of members.

"I feel we should be lifetime members, either until you step down or leave this world," said Senator Vital Morin.

Along with their consent for a lifetime service and acceptance of their expanded duties, Senators voted unanimously to support the proposed MBS constitution.

Gerald Morin said Senators should have more resources at their disposal from the federal and provincial governments as a reflection of their expanded role.

The Elders Senate was set up in September 1991 as an advisory board to help the Metis Society with strategic decision making. Senators decided on expanding its role after one year of restructuring discussions.



*Senators are to have expanded roles under the new constitution.*

## ACCOUNTANT

The Metis Nation of Saskatchewan invites applications for the position of Accountant in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**Duties and Responsibilities:** The Accountant is chiefly responsible for the financial administration of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

The successful candidate will on a day-to-day basis perform financial tasks such as recording accounts payable; prepare vouchers for account payments, invoices for accounts receivable; process payroll and cheque writing and respond to inquiries from suppliers; prepare monthly financial statements and cash flow statements; monitor program budgets and funding agreements; prepare statements of revenue and expenditures; provide financial reports as required by the Executive of the Provincial Metis Council and the Finance Committee; maintain a record of inventory and also purchase lease equipment and supplies; maintain a record of regular payments to suppliers; supervise accounting support staff and also report on a regular basis to his/her supervisor; establish bank accounts with a central bank on behalf of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan.

**Qualifications:** This position requires a person with a good working knowledge of sound accounting principles and practices. Working knowledge of ACCPAC is a requirement and knowledge of other programs is desirable. A certificate, diploma or degree in accounting or administration with a minimum of two years direct experience in accounting is expected, or a combination of formal training in this field and direct or directly related experience is necessary for this position. Successful demonstrated experience in accounting or standard bookkeeping is a prerequisite for this position.

**Remuneration:** negotiable.

**Closing date for receipt of application:** June 30, 1994

Please forward resume and three current letters of reference to:

Metis Nation of Saskatchewan  
2nd Floor  
219 Robin Crescent  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7L 6M8

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Métis Nation of Saskatchewan invites applications for Executive Director in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**Duties and Responsibilities:** The Executive Director is chiefly responsible for the overall administration and management of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan.

The successful candidate will develop, implement, maintain and periodically review the policies and procedures approved by the Provincial Métis Council of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and recommend changes or additions thereto, report directly and regularly to the Provincial Métis Council on the operations of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan; to establish and monitor the financial, personnel, business and other administration of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan; supervise support staff including the Accountant; ensure that contractual obligations are met and to oversee the preparation of a yearly budget; recommend a fee schedule for services provided by the staff of the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan and ensure that such fees are collected; routinely appraise personnel on the performance of their duties; draft funding proposals for consideration by the Provincial Métis Council and the Finance Committee; conduct on a regular basis staff meetings and maintain the morale of the staff; obtain and exercise a Commission for Oaths.

**Qualifications:** This position requires a person with excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to work in a computerized environment. A working knowledge of general accounting principles and practices would be an asset. In addition, this position requires an in-depth knowledge of Métis history, government and legislation. A good knowledge of the past and existing structures of the Métis Society of Saskatchewan and the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan are crucial. Previous supervisory experience is a requirement and is a demonstrated ability to set and meet deadlines. A certificate, diploma or degree in administration or social science (correlated with several years of experience related to the position is expected). Fluency in any one of the languages of the Métis is a definite asset. Previous successful experience as a director or administrator is required.

**Remuneration:** negotiable.

**Closing date for receipt of applications:** June 30, 1994

Please forward resume and three current letters of reference to:

Métis Nation of Saskatchewan  
2nd Floor  
215 Robson Crescent  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7L 0R8

# METIS LAND CLAIM LAUNCHED

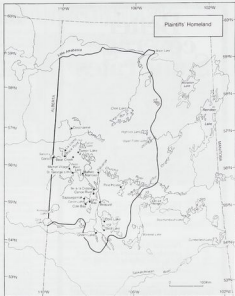
Throughout the years, the Métis have sought, without success, various and constructive ways to assert their inherent rights as one of Canada's distinct Aboriginal peoples. The Statement of Claim filed with the Court of Queen's Bench in Saskatchewan, March 1994 is the culmination of years of struggle by the Métis Nation in an attempt to right historical wrongs and reclaim traditional Métis Homeland.

