

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

**General Assembly
November 18, 2000**

I am pleased to present to our membership, the following reports:

- 1/ 1999- 2000 Audited Financial Statement
- 2/ Batoche 2000 Final Report
- 3/ Tripartite Activity Report
- 4/ Bilateral Activity Report

As Treasurer, I remain open to any suggestions or feedback that any members may have.



Allan Morin
Treasurer

**1999-2000 Audited
Financial Statement**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**THE METIS SOCIETY OF
SASKATCHEWAN INC.**

March 31, 2000

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

We have audited the combined balance sheet of **The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.** as at March 31, 2000 and the combined statements of earnings and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These combined financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Canada. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these combined financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at March 31, 2000 and the results of its operations and the changes in its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada.

Saskatoon, Canada
May 5, 2000

Ernst + Young LLP

Chartered Accountants

The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

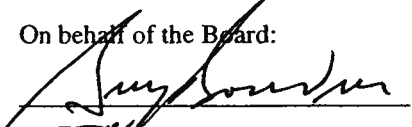

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

As at March 31

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash in bank less outstanding cheques [note 2]	264,038	215,721
Accounts receivable [note 3]	64,147	27,021
Marketable securities	45,000	—
Total current assets	373,185	242,742
Capital assets [note 5]	128,916	136,294
Capital lease assets	—	13,942
	502,101	392,978
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	24,317	29,049
Current portion of capital lease obligation	—	5,674
Current portion of long-term debt	—	4,809
Total liabilities	24,317	39,532
Deferred grant revenue [note 6]	191,055	121,683
Net assets		
Operating Fund	13,572	(38,772)
Internally Restricted Fund - election	45,000	35,000
Capital Fund	228,157	235,535
Total net assets	286,729	231,763
	502,101	392,978

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the Board:

 Director
 Director



The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF EARNINGS

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue		
Government grants		
Federal - current operations	1,154,257	1,182,728
- deficit recovery	—	16,563
Provincial - current operations	1,130,246	1,122,687
	<u>2,284,503</u>	<u>2,321,978</u>
Other revenue		
Sponsorship	—	10,000
Program administration	206,802	—
Sundry	59,998	22,550
	<u>266,800</u>	<u>32,550</u>
Total revenue	<u>2,551,303</u>	<u>2,354,528</u>
Expenses - Schedule 11	<u>2,496,337</u>	<u>2,246,241</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses before other items	54,966	108,287
Other items of income		
Accounts payable written off	—	32,001
Excess of revenue over expenses	<u>54,966</u>	<u>140,288</u>

See accompanying notes



The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Operating Fund balance, beginning of year	(38,772)	(142,793)
Excess of revenues over expenses	54,966	140,288
Allocated to internally restricted fund	(10,000)	(35,000)
Transfer to capital fund - repayment of long-term debt	—	(6,411)
Transfer to capital fund - repayment of obligation under capital lease	—	(7,564)
Transfer from capital fund for depreciation	7,378	12,708
Balance, end of year	13,572	(38,772)
Internally Restricted Fund - Election		
Balance, beginning of year	35,000	—
Allocated from unrestricted surplus	10,000	35,000
Balance, end of year	45,000	35,000
Capital Fund		
Balance, beginning of year	235,535	234,268
Repayment of long-term debt	—	6,411
Repayment of obligation under capital lease	—	7,564
Depreciation expense	(7,378)	(12,708)
Balance, end of year	228,157	235,535

See accompanying notes



The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year ended March 31

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	54,966	140,288
Add items not affecting cash		
Amortization	7,378	12,708
	<u>62,344</u>	<u>152,996</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital balances related to operations		
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(37,126)	100,861
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(4,732)	(72,611)
Increase in deferred revenue	69,372	66,683
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>89,858</u>	<u>247,929</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of marketable securities	(45,000)	—
Cash flows used in investing activities	<u>(45,000)</u>	<u>—</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Decrease in demand loan	—	(30,000)
Decrease in long-term debt financing	(5,674)	(6,411)
Decrease in obligation under capital lease	(4,809)	(7,564)
Termination of capital lease	13,942	—
Cash flows from (used in) financing activities	<u>3,459</u>	<u>(43,975)</u>
Net change in cash position during the year	48,317	203,954
Cash position, beginning of year	215,721	11,767
Cash position, end of year	<u>264,038</u>	<u>215,721</u>

See accompanying notes



CORE PROGRAM

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue		
Grants - federal - current operations	492,227	475,665
- deficit recovery	—	16,563
- Michif Language	—	50,000
Total revenue	492,227	542,228
Expenses		
Salaries		
Board members	110,736	108,000
Executive	39,600	36,000
Other	127,775	123,279
Total salaries	278,111	267,279
Travel		
Board members	78,287	72,519
Executive	27,343	25,501
Other	7,568	5,049
Total travel	113,198	103,069
Professional services		
Audit and business services	5,000	1,905
Consulting	9,634	5,186
Legal	—	9,311
Total professional services	14,634	16,402
Meetings		
Board meetings	25,418	30,000
Elections	10,000	9,223
Total meetings	35,418	39,223
Metis Legislative Assembly	10,000	15,000
Michif Language	—	40,844

... continued

CORE PROGRAM

Year ended March 31	... continued	
	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Administration		
Amortization	7,378	12,708
Bank charges and interest	1,464	1,242
Office rent	17,411	23,084
Office supplies	2,855	5,330
Printing and postage	1,386	47
Public relations	5,050	12,012
Sundry	—	431
Telephone	11,004	7,500
Total administration	46,548	62,354
Total expenses	497,909	544,171
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	(5,682)	(1,943)

See accompanying notes

TRIPARTITE SELF GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue		
Grants - federal	274,000	275,000
- federal deferred from 97/98	—	11,033
- provincial	285,000	275,000
Total revenue	559,000	561,033
Expenses		
Salaries		
Committee stipend	14,388	15,155
Director	43,827	48,000
Executive stipend	72,140	75,287
Northern project	57,204	57,204
Other	11,194	7,919
Researchers	37,770	29,129
Women's program	6,952	10,044
Total salaries	243,475	242,738
Travel		
Committee	3,000	—
Director	11,459	3,422
Executive	20,477	11,996
Justice	4,500	—
Northern project	20,004	32,808
Other	12,925	13,277
Researchers	3,502	4,384
Urban Governance	6,981	—
Women's program	22,560	26,300
Total travel	105,408	92,187
Professional services		
Consulting	72,009	87,837
Northern project	20,004	—
Other	10,938	7,382
Total professional services	102,951	95,219

