

" M E M O "

TO: All Deans and Department Heads of:

- The Saskatchewan Indian Federated College
- The Faculty of Social Work
- The Human Justice Services Program
- The Department of Sociology and Social Studies
- The Department of History
- The Department of Political Science
- The Department of Anthropology
- The School of Journalism and Communications

FROM: Dr. Richard Thatcher, Program Development Officer,
Community/Adult Education Unit, Gabriel Dumont Institute.

RE: Please request instructors (of courses you think to be
appropriate) to read the following notice in their classes:

"You are cordially invited to attend a lecture on Thursday evening, October 14, 1982, at 7:00 p.m., to be held at the Riel Cresaultis Hall, 936 Victoria Avenue East, Regina, dealing with the social history of the Metis people. The talks will focus on the growth and decline of the Metis Nation, the two "rebellions" (sic) --i.e. resistances--and the struggles of the 20th century right up to the present day.

Murray Dobbin is a Saskatchewan journalist, writer and teacher of Native Studies courses at the university level. In 1981, Murray's book THE ONE-AND-A-HALF MEN, the story of Jim Brady and Malcolm Norris, Metis patriots of the 20th century, was published. Recognized as an important historical contribution, the book outlines the struggles of Indian and Metis organizations in Alberta and Saskatchewan as seen through the eyes of two key Metis leaders.

Ron Bourgeault began work for the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) six years ago as a researcher with the Aboriginal Rights Program. He has been investigating Metis history for AMNSIS since then, and is a recognized authority on the role of the Metis in the period of the fur trade, the free trade movement and the Red River Resistance of 1879-70. Presently working on a series of articles for "New Breed" (three of which have already appeared), Ron is planning to write a major historical study of the early Metis."

Rick Thatcher
Tour Co-ordinator

GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE OF NATIVE STUDIES &
APPLIED RESEARCH



October 4, 1982

Mr. R. D. Clarke, Executive Director
Cultural Activities Branch
Saskatchewan Culture and Youth
11th Floor, Avord Tower
2002 Victoria Avenue
REGINA, Saskatchewan
S4P 3V7

Dear Dick:

Thank you for approving the grant for our Metis
Social History Tour, for \$1,000.00. It will allow us to
cover some of our basic expenses.

Unfortunately, the publicity materials (poster
enclosed) were drawn up before the grant was approved;
therefore, the Department's name does not appear on
them. We will, however, endeavour to credit the Department
verbally at every presentation.

Again, thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Keith Turnbull
Director, Core Services

KT/et



Saskatchewan
Culture and Youth

Saskatchewan

11th Floor Avord Tower
2002 Victoria Avenue
Regina, Canada
S4P 3V7

September 27, 1982

GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE OF
NATIVE STUDIES AND APPLIED
RESEARCH
c/o Mr. Keith Turnbull
Director
Coreservices
2505 - 11th Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 0K6

Dear Mr. Turnbull:

I am pleased to inform you that Saskatchewan Culture and Youth has approved your Cultural Activities Grant application (number 82-065) for the Metis Social History Lecture Tour. The approved amount is \$1,000.

You will receive an initial payment of \$500 within the next four to six weeks. A final report form is enclosed for you to claim the balance. Within 90 days of completing your project, please submit this report and a financial statement.

We would appreciate an acknowledgement of our department's contribution in relevant literature or publicity.

Best wishes for a successful project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. D. Clarke".

R. D. Clarke
Executive Director
Cultural Activities Branch

encl.
cc: Gene Lambert



GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE OF NATIVE STUDIES &
APPLIED RESEARCH



Sept. 23, 1982

Dear

Please find the attached background and promotional material on the upcoming "Metis Social History Lecture Tour," presented by Ron Bourgeault and Murray Dobbin. The lecturers will be visiting your community on _____.