By the time the fur traders penetrated into the interior of the territory that is now known as Western Canada, the Métis Nation was already forming. Initially a product of the fur trade, the Métis way of life developed into a separate Nation, a blend of Indian and European cultures, distinct from both and unique in character.

The Métis Nation began to assert itself through a series of events from the Battle of Seven Oaks in 1816 to the Red River Resistance of 1870. Through the assertion of Métis nationhood in 1870, Louis Riel's provisional government demanded recognition of Métis national rights and control over lands and natural resources throughout the Métis Nation Homeland.

During the negotiation process, the latter goal was set aside in favour of the grant of 1.4 million acres of land. This land, an area close to the size of Prince Edward Island, was reserved for the exclusive use of the Métis under Section 31 of the Manitoba Act, 1870. The Métis believed they would retain the lands they had occupied before the transfer to Canada, along with the 1.4 million acres, thus providing for a land base to ensure the survival of their language and culture against the onslaught of settlers.

The granting of a land base was far from a philanthropic gesture on the part of the Canadian government. A strong identity and culture had clearly formed within the Métis Nation and the Government of Canada felt that it had to act to calm the resistance, and to define



Appendix A

a politically organized and influential nation. Métis Aboriginal title was formally recognized and provisions were purportedly made to distinguish it within the new province of Manitoba in exchange for protecting the old settlement belt of the Métis, and enlarging it by the additional 1.4 million acres. Despite this, Métis hopes for a brave new beginning were almost immediately dashed.

Government delays imposed on the Métis, competition with settlers for their lands, the process of scrip grants, and acts by the government which facilitated the operation of land speculators undermined the creation of a Métis land and resource base. The implementation of this system ultimately resulted in the dispos-

session of their lands.

The program under the Manitoba Act was characterized by delays, the seriousness of which were compounded by the pressures imposed by incoming settlers. Dating from the passing of the Act, two years were taken to set aside the land for the individual allotment, three years were required to decide that only children of full-blood heads of families were eligible to share in the grant. Five additional years were wasted to decide on a course of action in issuing patents, and four more years were taken to complete the issuing of patents.

In addition, acting under an amendment to the Dominion Lands Act 1879, the Government

*continued on page 24*

of Canada, after the 1885 Resistance at Batoche, began to issue land and money scrip to Métis people outside the original province of Manitoba redeemable for 250 acres of open and surveyed Dominion Land (the claim area at the time of scrip issue was not available to the Métis). The Commissioners who issued this scrip refused to negotiate with the Métis people collectively, but rather dealt individually using a divide and conquer approach. Métis people were given only two choices - accept scrip or give up their identity as Métis and take Treaty as Indians.

This attempt to unilaterally extinguish Métis Aboriginal title did not provide a sufficient land base or resources to allow for a collective future in their Homeland. The Métis were pushed to the margins and the proud economic, cultural and political achievements of the Nation began to fade away.

The marginalization occurred in the face of opposition from generation after generation of Métis. Distinct Métis culture, collective aspirations and political organizations, including a continued relationship with the land and reliance on resources such as hunting, trapping, gathering and fishing, formed the core of Métis rights from view.

This purported unilateral extinguishment of Métis rights violated the principles articulated by King George III in the Royal Proclamation of 1763. This Proclamation set the standard by which governments were to deal with Aboriginal peoples. The Royal Proclamation provided that the land of Aboriginal peoples must not be allowed to be dismembered piecemeal by encroaching settlers and formally assumed Crown responsibility for protecting the rights of Aboriginal peoples.

The divide and conquer technique of the scrip system was a breach of the principles of fair dealings set out in the Royal Proclamation and in other Government dealings with Aboriginal peoples. Scrip destroyed, rather than secured, the base of land and resources that Métis culture relied upon and which the Métis needed in order to continue to live as a distinct Aboriginal people. This system was used against Métis people in the claim area in Saskatchewan and is the focus of this lawsuit.

The marginalizing of the people of the Métis Nation was cemented as the federal government continued to distance itself from the Métis



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population. The inevitable result of the federal government's refusal to live up to its obligations has left the Métis in a jurisdictional limbo, where neither level of government, federal or provincial, will act.