... continued



TRIPARTITE SELF GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Year ended March 31	... continued	
	2000 \$	1999 \$
Administration		
Finance management	617	283
Office rent	17,411	17,460
Office supplies	11,955	9,744
Program administration	66,332	65,224
Sundry	254	—
Telephone	2,280	3,983
Total administration	98,849	96,694
Total expenses	550,683	526,838
Excess of revenue over expenses	8,317	34,195

See accompanying notes



**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS
PROGRAMS — SECRETARIAT PROGRAMS**

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue		
Grants - provincial	135,000	546,000
Total revenue	135,000	546,000
Expenses		
Back to Batoche Grant	—	10,332
Equity contribution		
CCDF	—	201,000
Economic Development	—	150,384
SMEDA	—	48,616
	—	400,000
Co-management land resources		
Consulting	36,000	36,000
	36,000	36,000

... continued

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS
PROGRAMS — SECRETARIAT PROGRAMS**

Year ended March 31

... continued

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Bilateral process		
Administration	18,200	18,200
Consulting	—	14,532
Employee benefits	5,165	—
Executive	14,220	22,823
Financial management	557	508
Management	10,699	12,000
Professional services	—	10,000
Research	8,280	8,888
Travel	30,006	22,415
	87,127	109,366
Annual assembly		
MLA meetings	—	270
Total expenses	123,127	555,968
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses before other item	11,873	(9,968)
Other items of income		
Accounts payable written off	—	15,000
Excess of revenue over expenses	11,873	5,032

See accompanying notes

EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue		
Grants - federal	—	8,071
- METSI - 98/99 deferral	25,087	—
- METSI	112,022	108,487
- sundry	14,905	—
Total revenue	152,014	116,558
Expenses		
Salaries		
Youth Internship	—	8,071
Total salaries	—	8,071
Co-management		
Administration	20,000	—
Communications	48,520	34,780
Community Response	12,000	42,187
Recreation	29,559	—
Travel	17,124	27,989
	127,203	104,956
New Breed		
Advertising	954	716
Apprentice	3,264	2,802
	4,218	3,518
Total expenses	131,421	116,545
Excess of revenue over expenses	20,593	13

See accompanying notes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Year ended March 31

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Grants - federal	—	14,700
- SERM - land and resources	61,530	—
- provincial	19,900	56,495
- other	247,380	42,100
Total revenue	328,810	113,295
Expenses		
Agriculture and food	9,867	—
Conference	—	67,424
Contractors	231,612	—
Salaries	13,145	38,160
SERM - land and resources	59,957	—
Sundry	—	80
Tourism - CCDF	9,738	—
Travel	1,620	3,216
Total expenses	325,939	108,880
Excess of revenue over expenses	2,871	4,415

See accompanying notes

ABORIGINAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Year ended March 31

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Grants - Metis National Council	—	164,460
Total revenue	—	164,460
Expenses		
Meetings	—	3,000
Miscellaneous	—	1,057
Office expense	—	1,125
Professional fees	—	6,115
Program administration	—	24,669
Project director	—	36,173
Rent	—	6,168
Salaries	—	65,386
Telephone	—	4,670
Travel	—	10,831
Total expenses	—	159,194
Excess of revenue over expenses	—	5,266

See accompanying notes

ENUMERATION

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue		
Grants - federal	121,459	133,404
- provincial	50,000	100,000
Total revenue	171,459	233,404
Expenses		
Administration	24,839	18,029
Consulting	44,782	49,473
Contractor	72,426	156,052
Equipment	5,044	—
Materials	9,006	—
Miscellaneous	9,938	9,850
Technical	5,424	—
Total expenses	171,459	233,404
Excess of revenue over expenses	—	—

See accompanying notes

ADMINISTRATION

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue		
Grants - federal	91,571	45,000
Program administration	206,802	145,260
Sponsorships	—	10,000
Sundry	59,998	22,550
Total revenue	358,371	222,810
Expenses		
Advertisement	1,547	1,120
Batoche	112,501	—
Canadian Heritage - Fayant	4,355	—
Consulting	13,888	—
Contractors	5,455	1,500
Election expenses	—	(401)
Equipment	14,894	9,902
Loss on disposal of capital asset	3,460	—
Metis Nation Agenda	62,243	41,839
Metis Nation Legislative Assembly	70,251	15,999
Office supplies	9,639	14,587
Professional services	5,430	17,922
Rent	11,607	—
Salaries	21,949	7,264
Sponsorships	18,305	15,637
Sundry	7,190	4,269
Telephone	1,106	2,893
Travel	23,864	13,970
Total expenses	387,684	146,501
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses before other item	(29,313)	76,309
Other item of income		
Accounts payable written off	—	17,001
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	(29,313)	93,310

See accompanying notes

ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE INITIATIVE

Year ended March 31

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Revenue	150,000	—
Expenses		
Administration	22,693	—
Committee	6,333	—
Community project support	10,000	—
Curriculum consultants	10,000	—
Curriculum project	20,000	—
GDI - Michif language curriculum video	8,000	—
Language policy forum	5,000	—
Legal	1,645	—
Salaries	6,000	—
Sundry	9,283	—
Telephone	939	—
Travel	3,799	—
Total expenses	103,692	—
Excess of revenue over expenses	46,308	—

See accompanying notes

BACK TO BATOCHÉ

Year ended March 31

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Federal	25,000	—
Provincial	20,000	—
Other	4,422	—
Building		
- METSI	65,000	—
- Other	90,000	—
	204,422	—
Expenses		
Building		
- salaries	15,461	—
- materials	165,810	—
Contractor	15,644	—
Contracts	1,500	—
Insurance	2,269	—
Maintenance	725	—
Planning committee	462	—
Public relations	1,741	—
Sundry	173	—
Travel	194	—
Utilities	443	—
Total expenses	204,422	—
Excess of revenue over expenses	—	—

See accompanying notes

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES

Year ended March 31

	2000 \$	1999 \$
Administration	228,918	103,036
Agriculture and food	9,867	—
Co-management	127,203	104,956
Conference	—	67,424
Consulting	23,888	—
Contractors	252,711	—
Election costs	10,000	8,822
Enumeration	171,459	233,404
Grants	—	410,332
Land and resources	59,957	—
Loss on disposal of capital assets	3,460	—
Materials	165,811	—
Meetings	343,384	146,952
New Breed	4,218	3,518
Professional services	171,916	196,190
Rent	11,607	—
Research	8,280	8,888
Salaries	597,526	701,394
Sponsorships	18,305	15,637
Tourism	9,738	—
Travel	278,089	245,688
	2,496,337	2,246,241

See accompanying notes

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2000

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

[a] Description of operations

The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc. (the "Society") is incorporated under the Non-Profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan. The Society's purpose is to undertake activities which strive to recognize the political, legal and constitutional rights of the Metis people in Saskatchewan. At the present time the Society fulfills its mandate by acting as a fundraising and administrative organization on behalf of the Metis Society of Saskatchewan.