As our "contact" person in your community, it is our understanding that you have booked _____ in _____ on _____ between _____ p.m. It is also our understanding that you have arranged for sleeping accommodations for the two lecturers. Your co-operation and help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

We at the Dumont Institute are very enthusiastic about the tour. We are hoping that you are able to stimulate enough interest in the tour that there will be a substantial turnout for the lectures.

The attached promotional materials include: (1) The "Metis Social History Lecture Tour": Background Information (2) an outline of the "themes" of the lectures (3) an idea for the development of "study circles."

We hope the tour goes well and that it is well received in your community.

With the sincerest of thanks

Dr. Richard W. Thatcher
The Community Adult Education

THE METIS SOCIAL HISTORY LECTURE TOUR: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Your community has been selected by the Gabriel Dumont Institute as one of the ten locations for the presentation of a lecture tour on Metis social history. The lecturers will be delivered by Ron Bourgeault and Murray Dobbin, two prominent historians who are experts in different periods of Metis history. Both speakers will be in attendance in your community on the same date and will be lecturing in a hall, classroom or other such facility, booked in advance by a representative of your Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan (AMNSIS) Local.

The tour, which will take place in the last two weeks of October, has been organized by the Community/Adult Education branch of the Dumont Institute. Planning and linkages with members of AMNSIS locals is the responsibility of Richard Thatcher, who may be contacted in writing through the Institute or by telephone at 522-5691 (Local 25).

We would anticipate that you might ask some additional questions about the tour, so we thought we'd set up this "backgrounder" in a question-and-answer format.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LECTURE TOUR?

The purpose of the lecture tour is to promote a popular appreciation amongst Native Peoples of the social forces, economic realities and political struggles which have shaped Metis culture and have determined the relations between Metis people and Canadian society. The lectures will expose Native Peoples in your community to the product of the rigorous research labours of two men who have clearly demonstrated their commitment to the goal of advancing the interests of Metis people. That "exposure" is sure to provoke and stimulate dialogue amongst Native people about their own socio-economic "roots."

In organizing the tour, the Community/Adult Education branch of the Institute is merely responding to various expressions of interest and requests from Native people throughout the province. We are very enthusiastic about the tour and hope that your local is able to get as many people as possible from your area to attend. We only wish that we were able to substantially increase the number of locations to be visited by the speakers. Unfortunately, our resources are limited at this time, however. We tried to select communities in such a way that Northerners and Southerners would have an equal chance to attend. For those many communities left out we will try to make a video-tape or audio-tape recording of the tour available on request.

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE SPEAKERS?

Ron Bourgeault has been employed as a researcher for AMNSIS for six years, and is a recognized authority in the area of early Metis history, especially the role of the Metis in the period of the fur trade, the free trade movement and the Red River Resistance of 1869-70. He began his work with AMNSIS as a researcher with the Aboriginal Rights program. Ron has presented papers to "The Metis in North America Conference" in 1981, and to the "Fur Trade Conference" in Minnesota in 1980. He has written articles for "New Breed" and other publications.

Murray Dobbin is a Saskatchewan journalist, writer and teacher of Native Studies at the university level. He has spent the last ten years writing on Northern issues and Native social and political movements. In 1981, his book, The One-And-A-Half Men, the story of Jim Brady and Malcolm Norris, Metis patriots of the 20th century, was published. The book is a major work which, through massive primary research, outlines the struggles of Indian and Metis organizations in Alberta and Saskatchewan as seen through the eyes of two key leaders.

WHAT, SPECIFICALLY, WILL THE LECTURES BE ABOUT?

The talks will focus on the growth and decline of the Metis Nation, the two "rebellions" and the Metis struggles of the 20th century right up to the present day. As Maria Campbell has said, "You cannot know where you are going unless you know where you are coming from. History is the story of peoples' struggles for a better world. It is a living thing." Through these talks and discussions afterwards, the Dumont Institute hopes to bring Metis history to Metis people and to show how important that history is to the progress of Metis communities today.