The Métis have been forced to resort to legal action after countless years of petitioning both levels of government for redress. The loss of

their Homeland has challenged the social fabric of the Métis who continue to struggle for equal treatment and a fair chance to develop a dynamic and productive community. The governments of Saskatchewan and Canada have now filed their statements of claim.

Contact: Clem Charlier (306) 343-8285  
Marc Leclaire (613) 232-3216

# TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT UPDATE

In February 1993, the Tripartite Agreement was signed by Gerald Morin (MSS), Joe Clark (Government of Canada), and Robert Mitchell (Government of Canada). At the signing ceremony, each of these three individuals spoke about the potential of the Tripartite discussions and negotiations. A key objective is to protect the unique identity of our people. At the same time, there is an urgent need to improve opportunities for Metis individuals and communities throughout the province. For a number of years now, we have made it clear to both the provincial and federal governments, as well as to the Canadian public generally, that the Metis Nation is strong and growing. We have a rich and proud heritage to draw upon in building for the future. We are ready to exercise our right to self-determination. During its five year life-span, the activities carried out in connection with the Tripartite Agreement should enable us to move significantly closer towards achieving this goal.

Our people have many needs that must be met if we and our children are to prosper. Too many of us live in poverty with all the related and familiar problems - high unemployment, inadequate housing, poor health and so on. Much of the Tripartite related work recognizes that most federal and provincial government programs and services have failed to improve our standard of living. In some cases, they have actually made conditions worse. Difficulties created by the existing justice system, for example, are all too apparent. These problems are rooted in a common situation - the lack of input and control by the Metis in the decisions that affect our everyday lives.

Among other purposes, the Tripartite discussions and negotiations are directed at the transfer to the Metis of control over programs and services. In accomplishing this, it will also become necessary to strengthen, and in some cases, develop Metis institutions which will design, administer, deliver and evaluate the programs and services. Basically, this means that sufficient funds and qualified people will be needed to set up and operate these structures.

The method for reaching the desired goals is fairly straightforward. A negotiating commit-

tee, with representatives from the three parties to the agreement, is responsible for managing the work involved. The Metis participants are expected to "drive" the process. In other words, they bring forward the issues identified as priorities within Metis communities. The Committee sets agendas and timetables, oversees the development of research, and, most importantly, negotiates specific agreements within the Tripartite mandate.

To complete the background preparation leading up to the negotiation stage, the Committee has the authority to establish subcommittees as needed. The following seven subcommittees have been formed. Each includes representatives from the MSS and federal and provincial governments.

1. Metis data base, enumeration and registry
2. Land and resources
3. Housing
4. Economic development
5. Education, training and employment
6. Health and social services
7. Justice

These subcommittees meet regularly. Representatives focus on completing an annual workplan. Essentially, the main purpose of each subcommittee is to develop recommendations for the Negotiating Committee regarding the transfer of specific programs and services to the MSS. As many of the areas being discussed are very complex, it is expected that there will be disagreements among the representatives of some subcommittees. When necessary, these disputes can be brought to the negotiating committee. In carrying out its workplan, a subcommittee may:

- review existing policy and program models
- design research concerning alternative or new models

## TRIPARTITE ACTIVITIES: YEAR ONE

As of mid-November, most of the subcommittees had met five times. The negotiating committee has met more frequently, partly because of the work involved in setting up the process. The representatives involved have formed good working relationships. For many of the issues under consideration, there appears

to be a willingness to move toward Metis goals, although perhaps not quickly enough in some cases.

Each subcommittee has now either completed or is close to completing the final draft of its workplan. Priority issues have been identified, many of which are intended to contribute to the development of effective Metis self-government institutions.

Highlights include: Preparations for the enumeration and registry are being finalized. The enumeration will basically count Metis people while also giving the kind of summary about who we are. In planning for a future in which we are a fully self-governing Nation, it is very important to know the number of Metis in Saskatchewan, where we live in the province, as well as some basic background information (for example, age, level of education, and so on). After an enumeration has taken place, it will be necessary to keep the results up to date. At the same time, we must have a system in place to make sure that our people receive the programs and services to which they are entitled. For these and other reasons a registry will be established.

The Metis data base, enumeration and registry subcommittee workplan activities during the first year have included ongoing discussions, meetings and workshops with the Metis National Council, Statistics Canada, and the Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics. The Metis National Council has contracted the Coopers and Lybrand Consulting Group to prepare cost estimates for gathering the data in connection with the initial Metis registry.