[b] Fund accounting

The balance sheet and the statements of earnings and deficit and changes in net assets and cash flows are all prepared on a combined basis. Revenue and expenses related to program delivery and administration activities are reported in the following funds:

- Core
- Tripartite Self Government
- Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Programs
 - Secretariat Programs
- Education and Training Program
- Economic Development Program
- Aboriginal Strategic Initiative Program
- Enumeration
- Administration
- Aboriginal Language Initiative
- Back to Batoche



The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2000

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

[c] Revenue Recognition

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

[d] Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization is computed based upon the estimated useful lives and salvage values of the assets; namely, 20% per year on equipment on the declining-balance basis. In the year of acquisition, one-half of this rate is used. No amortization is taken in year of disposal.

[e] Deferred grant revenue

Deferred grant revenue results from grant funding which was received prior to year-end even though the related costs will be incurred over the life of a program, including periods subsequent to the year-end. Deferred grant revenue will be brought into revenue in the next fiscal year as the related expenses are incurred.

2. CASH IN BANK LESS OUTSTANDING CHEQUES

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Core Program	62,410	12,366
Tripartite Self Government Program	12,039	8,194
Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Programs	19,621	16,283
Enumeration	—	81,390
Administration	63,259	97,488
Batoche	54,995	—
Funds set aside pursuant to court order <i>[note 4]</i>	51,714	—
	264,038	215,721



The Metis Society of Saskatchewan Inc.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2000

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Government of Canada	34,140	25,292
Metis National Council	11,250	1,729
Province of Saskatchewan	15,000	—
Miscellaneous	3,757	—
	64,147	27,021

4. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The Society has been named in a claim resulting from delays by the Society in disbursing funds to subcontractors, employees and others under the Enumeration Project. A garnishee summons was placed on the Society's bank account for \$150,891, however, only \$51,714 was in those specific accounts. The lawsuit is in the appeal stage, and the outcome is not predictable with assurance. Further, included in cash at year end is an amount of \$51,714 which is held in trust by the court for settlement of this case. Subsequent to year end the court decided that \$51,714 should be returned to the Society.

5. CAPITAL ASSETS

	2000		1999	
	\$		\$	
	COST	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	NET	NET
Land	99,404	—	99,404	99,404
Equipment	98,502	68,990	29,512	36,890
	197,906	68,990	128,916	136,294

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2000

6. DEFERRED GRANT REVENUE

The deferred grant revenue pertains to the following programs:

Enumeration	\$ 51,337
Intergovernmental and aboriginal affairs	25,000
Education and Training	21,154
Economic development	8,470
Back to Batoche	<u>85,094</u>
	<u>\$191,055</u>

7. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Society is committed to the following:

The Society entered into a one-year lease for its office space with Provincial Metis Holdco Inc., an organization with which the Society is related through common board members. Under the terms of the lease the Society is obligated to make the following minimum lease payments in 2001.

Administration	\$12,000
Core program	12,000
Tripartite program	<u>18,000</u>
	<u>\$42,000</u>

The Society is committed under terms of leases for office equipment at the following minimum amounts over the next five years:

2001	\$13,380
2002	9,285
2003	9,285
2004	9,285
2005	9,285

These lease commitments are paid through the administration program.



NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2000

8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year the Society incurred rent expense of \$46,430 (1999 - \$40,544) to an organization with which it is related through common board members, Provincial Metis Holdco Inc. This rent constitutes fair market value for services received.

During the year the Society recorded \$177,022 (1999 - \$108,487) of grant revenue from an organization with which it is related through common board members, Metis Employment & Training of Saskatchewan Inc. (METSII). This grant is funded through Human Resources Development Canada.

During the year, the Society received grant revenue of \$322,980 (1999 - \$25,000) from the Clarence Campeau Development Fund.

9. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain of the prior year's figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

10. THE YEAR 2000 ISSUE

The Year 2000 Issue arises because many computerized systems use two digits rather than four to identify a year. Date-sensitive systems may recognize the year 2000 as 1900 or some other date, resulting in errors when information using year 2000 dates is processed. In addition, similar problems may arise in some systems which use certain dates in 1999 to represent something other than a date. Although the change in date to the year 2000 has occurred, it is not possible to conclude that all aspects of the Year 2000 Issue that may affect the entity, including those related to customers, suppliers, or other third parties, have been fully resolved.



**Batoche 2000
Final Report**



Back
to **Batoché** *2000*

July 24th - 30th

Final Report

219 Robin Cres., Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M8

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www.backtobatoche.com

1. Executive Summary

Batoche 2000 was held for seven days from July 24th to July 30th at the Back to Batoche site on Metis owned land near the National Historic site of Batoche. This year was a special celebration of the millennium. In response to many reports from previous years and inputs from the community, a new theme was developed for Batoche 2000.

"A Family Event for the New Millennium"

In most ways, Batoche 2000 was a success. Over the course of the event it attracted nearly 10,000 people, the largest crowd since the Metis Centenary celebration of 1985. The overall response was one of pride and celebration. The site was the most developed it had ever been and the layout of the site created a mood of festivity and celebration. The Main Performance building was redesigned with a side profile main stage and a professional sound system and lighting system which complemented the accessible layout of the space. Both audience and performers felt connected and comfortable in the atmosphere that was created.

The overall site was impressive and was ablaze with colorful tents including the blue and white Elders Tent, the green and white Pavilion Tent, the red and white Theatre Tent and the yellow and white Children's Festival Tent.

A Plaza was created between the main performance building and the food concession. The Plaza area was complimented with a striking flower garden surrounding four flagpoles. The area was restricted to people only and the lack of vehicles created a very relaxed meeting place between and during activities.

The programming was created to include as many different types of audiences and interest. The competitions were held in all the traditional areas and the fiddle and dancing took centre stage as the ongoing cultural icon for Back to Batoche. Mainstream entertainment, a Metis Woman's Musical Showcase, a Metis Master Fiddle Concert as well as Metis headline performers rounded out a full program.

The Batoche Musical was launched in the Theatre Tent and was sold out every evening. The reviews were great and moved many patrons to tears of joy. The Gabriel Dumont Children's Festival was extremely successful with the parents and children and can only grow in the years to come.

