

Canada's Northwest & Louis Riel TimelineDennis J. Fisher

- 1670 - King of England gives Rupert's Land to Hudson's Bay Company - May 2nd - "duMai"
1844 - Oct.22 - Louis Riel born in the Red River settlement
1858 - Archbishop Tache sends Riel 14, and three others to lower Canada - educated for priesthood
1864 - Riel's father dies and he leaves college to work in Montreal as law clerk and support family
1866-1868 - Riel works in Chicago and St. Paul (sales clerk)...returns to Red River in 1968
1869 - H.B.Co agree to sell Rupert's Land to Canadian government for £300,00
1869 - Oct.11 - Cdn. Surveyors in Red River angers residents - Louis Riel chosen to confront team
1869 - Oct.30 - Lt. Gov.W.McDougall to manage new land, arrives at Pembina -L.R. says not welcome
1869 - Nov.2 - Riel and about 100 Métis capture Fort Garry without meeting resistance
1869 - Dec.10 - Riel announces formation of provisional government, headed by himself
1870 - Feb.10 - Convention of 40 Métis & English delegates elect Riel as president of provisional govt.
1870 - Mar.4 - Thomas Scott imprisoned and executed by Métis court-martial - Ontario outraged
1870 - Spring - Canadian government agrees with plan to make Red River settlement in new province.
1870 - June 19 - Manitoba becomes a province - Métis land guaranteed - amnesty for Métis militants
1870 - Aug. Amnesty not in writing - 12,000 troops arrive - Riel crosses border to USA
1873 - June - Riel leaves home at St.Paul, MN, and returns to Red River to seek election as M.P.
1873 - Nov. - Riel elected to Parliament -goes to N.Y. in hiding - \$5000 reward on his head (Scott).
1874 - April - Riel re-elected to House of Commons - house votes to expel him. (Riel thrice elected)
1875 - Feb. Govt. grant amnesty to all Métis. Riel who is granted amnesty if he leaves Canada -5 years
1875 - Dec. Riel meets with Pres, Ulysses Grant who suggests U.S. citizenship -
1875 - Dec. Riel has vision in Washington - Holy Spirit - see himself as "Prophet of the New World"
1876 - Riel's friends report strange behaviour and is admitted to asylum in Montreal
1878 - Jan. After 2 years in Quebec asylums Riel is released and heads west, finally settling in Montana
1880 - Spring - Riel tries to organize local Métis/Indians to invade Canada - makes a living trading goods
1881 - April-Riel marries Métis Marguerite Bellehumeur, 21- marriage blessed at Carroll in March 1882
1882 - May 9 - Riel's first child - son Jean born at Carroll, Montana
1883 - Riel becomes an USA citizen- settles at St. Peter's Mission on Sun River, MT. - teaches school
1883 - Sept. - Marie Angelique Riel born at St. Peter's Mission
1884 - Métis and English settlers unhappy with Canadian government - P.A. meeting lists grievances
1884 - Métis & others decide they need help from Louis Riel - pick delegation to travel to Montana
1884 - May 18 - Gabriel Dumont, Moise Ouellette, Michel Dumas & James Isbister leave Batocche
1884 - Sunday June 4 - Delegation arrives at St. Peter's. Sunday, Riel at Mass - Seek his return.
1884 - Riel's reported reply: " This is the fourth, there are four of you, I will need four days to reply"
1884 - Monday June 5th - Riel answers in writing: "I record it as one of the gratifications of my life"
1884 - June 10 - Riel, with Marguerite and children in cart, join caravan headed for Batocche.
1884 - July 1 - Riel and party arrive at Fish Creek on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River.
1884 - July 5 - Riel arrives at Batocche - work with W.H. Jackson shaping grievance petition.
1884 - July 8 - Riel's first public meeting in front of cousin Charles Nolin's home at Batocche
1884 - July 19 - Riel has mass meeting with P.A.settlers, with Chief Big Bear
1884 - July 28 - William H. Jackson issues manifesto of Settler's Union grievances & demands
1884 - Dec.16 - Riel negotiates with PMO to get money for Métis - efforts prove fruitless
1885 - Jan.28 - Cabinet authorizes creation of 3 person commission to review Métis claims
1885 - Mar.5 - Riel & Métis in secret meeting-save country from government-take up arms if necessary
1885 - Mar.18 - Métis seize control of Batocche church - take hostages - cut telegraph line at Clarks King
1885 - Mar.26 - Métis engage in unplanned skirmish with police near Duck Lake- 12 NWMMP killed.
1885 - Mar. 27 - NWMMP & settlers abandon Ft. Carlton (burned in process) and retreat to Prince Albert
1885 - Mar.28 - News reaches Ottawa- Cdn. Militia Forces under Gen. Middleton to head west.
1885 - Mar.30 - Siege of Ft.Battleford begins - Indian Agent refuses to meet Poundmaker- stores looted
1885 - Mar.31 - Métis forces construct defensive system of trenches at Batocche- prepare for fighting
1885 - April 2- Frog Lake Massacre - Poundmaker's warriors kill Agent Quinn and eight whites
1885 - April 17 - Fort Pitt taken by Big Bear's warriors - NWMMP evacuate Fort - lives spared
1885 - April 24-Dumont's Métis ambush Middleton & troops at Fish Creek-10 soldiers die-43 wounded
1885 - May 2 - Col. Otter attacks Poundmaker camp at Cut Knife Hill- Otter forced to withdraw.
1885 - May 7 -After 2 week recovery Middleton and troops march north along river to Batocche.
1885 - May 9 - Troops aboard steamer Northcote sail to Batocche- Métis disable vessel with ferry cable.
1885 - May 9-12 - The Battle of Batocche- troops slowly defeat Métis -
1885 - May 15 - Louis Riel surrenders/captured - brought to Batocche by Hourie, Diehl & Armstrong
1885 - May 16 - Gabriel Dumont not seen in area - escaped with a few Métis to USA - photo in Havre
1885 - July 6 - Louis Riel charged with treason at Regina, N.W.T. Trial begins on July 20th
1885 - Aug.1 - Jury convicts Riel . Judge Richardson has to pass down death sentence, by law.
1885 - Sept.9 - Court of Queen Bench rejects Riel's appeal - Medical Commission rejects insanity aspect
1885 - Sept. 18 - Original date for hanging changed because of appeals - new date announced Nov/16th
1885 - Nov.16 - Louis Riel dies on gallows - pronounced dead at 8:21am
2010 - May - Canada commemorates the 125th anniversary of the 1885 NW Rebellion -many functions