Statistics Canada has prepared cost estimates for different methods which may be used to carry out an enumeration, including:

1. An independent of all households in the Metis homeland.
2. Inclusion of a Metis-specific questionnaire within the 1996 Census questionnaire package.
3. Use of the 1996 Census to create a list of Metis people.
4. Application of a "snowball" method with existing information from Metis organizations as a starting point.
5. A mass mailout by Canada Post.

The recommended approach is the "snowball" method which facilitates a Metis-driven

*continued on page 21*

process involving door-to-door examination in areas with high concentrations of Métis as well as bulk mail-outs in other regions. During the next six months, the Subcommittee will begin developing proposals for implementing this method.

Obtaining a land and resource base is crucial for the long-term economic well-being of our people. The Tripartite Agreement concentrates on land resources that Métis would use for cultural or economic development purposes. In this regard, the question of how to bring about land transfers, for example, is being studied by the subcommittee representatives. At the same time, the subcommittee is examining the possible benefits of partnership and co-management agreements. These are viewed as interim steps which would provide Métis people with greater control over specific lands and types of resources until more comprehensive settlements can be reached.

Housing is another crucial area for discussions and negotiations. Cutbacks to existing housing programs will have a serious impact on many Métis in the province. The housing subcommittee is certainly aware of these problems. It will identify Métis housing needs and provide, before April 1994, specific recommendations for increasing Métis involvement and control in housing matters.

Employment and other types of economic opportunities are obviously very important to everyone. Many of our people, young and old alike, suffer major economic disadvantages. In response, the economic development subcommittee will consider how to put the Métis economic development strategy into effect. Meanwhile, the education, training and employment subcommittee is looking at programs and services which will better prepare Métis people for employment opportunities. Representatives from the Gabriel Dumont Institute, the Métis Pathways Secretariat and the newly-formed Dumont Technical Institute are actively involved in developing proposals for positive changes to the current situation.

The health and social services subcommittee is working on a wide range of issues. The provincial government's health care reform process has created both problems and opportunities for many communities throughout Saskatchewan. The subcommittee is examining the likely effects of this process on Métis objectives in the health area. At the same time, Métis health needs are being assessed. The aim is to

design programs and services suited to meeting these needs and improving the health of our people.

In the social services area, the subcommittee is considering current policies and funding arrangements for programs and services. The recently-established Métis Family and Community Justice Services affiliate has begun a number of exciting initiatives, particularly in Métis-controlled child and family services. In its first year workplan, the Tripartite Subcommittee intends to support and further these activities. Similarly, the justice subcommittee is working on the development of Métis programs and services needed for the transition to self-government. As a starting point,

emphasis is being placed on community level approaches intended to assist young Métis in conflict with the law.

After less than a year in operation, the Tripartite process is well underway. Although not without difficulties, the activities leading from the Agreement are building towards a coordinated system of self-government institutions. At the conclusion of the Tripartite's five year mandate, the MBS should be fully prepared for a more comprehensive transfer of control over programs and services. We also expect, through the Tripartite process and other initiatives, to negotiate the funding arrangements required to manage these self-government structures.

### *Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program*

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The program offers tuition-free courses and partial remission of student loans for qualified students.

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# AN OPEN LETTER TO THE METIS NATION OF SASKATCHEWAN

## MAY 06, 1994

### FROM THE PROVINCIAL METIS COUNCIL

The audit requested by the federal and provincial governments on the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan was finally released to us on April 29, 1994. We would like to take this opportunity to describe the findings of the audit.

At the outset, we want to make it clear that we take full responsibility for the errors and problems raised in the audit report. Although we can justify to some extent our lack of controls over the finance and administrative affairs of the Nation by a listing of our important issues that were addressed, it does not relieve us from the errors of omission. In spite of the shortage of staff and any other considerations, we should have been vigilant in the stewardship of the Metis Nation's assets. This having been said, it is now time to stop reliving the past and move forward as the Metis Nation.

As we have indicated in our discussions at the local level and with the media, we expected no real surprises in the audit report. When the final document was released to us on April 29th, our expectations were supported. Briefly, we had some serious internal control problems and we did not pay enough attention to the day-to-day administration of the MNS.