The rodeo grounds were reconstructed and in excellent condition for what turned out be a very successful rodeo and wagon races.

In financial terms, Batoche 2000 was within the targets as outlined by the Batoche 2000 committee. Sponsorship was in place from all levels of government and in particular the MNS Affiliates.

In many ways Batoche 2000 was a wake up call. The potential of Back to Batoche as a nationally significant cultural festival is clear. Back to Batoche is a significant Cultural Tourism opportunity at the local, regional, provincial and national level. It has the potential to develop training, employment and economic spin-offs locally and regionally.

2. Event Management

a) Batoche 2000 Committee

Back to Batoche 2000 was governed by a committee comprised of the Executive of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, the CEO of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and a representative of Metis Youth.

Allan Morin	Chair of Batoche 2000 and Treasurer of MNS
Clem Chartier	President, MNS
Murray Hamilton	Vice president, MNS
Robert Doucet	Secretary, MNS
Wilf Blondeau	CEO, MNS
Deanna Obleman	Metis Youth Representative

b) Staffing / Contracts

Jack Walton of Jack Walton & Associates was contracted in October 1999 to coordinate the overall planning, development and implementation of Batoche 2000. Jack Walton fulfilled the role of Project Coordinator / Producer. The contract expired on August 31, 2000

Terry Hardy-Wilk Media Assistant Contracted Feb.'00
A two week contract to assist with various media / communications initiatives including the media launch, the Heritage Fair and media follow-up.

Trina Turgeon Assistant Coordinator METSI May.'00-Aug.'00
Penny Condon Program Assistant METSI July' 00-Aug.'00
As the project developed and the workload increased a proposal was developed for two position to assist with the planning, development and implementation of Batoche 2000. The project was approved by METSI.

Warren Goulding Media Assistant Contracted July '00
A contract was established to assist the coordination of communications and media components

3. Batoche 2000 Programming

The over-all Batoche 2000 Program was developed in an attempt to create as many opportunities for as wide a variety of participants as possible within an overall goal of celebrating Metis Culture. The development of the Program was begun with an analysis of the previous year's event, input from the Batoche Committee, suggestions e-mailed to www.backtobatoche.com and from availability of talent and programming within the budgetary allowance. The detailed souvenir program is included as Appendix A.

a) Opening Ceremonies

The Opening Ceremonies provided an opportunity to introduce government and corporate partners, to set the stage for the weeks activities and to officially open the Batoche 2000 celebration. The Opening Ceremonies began with an entry of Veterans followed by government representatives and corporate sponsors. This was the first opportunity to present the newly designed space and it was very well received. MC for the Opening Ceremonies was MNS Vice-president Murray Hamilton. The delegation was welcomed by the President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, Clem Chartier and by Batoche 2000 Chairman and MNS Treasurer, Allan Morin. Senator Nora Ritchie presented the opening prayer. The following dignitaries were present and brought greetings. MNC President Gerald Morin, The Honourable Ralph Goodale, Honourable Jack Hillson, Honourable Chris Axworthy, Honourable Keith Goblet, Honourable Buckley Balancer and M.P. Denis Greening. Corporate sponsors in attendance were The Driving Force, Athabaska Airways, Quality Hotel and SaskTel.

3. Batoche 2000 Programming

b) Main Stage Activity

i) Open Stage

Monday evening and Tuesday evening were kept as open stage opportunities for performers and jammers to use the stage and the sound equipment. This approach received mixed reviews. Some liked it and others were expecting entertainment each evening.

ii) Northern Youth Showcase

A group of performers from Beauval called the Northern Youth Talent Showcase were the first entertainers on the new stage and they were well received. The group was backed up by Just the Boyz who performed the closing dance. This activity was a good example of involving youth performers in Back to Batoche and to providing a showcase for northern performers.

iii) Metis Women's Showcase

New for Batoche 2000 was the Metis Women's Musical Showcase. This event was very well received and provided a unique opportunity to showcase female performers. The mix was very good in both style and age. Many female youth performers took to the stage and we were presented with excellent present and future stars. The event MC was Peggy Vermette, who also performed. Other performers were Arlette Alcock, Andrea Menard, Crystal Pederson and April Vetch. The audience response was excellent.

c) Main Stage Activities

iv) Literary Series

The Literary Series was held in the main stage area and was met with limited success. The readers were all excellent. The readers provided some feedback. Both the small audience and the authors were anxious to see Metis writers included in Back to Batoche and they were appreciative of being included. The location of the reading was too large for this type of event. The coming and going nature of the main building did not work well with the intimate nature of the event. The authors in the reading were Sherry-Farrel-Racette, Monica Goblet, James Souter, Penny Condon and Rita Bouvier.

v) Metis Master Fiddle Showcase

The heart and soul of Batoche is centered around the fiddle. This year was an attempt to showcase fiddlers from a number of areas. The fiddle evening saw the largest crowds for the main stage second only to the cultural competitions. The fiddlers in attendance were John Arcand, Calvin Volrath, Gary Lepine, Hap Boyer and Kal McCallum. Accompanying the fiddlers were Freddy Peltier on guitar, Paul Doucier on piano and Ted Longbottom on spoons.

vi) Entertainers

Special Metis performers were invited to Batoche 2000 to perform on the main stage including Ted Longbottom from Selkirk, Manitoba, Jess Lee from Alberta and C-Weed Band from Saskatoon.

Ted Longbottom represented the Celtic side of Metis music and was a change from programming from previous years. Jess Lee is a seasoned Metis singer / songwriter who was nominated for a Juno two years ago. The C-weed Band is a cover band with limited original material. All of the performances were well received.

Two performers filled in on several occasions to keep the "show going". Allan Morin and Kal McCallum each provided excellent entertainment in a number of instances by filled in with full sets.

d) Main Stage Activity

vii) Cultural Competitions

The Cultural Competitions are the main attraction for many at Back to Batoche. As much as the fiddle music drives the main stage, the cultural competitions are the history and the source of excitement and pride at Back to Batoche. The competitions were in Fiddling, Jigging, Square Dancing, Talent Show, Bannock Baking and for Mr. & Mrs. Batoche. The competitions were held over a three days period. Entry Fees were waved this year because of the Millennium project. The prize money was the best it has ever been at Batoche and expectations will be that this will continue. Although they exceeded some previous years, the registration numbers were low in every category except for the talent show. Considering the cultural nature of these events and the importance of retaining these cultural components, the numbers should be higher.