WHO WILL BE PAYING FOR THE TOUR?

The Dumont Institute and AMNSIS will be paying the speakers and also taking care of the costs of their accommodations, meals and transportation. The Institute will also be producing a poster that will be sent to you. At your end, the costs of booking a hall or other facility will be up to your local if you do not have access to a free facility. Any other costs (such as coffee) that may be incurred will be the responsibility of your local. It is anticipated, however, that these latter costs will be a minimal.

WHEN WILL THE LECTURES BE PRESENTED IN OUR COMMUNITY?

The following dates have been selected for the delivery of the lectures:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
* Fort Qu'Appelle/Lebret	Wednesday, October 13, 1982
* Regina	Thursday, October 14
* Yorkton	Sunday, October 17
* Melfort	Monday, October 18
* Cumberland House	Tuesday, October 19
* Prince Albert	Wednesday, October 20
* LaRonge	Thursday, October 21
* Pine House	Friday, October 22
* Isle-a-la-Crosse	Sunday, October 24
* Green Lake/Meadow Lake	Monday, October 25
* Lloydminster	Thursday, October 28

IF I AM A LOCAL "RESOURCE PERSON" FOR THE TOUR, WHAT MIGHT I DO TO PROMOTE THE LECTURES IN MY COMMUNITY? WHAT ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD I MAKE TO ACCOMMODATE THE SPEAKERS?

We have asked our local contact people to do the following things:

- 1) book a hall or other appropriate facility large enough to seat the numbers of people you would expect to attend
- 2) book sleeping accommodations for the speakers (hotel, motel, or, if necessary, billeting arrangements)
- 3) advertise the tour by inviting people to attend through
 - a) meetings announcements in schools, clubs, etc.
 - b) public service announcements or, if possible, paid advertising, in both print media (newsletters, or newspapers serving your area) and electronic media (radio or T.V.)
 - c) distributing a poster furnished by the Institute in key public locations frequented by Native People.

If the hall you have booked is large and you expect a very large turnout, you might see to it that a "P.A." system is set up. If it is possible, you might also arrange for child care arrangements and the serving of coffee.

NOTE: If you are interested in the promotion of Native Studies in your local schools, you might arrange to have local teachers meet with Ron and Murray for the purpose of dialogue and information-dissemination.

IS THIS LECTURE TOUR SIMPLY A 'ONE-SHOT' AFFAIR OR DOES THE DUMONT INSTITUTE PLAN SIMILAR PROGRAMS IN THE FUTURE?

Actually, the Institute will be conducting a follow-up evaluation of the tour in order to find out just how much interest there is in similar types of activities. We actually see this venture as only the first of a number of tours of this type, designed to revitalize and encourage an appreciation of the cultural heritage of the Metis community in Saskatchewan.

As you will be aware, through AMNSIS and Dumont, Local Education Committees have been established in the seven southern areas of the province. It has been hoped that these LECs could assume a lead role in promoting Native Studies at the community level. As one means of encouraging Native studies, we have asked Ron and Murray to present an idea to the LECs and AMNSIS locals in the North -- the development of "Study Circles", established as informal but regular meetings of Native people. It's only an idea (see attached), but we thought it might be a useful mechanism for encouraging more active interest in Native culture and current affairs. We thought the lecture tour might "seed" the idea, while interested members of your local would actually organize study groups.

The local study circle seems to us like an obvious way of organizing not only future lecture tours, but a variety of other events of historical, cultural and current interest.

**GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE OF NATIVE STUDIES &
APPLIED RESEARCH**

THE METIS SOCIAL HISTORY

LECTURE TOUR

FEATURING RON BOURGEAULT AND MURRAY DOBBIN

BACKGROUND INFORMATION



Ron Bourgeault



Murray Dobbin

PREPARED BY

THE COMMUNITY/ADULT EDUCATION UNIT

SEPTEMBER 1982