One major point about the audit must be emphasized. There is absolutely no indication in the report that there was any intention of wrongdoing or misdirection of funds. There is clear indication that we neglected to ensure that all the proper signatures to approve invoices or travel claims were present. However, the auditors acknowledged that the payments were made over the signatures of your President, Treasurer or Secretary and this is considered sufficient approval to eliminate them as errors.

The funding for the Metis Nation has been frozen and withheld since January 1994. As a result, we have been unable to meet our obligations to our suppliers. Also, your elected officials have been continuing their duties and responsibilities without any pay or expenses. This has resulted in some very real personal hardships as they, like yourselves, have

expenses to cover their cost of living. In addition the Provincial Metis Council has passed a motion that all our wages, benefits and expenses (totaling \$189,000 for the period in which we have not received funding) will not be claimed by us to ensure that all our outside obligations are met first.

In summary, there were four major concerns raised by the audit report of April 29th:

1. Inadequate Internal Controls and Poor Accounting Systems;
2. Poor and Inadequate Filing Systems;
3. Lack of Supporting Documents for Expenses; and
4. Errors on Expense Reports.

The following commentary describes the concerns raised about each point in the audit.

#### **Inadequate Internal Controls**

In a perfect world an organization like the Metis Nation would have enough staff to ensure that all the checks and balances are in place. This means that one keeps up with the daily paperwork, makes sure that all the invoices and travel claims are approved before payment, that all the costs are properly charged to the right accounts and, generally, keeps things running smoothly. The business of politics, land claims and self government are left to others.

Unfortunately, we did not have the finance and administrative staff to ensure that all the cross checks were done. Although this does not excuse the errors, it does explain some of the reasons for them.

Such errors include the payment of travel claims that were not approved or that had errors in calculation, service contracts not reviewed or accounted for properly and, most importantly, a failure to properly charge expenses to the right accounts.

The last item was of concern, since we could not show exactly where the monies were spent or for which projects. The auditors were engaged to do a "Compliance Audit", which was to compare the actual expenses to those

approved under our funding agreements. Because the expenses were not charged correctly and were all placed in one series of accounts (a "Department" known as the Core Expenses), this meant that the auditors were unable to reach a decision as to whether we had complied with the agreements and they had to deny an opinion. This did not imply that the funds were not spent properly. It simply means that the auditors could not verify that they were. Although this is not the favorable opinion we might have hoped for, it is the most logical opinion under the circumstances.

We should clarify one important issue. At the briefing session held on April 29th, when the audit report was finally shared with the Metis Nation, the senior partner of the auditors, Deloitte Touche, admitted that there is no evidence that any funds were missing. This is in direct opposition to the claims made in the media.

#### **Poor and Inadequate Filing Systems**

If the right system of filing information had been in place throughout the year, the audit would have gone much more smoothly and the concern about missing documentation to support expenses would not have been raised.

A relocation of our office from 8th Street to the new building complicated our search for documents. Documents for the audit period, 1992-93, were put in storage along with files from the past 15 years.

The audit report indicated a significant number of expense reports had been paid, but with incorrect or insufficient information to support the payments. There were also some documents that were missing entirely.

#### **Errors on Expense Reports**

There were numerous references to errors reported on expense reports filed by the Ansa

*continued on page 23*



Directors and Executive. What was not shown was the relative small size of most of these errors. We agreed with the auditors when they stated that the amounts were immaterial in comparison to the total amount of funding. We also agree that there was a lack of adequate internal controls, in that each and every expense report should have been carefully scrutinized. We agree that adequate resources and staff have to be budgeted for this area to eliminate errors in the future.

In essence, there were many errors of this type and they do add up to a significant amount. The PMC has taken the necessary steps required to recover any overcharges or errors in billings from the individuals involved.

We, as your elected Provincial Metis Council, take collective responsibility for these areas of concern. We have taken the steps to ensure that there are significantly more controls in place. However, the two levels of government continues to hold back our funding until a mutual agreement is reached on how future funding is administered.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the audit process was a healthy exercise from which we stand to benefit. Certainly the process has been painful and it has raised questions about the individual and collective responsibility of the Metis Nation Executive and the Provincial Metis Council. The elected Provincial Metis Council, which includes the Executive, takes full responsibility for the concerns raised by the audit.