The events were staged over a three-day period including a number of demonstration sessions and opportunities for the dance and performers to "warm up" and get familiar with the staging. The details of the competitions program, categories and results are included in this report.

e) Main Stage Activity

viii) Masters of Ceremonies

The role of the Master of Ceremonies is a critical element in the smooth flow of the main stage and is necessary to help people to know what is coming up and to keep the interest of the audience throughout the day and the evening. The MC duties were provided by Howard Walker on the weekend and worked very well. The early week could certainly have used a full time MC. The first three days were greatly assisted with the contribution and excellent on stage work of Murray Hamilton as MC. Several others filled in but Murray worked many hours to ensure that the early part of the week went smoothly. There are opportunities to develop a PA system which can feed announcements throughout the site thus allowing people not in the main stage area to hear what is coming up on the main stage.

ix) Technical Set Up

The sound and light was provided by Performance Production out of Saskatoon. With the exception of one missed communication on starting time, they were professional, provided state of the arts production value and worked well with all the musicians. The musicians all complimented the quality of the sound. The level of sound in the large building is critical and the size of the system was appropriate for both the MC needs and those of the bands and performers in the evening.

3. Batoche 2000 Activities

a) The Batoche Musical

i) History

The Batoche Musical was developed and launched this year as a legacy project for the Millennium 2000. The concept was developed by the coordinator in an effort to present a theatrical production that would be new and refreshing and something that would stand the test of time. The entire process was a cooperative effort from an initial creative team of Jack Walton, Rita Bouvier, Bruce Sinclair, Duane Favel, Maureen Belanger and Lon Borgersen. After several meetings to introduce the concept to the group, an initial script outline was developed. The team then workshopped the outline, brought in other developmental assistance and finally cast the play including directors and musicians. The team registered The Batoche Theatre Company and is now incorporated within the Province of Saskatchewan. The Batoche Theatre Company is the first professional Metis Theatre Company in North America. The ongoing support of the Batoche 2000 committee was crucial in allowing this legacy product to be developed and emerge.

ii) Relationship to Back to Batoche

The play was developed as an annual theatre production at Batoche much the way that Anne of Green Gables has been a stalwart of the Charlottetown Festival for the past 35 years. The play was developed in such a manner that it will be remounted each year at Back to Batoche.

iii) Long-term Goals

The long-range plan and vision for The Batoche Musical is comprised of three elements. First, that it will be presented each year at Back to Batoche; second, that it will tour to various locations to promote Metis culture and Back to Batoche and third, that it will be the catalyst in developing a youth drama component that will see training programs and theatre opportunities for Metis students and actors to develop each summer with the Batoche Musical.

3. Batoche 2000 Programming

a) Voyage Back to Batoche

The Voyage Back to Batoche was a project for the Millennium that was developed out of the Zone 5 Regional Council in Slave Lake Alberta. It was a journey that attempted to replicate the voyageur route from Slave Lake to Batoche. The symbolic event brought together the history and culture of those Metis Voyageurs who traveled this route and created awareness of Metis culture in every community at which they stopped. The Batoche Committee worked closely with Trevor Gladue as did the Chair of Batoche 2000 Allan Morin and Peter Rudyk to ensure that they arrive at Batoche on July 27th was well prepared and a fitting celebration for the feat accomplished. After over-nighting in Duck Lake, The group crossed over the St. Laurent ferry and arrived at the Batoche site on Thursday afternoon, on schedule. They were met with a fanfare from the National President of the MNC Gerald Morin, the President of the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Clem Chartier, the Chairman of Batoche 2000 Allan Morin and thousands of people who had gathered for the event. A very emotional welcome ceremony was held in the Main Stage building and the Voyageurs settled in to enjoy the reason for their journey, the arrival and celebration at Batoche 2000. The Voyage Back to Batoche Committee and it's Chair Trevor Gladue are to be congratulated for a very successful project.

3. Batoche 2000 Activities

a) Voyageur Games

i) Operations

It was clear that the Voyager Games are a favorite event for many people attending Back to Batik. The operations of the Voyager Games were contracted to Nelson Sanderson for the individual and inter-provincial competitions. The organizers were very competent in carrying out and supervising the actual events. They carried out demonstration sessions and introduced a number of children and youth to the traditional sports. Medals were awarded in all the Voyager individual events. For the most part, those participating in all the Voyager Games activities enjoyed the activities and the competition.

ii) Inter-Provincial Competitions

The Inter-provincial competition was launched this year as a legacy project for the Millennium 2000 in an attempt to bring more involvement from other provinces and to establish the Metis National Voyager Provincial Championship. As a new event, it was not something that the organizers of the individual competitions had done in the past. Problems arose around expectations of when the events would take place, what the Inter-provincial competitions would comprise of and who would organize them and finally, the question of prize money. A permanent annual trophy for the Metis National Voyager Games Provincial Championship was awarded to Team Manitoba.

iii) Site

The site was developed with the addition of two backstops for hatchet and slingshot along with cordoned off areas for safety. The location of the running part of the games was rough for the competitors. Additional bleachers were built but unfinished and unpainted. The event has a great deal of appeal and with more development to a specific site, it can be a great attraction for Batoche each year.

3. Batoche 2000 Programming

a) Workshops

i) Program

The workshop programming was developed as a pilot to explore which areas of interest would work. There were workshops for both the adults and the children. The workshops held within the Children's Festival were very well attended and were varied while the adult workshops were not very well attended and limited to beading, Introduction to Michif and The Red River Cart building workshop. Workshops that were successful were the beading workshops, which was a combined adult and children session. The Red River Cart workshop followed the building of a Red River Cart from scratch. This event was active even outside the scheduled times and as a result, it was relatively well attended on a drop in basis. It was more observational than hands on for the audience. Most people enjoyed the sessions on the cart building. The Introduction to Michif workshop was delivered in two parts. The first was held within the Children's Festival although it was open to both adults and children. The second was held in a different location and was for adults although some children attended. The Michif workshops attracted more attention from the children than from the adults. Within the main stage area there were a variety of mini workshops which demonstrated fiddling, jigging and square dancing. These were promoted as an introduction to the Cultural Competitions and as a result were very well attended.

ii) **Site**

The workshops were set out in several locations. The original concept was to house a number of workshops within and around the large Pavilion Tent. The Children's Workshops were ideally located in the Children's Festival tent and worked very well. The Red River Cart workshop was established between the Main Stage Building and the Voyageur Games set up. It was very much in the open and worked because it could be seen from a distance and attracted people walking from one event to another. The Beading workshop was held in the Theatre Tent. It was a good location. The Michif workshop was held in the Theatre Tent and the Children's Festival Tent. Music and Dance workshops were held in the Main Stage building.

4. Batoche Site Infrastructure

a) Utilities/Services

Communications

Cell phones and Mobile Local Radios were donated by SaskTel for on site communications. They were the only means of communication on-site during the entire Batoche 2000. The cell phone were located in the Administration Centre and given to key personnel throughout the event. The mobile Radios were located in the Administration Centre, the front gate and with security. Occasionally, a first aid volunteer had a radio. The radios were primarily used by security and the administration centre to relay messages to security. Communication off site was through the cell phones.. There were no public telephones. Apparently the new CRTC regulations do not allow SaskTel from setting up public telephones on location. The cost of establishing telephones lines in rural settings is expensive because of fair pricing required by regulations and the free trade agreement. SaskTel cannot donate this service. Communications on site and with the outside world is important. We were unable to establish remote broadcasts for radio stations such as CJWW and Missinnipi Broadcasting because there were no telephone lines.

b) Site Layout

i) General Program Area

Many changes were incorporated into the overall site layout this year. They included a controlled program area that included the Plaza, the Main Stage, The Theatre Tent, The Children's Festival area, The Pavilion, The workshop areas and the Voyageur Games. This full area was sectioned off by fence posts and marker tape and was restricted to very limited vehicle use for service only. This allowed for an area where restricted vehicle use was controllable and where people, especially children, could move freely and safely from each area within the overall program area.

ii) Traffic / People Flow

The overall site is connected by various tradition movements of people and vehicles. Old habits are hard to break and many of the pathways were established for a good reason. They worked. This year a new roadway / corridor was established along the back of the service area which consisted of fence posts and flagging. The roadways to the Rodeo grounds have been well established and are a landmark for the over-all site. The roadways that connected the MNS camping area beyond the ball diamonds was not well established and as a result, traffic from the MNS camping area was constantly driving through the main ball field even after logs were placed along all the perimeters. A roadway was also established around the children's area.

c) Site Layout

i) Plaza

The area between the main performance building and the administration / food booths was sectioned off as a Plaza and was restricted to pedestrians only. This worked very well and created a people plaza. The comments were fully in support of this change. It allowed people to relax in between performances and activities and to feel safe without any vehicles in the area. The area was a showcase with the installation of four new flagpoles and a bright commemorative flower garden surrounding the flagpoles. A Red River Cart was placed between the two centre poles and the arrangement of flags, flowers and the Red River Cart created an excellent plaza and a comfortable place for people to safely spend time.

ii) Ball Diamonds

There are four ball diamonds on the Batoche location. Three diamonds were marked out for landscaping, two were actually turned and harrowed and one was rakes, rolled and lined to be used. While the event was successful in most ways, the ball diamond was barely acceptable and were it not for the good spirit and sportsmanship of the teams and their representatives we would have had more complaints. The demand for more ball tournaments will only grow if the facility is developed to a minimal competitive standard.

d) Site Layout

i) Camping areas

There were three main camping areas established at Batoche 2000. The first was in the form of a horseshoe surrounding the general Program Area. This was designated as Family / Quiet Camping and was where the majority of people at Batoche choose to camp. The second largest camping area was the Rodeo Grounds where the bulk of the Rodeo and Wagon people located as well as the Voyage Back to Batoche group because of the suitability for the horses. The third area was the Metis National Council camping area, which was located fully on the other side of the ball diamonds within a treed section of the Batoche land.

The Rodeo campgrounds were relatively quiet while the third location was the most "active". In the camping area around the program area it was difficult to maneuver because of the sporadic patterns of setting up campsites. There were several comments around this issue that better roadways needed to be established. There was a constant request for serviced sites.

e) Physical Structures

i) Administration Building

The administration building was refurbished to the point of almost being rebuilt. New flooring, walls and ceiling were constructed as was a back and front window. The front window was used as an information counter and was heavily used during the event for everything from inquiring about events, buying programs, reserving Theatre tickets, lost and found. Office equipment and furnishings were moved to Batoche from the MNS office in Saskatoon and a central administration location was established. This allowed accounting, event management, volunteer coordination and trouble shooting in general to happen in one central location. As well, it was the only location for storage of tools, Pavilion material, overnight camera equipment and various supplies. By and large the facility functioned well. Its location is ideal across from the main entrance to the Performance area and within the Plaza.

ii) Entrance Gate Building

The building at the main-gate received a face-lift for Batoche 2000 but remains without any power and communications. Extensive internal renovations are required to upgrade the building.

f) Physical Structures

i) The Main Stage Building

The main building was constructed in 1999 in time for that year's event but there was little time to complete the interior of the building. Feedback from the previous year's experience focused on issues such as dust, distance from the dance surface and stage. Comments also included the fact that the seating bleachers were good but that one had to sit sideways to see the stage which was at one long end of the building. The design concept was to make the space more functional for performers and more pleasant for the audience. The space was redesigned to create more accessibility between both the performers and the audience members. Several changes were made to the layout of the building. The main design feature was to change the orientation of the space to a side profile which maximized the potential space usage as well as bringing all audience members closer to the performers whether they were on the stage or the dance floor for competitions. Once designed, the construction was carried out by students through a Dumont Technical Institute and METSI program.

The overall teamwork that went into finishing off the building was excellent.

Main Stage

The focal point of the activity is the main stage and its location was placed on the side wall giving it a central place in the building. The new location called for a new design which was a 30' x 30' stage with a 30' x 6' low riser along the front. This created more playing / performance space and better layout for sound and lighting equipment. As well, it created a feel of accessibility with the long wide step across the front of the stage. The back of the main stage was extended outside the building to create a potential performance space toward the open space in front of the playground and beyond. This area also functions as a back stage area. Due to time and budget constraints, the back / exterior stage was not completed. Performers, sound technicians and audience all gave excellent feedback on the redesign and the construction.

Dance Floor

The dance floor was separated from the stage area in 1999 and the feedback was that dancers wanted to be closer to the music. As well, the surface of the dance floor needed to be reinforced. The dance floor was extended to join the front of the stage and extended to just outside the main entrance to the building. The floor was resurfaced with a second layer of tong and groove plywood and a final coat of stain. The response from audience and dance competitions was excellent.

g) Physical Structures

i) The Main Stage Building

Bleachers

Excellent bleachers had been constructed in 1999. The new designed called for a different layout of the bleachers to ensure everyone had reasonable good seat. The bleachers were layout in a half circle around the main stage and dance floor and corner sections were added to create an amphitheater seating arrangement. Extra bleachers were constructed and painted

Grass Interior

The interior of the building was surfaced with grass sod to deal with the dust problem. The space was designed to have the feel of an outdoor festival, which the grass surface accomplished, while still having all the protection of an indoor facility. The sod required a great deal of watering in the first week and it held up very well during the event. The feedback from the audience was excellent. It was a big hit with everyone who attended, especially the small children, who were always playing on the surface.