The next step is to move forward in the achievement of the Metis social, political and economic agenda, keeping in mind that sound financial management practices are a required element in achieving these goals. The PMC, with assistance from the Technical Advisory Team, has developed strict administrative and financial procedures that guarantee we will not go through this ordeal again. The policies and procedures identified in the Administrative Manual meet all of the standards of sound financial, accounting and business practices. These standards ensure that the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan will address concerns of the provincial and federal governments and will raise our level of accountability to the Metis citizens of Saskatchewan.

Thank you for your patience throughout the past few months. We now need to move forward as a more effective and efficient organization dedicated to serving the needs and aspirations of all Saskatchewan Metis.



# Assistance for Saskatchewan Artists & Arts Organizations

## Individual Assistance Grant Program

### New Application Deadline:

**March 1, 1994 and October 1, 1994**

Applications and support materials **MUST BE RECEIVED** by the Saskatchewan Arts Board by **MARCH 1, 1994 and OCTOBER 1, 1994.**

### Programs effective March 1, 1994 are:

**Creative Grants:** Assist Saskatchewan artists and emerging artists to create new work in any art form.

**Professional Development Grants:** Assist individuals from Saskatchewan to pursue excellence in the arts through study in a formal setting or in an informal setting such as apprenticeships or mentorships.

**Research Grants:** Assist individuals from Saskatchewan to pursue research in the arts such as general research, independent curatorial research and research on new techniques or new technologies.

**"A" Grants:** Assist artists or individuals in the arts who have achieved a senior level of accomplishment, and who have made a nationally or internationally recognized contribution to their discipline or to the arts in general.

**"B" Grants:** Assist artists or individuals in the arts who have demonstrated a professional level of achievement in their discipline or in the arts in general, and have established a career in the arts.

**"C" Grants:** Assist artists or individuals striving to establish themselves in the profession and have yet to establish a career in the arts.

### New maximum funding levels are:

|                                  | "A" Grants | "B" Grants | "C" Grants |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Creative                         | \$20,000   | \$10,000   | \$ 4,000   |
| Professional Development         | 10,000     | 7,500      | 4,000      |
| Research                         | 5,000      | 3,500      | 1,500      |
| <b>"C" Grants - Formal Study</b> |            |            |            |
| Doctoral Studies                 |            |            | 4,000      |
| Postgraduate Studies             |            |            | 3,000      |
| Undergraduate Studies            |            |            | 2,000      |

## Project Grant Program

Eligible applicants in the Library, Multidisciplinary, Performing and Visual Arts may apply under current programs for projects that comply with existing guidelines.

**Deadline dates are MARCH 15, 1994 and OCTOBER 15, 1994.**

**Applications MUST BE RECEIVED** by the deadline date.

## Artist in Residence Program

This redeveloped program is now administered by the Saskatchewan Arts Board. It provides funding of up to \$25,000 to incorporate non-profit organizations in Saskatchewan to sponsor the hiring of a professional artist currently living in Saskatchewan to work and reside in any Saskatchewan community for a period of one year.

- 50% of the artist's time is to be spent on his/her own work and 50% on work with the community.
- Preference will be given to communities other than Regina and Saskatoon.
- Proposals for short term residencies of 6 months or less duration are also eligible.

**Deadline dates are MARCH 15, 1994 and OCTOBER 15, 1994.**

**Proposals and supporting materials MUST BE RECEIVED** by the deadline date.

### For information or application forms:

 Saskatchewan Arts Board  
3rd Floor, T.C. Douglas Building  
3475 Albert Street  
Regina, SK S4S 0X6  
Ph: 787-4228 or 1-800-667-7326 (Saskatchewan)  
Fax: 787-4199

# THE YEAR THAT WAS — HIGHLIGHTS OF 1993

## **December 10, 1992**

The United Nations General Assembly declares 1993 the International Year of Indigenous People.

## **January 4, 1993**

Research work begins in the new MSS Tripartite Management Unit including the launching of New Breed Magazine.

## **January 29, 1993**

Gabriel Dumont Institute Conference begins in Saskatoon.

## **February 18, 1993**

MSS President Gerald Morin, Federal Metis Interlocutor Joe Clark and Bob Mitchell, Minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Indian and Metis Affairs Secretariat sign the Tripartite Framework Agreement in Saskatoon.