Weather Proofing

The Main Stage Facility is the gem of the Batoche site. The building interior, with its many open spaces, is exposed to four seasons of weather conditions. This will cause deterioration. The metal roofing will keep the main structure sound for many years to come. In the same way, regular maintenance can extend the life of the interior of the building especially the stage and dance floor.

h) Physical Structures

i) Food Booths

The food booths were renovated and relocated to fit into the expanded plaza design. The booths were moved further away from the main building and aligned with the administration building and the washroom / shower building. Each of the booths was upgraded with metal siding and some interior renovations were completed. There are many small items that need to be dealt with next year but the bulk of the upgrades were completed this year. One of the booths was used for the security base. This booth is the only one that does not have 220 power hookups. This booth should be converted to the security / First Aide booth with minor renovations completed..

ii) Washrooms / Showers

The washrooms and showers were built a number of years ago and will need upgrading in the near future. The number of stall for both washroom and showers could not hold a large crowd. Consideration will have to be made for expansion.

5. Event Operations

a) Administration

i) Pre-event Administration

The administration of the Batoche 2000 event was located in the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan office on Robin Crescent. Jack Walton was contracted as the Batoche coordinator and reported to the Batoche Committee. The actual administration of the event planning was assisted through the support of the MNS CEO Wilf Blondeau and accounting assistance from Sandra Wilton with administrative support from Brenda Gust. The Batoche coordinator had an office with telephone, a computer / printer donated by METSI and email. The coordinator had the flexibility to come and go including the evenings to complete the work plan. Two additional staff joined the administration team, Trina Turgeon and Penny Condon. All three worked out a small office containing three desks and one telephone and one computer. The office staff was very supportive and helpful.

ii) On-site Management

Several days before the event, the Batoche 2000 office in the MNS building had to be vacated. This meant moving all the files, storing some and moving some to Batoche, storing some equipment, moving some to Batoche. The result was the first few days at Batoche trying to locate material, files and information. As well, communication was difficult without email or a telephone. But we soon adapted. A close knit team developed at the Batoche site within the MNS Administration staff in dealing with accounting, office coordination, information services and program and T-shirt sales. Every day there was a new set of problems to deal with and the team always responded very professionally.

b) Entrance Gates

The front gate was staffed by a number of volunteers from MNS and MNS Affiliates. The gate was open during the day and evening and closed during the night. Several meetings were held before Batoche with key volunteers and staff and the Administration staff of MNS. This process was very helpful in deciding the shifts, the methodology for collection and the bracelets for admission. The front gate ran very smoothly considering that there was limited communications. There was very little cooperation from security in checking to see who had actually paid. There is no perfect solution to trying to maximize the number of people who pay at the gate. The pricing was low enough that people should have been willing to pay.

c) First Aid

The first aid service provided to the people attending Batoche 2000 was inconsistent. A First Aid Tent was provided to the volunteer team and it was located at the end of the mainstage near the Pavilion tent. A cot was provided, as were several first aid kits. A radio was also provided. First aid at a large event is a thankless job because most of the time you are on standby. Communications between security and first aid is critical. With regards to the rodeo operation, an ambulance was on location for the running of the entire rodeo and wagon racing events as required by insurance. The ambulance service was also on call from Rosthern during non-rodeo and wagon times. Most emergencies were handled by either the ambulance service or volunteer first aid personnel.

d) Security

i) Operation

T.J Roy was contracted to provide security for the entire 7 days of Batoche 2000. He also was charged with selecting his security personnel. They were provided with radios with chargers, flashlights and vests. There were not enough radio to also assist the coordination of the front gate, administration and first aid. More radio and flashlight were obtained. Security is a key factor in the delivery of the program at Batoche. It impacts on all the elements of safety of person, crowd control, traffic control, gate control, insurance, equipment, lost persons, first aid, accessibility and many more. It requires a full team of mature and responsible individuals who can exercise good judgement. It is an onerous task but one that is fulfilled daily by professional security personnel everywhere. Clear lines of authority did not exist. There were serious gaps in providing watch on equipment in the theatre area and in the main stage area. Security personnel could not be found or contacted in many instances. If we are to hire professional sound and lighting equipment to perform professional service then we have two options. Hire competent security personnel who act and perform in a professional manner or build in the cost of paying extra for companies to provide their own security.

ii) Security Location

Initially the security operation was located in a private campsite. It was relocated to one of the food booths when one of the booth renters didn't show up. The space was sufficient for a security operation and the location was central. Signage was placed on the front of the building.

e) Food Booths

There were a total of six food booths that were set up for the week of Batoche, three mobile and three existing booths that were provided. The existing booths were operated by Jane Smith, Joann Morrisseau Dickson and Regina Metis Local #175. The mobile operations were provided by Gordon Sebright, Jack & Margaret Samuelson and Larry Villeneuve. The fees for the booths were \$125/day for a mobile and \$150/day for the existing booths. 50% of the fee was required before the event with the other 50% to be paid on the Thursday of the event. Activity during the first few days was very slow. There were problems collecting the deposit from one individual and that individual complained continuously. Every other concession person worked with us through the electricity problems. This one individual took it as a personal affront.

With the availability of existing booths and the ability to add and place mobile units in various locations such as the rodeo grounds or the ball diamonds allows for a great deal of flexibility. Mobile operators are in the business of food service and are prepared to work from a wide range of locations.

e) Site Cleanup & Garbage Disposal

The cleanliness of a site, the concern for it's micro environment, the comfort of staying in a clean area for many days are all elements which lend themselves to a quality experience and compliment the programming at a special event. Back to Batoche is no different from any other large event in this respect. People want a clean site. The contract to maintain a clean site, collect garbage and properly dispose of the garbage was awarded to Morley Norton. A large dumpster was ordered to ensure that the garbage was safely stored before disposal and that the garbage would be disposed of within environmental laws, which govern garbage disposal. The days of simply moving the garbage to a dump in a treed area on site is no longer allowed within the law.

f) Maintenance

The site of Back to Batoche has a physical infrastructure that requires regular monitoring and maintenance. Services that need to be delivered to ensure a smooth operation are the basics of electricity, water, the physical buildings, fencing and to mention a few. These areas must be maintained to ensure the ability of the infrastructure to deliver the service and there must be the ability to immediately troubleshoot a wide range of situations should anything go wrong. A great deal of excellent developmental work did go into the preparedness of the site. The site looked it's best ever and provided an excellent venue to deliver the Batoche programming. Regardless of the preparedness, some elements will always experience problems. The ongoing cleaning of the site was in constant need of troubleshooting and many small infrastructure problems arose on an hourly basis. A maintenance contract was put in place to deal with the emerging problems around the electrical, water and cleaning issues as well as adjustments which had to be made to the site and the buildings.