## **February 24, 1993**

Larry Desrosieres, President of the Metis Nation of Alberta passes away in Edmonton. March 5, 1993

Gerald Morin is sworn in as President of the Metis National Council to replace Yeon Dumont who had been named Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba.

## **March 18, 1993**

During stage one of the Metis Self-Government workshops, delegates meet with the federal NDP leader Audrey McLaughlin. The first New Breed Magazine hits the streets.

## **March 29, 1993**

The first Metis Nation Cabinet is sworn in at Regina. The cabinet consists of Gerald Morin, Ron Swain, Gerald Thom, Norman Evans, Eric Blais, Gary Bohnet and Sheila Genaille.

Metis Local #64 opens a store and chicken outlet in Leoville to provide grocery and fast food service to their community.

## **April 11, 1993**

The Western Canadian Aboriginal Curling Championship wraps up in Saskatoon with the Michelle Harding rink winning the women's division and Art Sanderson rink winning the men's division.

## **April 15, 1993**

Ivan Morin, a Saskatoon Metis, becomes the subject of the first ever urban sentencing circle in Canada. Representatives of the Metis

community and police, along with lawyers, Saskatoon citizens, Morin and his victims all take part in the circle.

## **May 17, 1993**

Meadow Lake Metis elder Laura Beyer receives honors from her local as well as her Canada 125 medal in a special ceremony in Meadow Lake.

## **June 24, 1993**

MSS President Gerald Morin and Premier Roy Romanow sign the Bilateral Agreement in Saskatoon. The Agreement provides a review of programs and services for Metis and a series of meetings between the MSS and provincial officials.

## **June 26, 1993**

The First Nations Gallery, a special area displaying Native art, history and cultural artifacts opens at the Museum of Natural History in Regina.

## **July 23, 1993**

Back to Batoche Days '93 begins with meeting of MSS local presidents followed by three days of pony chuckwagon and chariot racing, softball, jugging, fiddling and plenty of visiting. Federal Metis Interlocutor Jim Edwards is one of the visitors to the grounds.

## **July 27, 1993**

Members of the National Aboriginal Veterans Association (NAVA) meet in Saskatoon to discuss strategies to win back benefits given to other ex-soldiers but were denied to them in many cases.

## **August 12, 1993**

MSS Archersville Local #58 launches the 20th Small Business Loans Association in Saskatchewan to help local entrepreneurs and economic development.

## **September 8, 1993**

Prime Minister Kim Campbell calls a federal election for October 25

## **September 17, 1993**

Ron Campbell, a founder of MSS Local #165, former Area Director, and Chairman of SaskNative Housing Corporation passed away in Saskatoon. His life and work are commemorated in a special ceremony at MSS headquarters.

## **October 8, 1993**

Liberal leader Jean Chretien meets with Gerald Morin at Wankarem Heritage Park near Saskatoon. Chretien renews his pledge to work for Aboriginal self-government if elected prime minister.

## **October 25, 1993**

Liberals sweep the ruling Conservative Party from power in the federal election. Saskatchewan Metis candidates Regina Sinclair and Rick Laliberte show strong results but both fail to win their seats.

## **November 3, 1993**

Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow proclaims November 16 Louis Riel Memorial Day, the first time the province has formally recognized the anniversary of Louis Riel's execution.

## **November 7, 1993**

Delegates at the Metis Women of Saskatchewan annual meeting in North Battleford elected their new executive: Isabelle Impey (President), Victoria Poljak (General Vice-President), Bev Laliberte (Provincial Treasurer).

## **November 11, 1993**

Claude Pettit, Executive Director of SaskNative Recreation takes his place in the National Remembrance Day Service in Ottawa where he represents Native veterans.

## **November 16, 1993**

Metis gather across Canada to remember the life and contributions of Louis Riel on the anniversary of his death in 1885.

## **December 3, 1993**

On the first day of the MSS's Annual Assembly delegates vote overruling in favour of the new MSS constitution. The constitution sets up the Metis Legislative Assembly and adds new responsibilities to the Elder's Senate plus more involvement for Metis women, youth and local presidents.

## **December 11, 1993**

Six students from SUNTEP Saskatoon travel to the World Indigenous Peoples Conference in Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia.

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# BATOCHÉ '94



## Back to Batoche Days July 22, 23 & 24, 1994

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