Peter Rudyk was contracted to monitor and troubleshoot maintenance at the last minute and was immediately swamped with all of the above responsibilities. Peter's familiarity with the site and its infrastructure was a key factor in this decision. Many people contributed to ensuring the infrastructure held together for the event.

g) Human Resources

i) Staffing

Two positions were created outside the Batoche 2000 budget through a proposal submitted to METSI. The first position of Program Assistant was filled by Trina Turgeon, a Metis graduate of the Kelsey Campus Recreation and Leisure Program, which includes course work in Special Event Management and Coordination. Her duties included general areas of planning and coordination. As well, she was assigned more specific duties within the development and coordination of the Ball Tournament, the Children's Festival, the Food Booth contracts and the Pavilion. A second position was filled later by a current Suntep student, Penny Condon. Her duties included general areas of event coordination with specific duties in the Children's Festival, the Youth Dance and the Literary Series. Both individuals speak to the benefit of recruiting individuals with qualifications and an eagerness to pursue their individual training and career development on a project basis.

ii) Volunteers

Volunteer support at Batoche 2000 was limited and sporadic. Those who did volunteer were excellent. This included the Back to Batoche Committee members and the staff of MNS Affiliates who filled a number of key areas. This was crucial to the delivery of the event and to the comfort level of assigning certain duties, especially in the area of handling cash. Several regions also provided volunteers from within their programs and this added to the volunteer base. Each volunteer for Batoche 2000 was provided with a T-shirt, which was to be worn during their time performing volunteer duties. Volunteers require some form of recognition regardless of whether they are working outside of their affiliate or volunteering on their own time. The Elders developed their own programming outside of Batoche 2000 planning. With their extensive network, they were very successful in putting together a solid volunteer base and they are to be commended for this.

6. Marketing / Promotions

a) Marketing / Promotions Planning

Marketing and Promotions plan was developed in late 1999 and was approved by the Batoche 2000 Committee. The plan outlined a detailed strategy for a marketing and promotions plan. The plan was changed and updated as it progressed. Having a plan in place to work from, even though it was updated many times, assisted with the planning process.

b) Heritage Week Promotion

The Media conference was held on Heritage Day. Back to Batoche became a member of the Heritage Day Committee and the Coordinator worked with the Heritage Committee to develop a presence for Back to Batoche in the weeks activities leading up to Heritage Day. A major display was developed and presented as part of Heritage Day at the Western Development Museum. We worked closely with Gabriel Dumont Institute and assisted with the programming. We had a demonstration of the Voyageur Games and fiddler John Arcand opened the event and played at the display booth several times during the event. This was the first time that the Heritage Day had included a Metis Cultural component and the response from the committee and hundreds of people who attended the event was excellent. Also, the coordinator arranged for the Mayor and City Council to read a proclamation recognizing the 30th Anniversary of Back to Batoche and to acknowledge the leadership role of the MNS in furthering a better understanding of Metis Culture within the City of Saskatoon. The proclamation read by the Mayor, is attached in the Appendix.

c) Media Launch

The Media Conference was held at the Saskatoon Indian and Metis Friendship Centre on Heritage Day. The new banner and logo was introduced. John Arcand played the fiddle with jigging demonstrations and a demonstration of the Voyageur Games was presented. MNC President Gerald Morin brought greetings and MNS President Clem Chartier introduced the importance of the event and the Anniversaries and special guest Yvon Dumont. Allan Morin, Batoche 2000 Chairman and MNS Treasurer introduced details of the event. Media in attendance included Missinipi Broadcasting, CBC Radio, CJWW Radio, CKOM/C95 Radio, CFCR Radio, CBC Television, CTV Television, Global Television, The Star Phoenix photographer and reporter and several Aboriginal Newspapers. Coverage in all media was excellent.

d) Web Site

The Web Site www.backtobatoche.com was launched at the media conference. The site was developed by Horizon Computers and was build to include opportunities for feedback to the coordinator through a "Contact Us" field. We receive continuous requests for information. The site did not live up to expectations. The company developing the site did not see it as a priority and changes were always slow in coming. The web site does though offer an excellent opportunity to provide information to organizations across Canada and throughout the world. Most inquiries for the event came from outside the province.

e) Event Promotions

Chairman Allan Morin and the event Coordinator promoted Batoche 2000 at many events throughout the year. Out of province promotions and meeting were held in Toronto, Winnipeg, and Vancouver. Meetings and promotions were also completed by the Coordinator in Edmonton and Ottawa. As well, the Coordinator met with Aboriginal Tourism Team Canada and developed a Back to Batoche component to their Annual Conference held in Saskatoon and the Canadian Tourism Commission in Winnipeg and Tourism Saskatchewan in Regina.

f) Advertising

The advertising budget was divided into radio ads and newspaper advertisements. Original plans called for television ads to be included but the late arrival of some funds did not allow the time to produce the ads. There were some comments that the advertising was not extensive enough and that was clear. Many adjustments were made to the advertising campaign as the event drew closer. Money was a factor. An attempt to cut corners on design for newspaper ads lost us time and some placements. The radio ads were placed on targeted stations and were effective. The campaign could have been more extensive, but it is questionable as to whether the infrastructure could have handled any more people on site this year.

g) Printing

Two major pieces were printed for Batoche 2000. They were the poster and the souvenir program. The poster was ready and distributed six weeks before the event. The poster design and printing was very striking and received a great deal of praise. The process for completing the poster was much slower than it should have been in an attempt to save money. The souvenir program also suffered from the same approach. This could have been handled in a much different manner by the Coordinator had it been assured that all the money would be in place.

h) Documentary

Video footage was collected at Batoche for the entire seven days of Batoche 2000 by cameraman Glen Markwart. Glen shot a wide variety of images. Jack Walton will complete the script, log all footage, complete computer edit lists and generate a rough cut by October. A separate contract has been signed to complete all aspects of the Documentary. The one-hour documentary is scheduled to be completed by November 30th. The story of Batoche 2000 will emerge from the interviews and reflections of a variety of individuals, leaders, elders, veterans and artists interwoven with the procession to the grave site creating a balance between the history of the immediate land and the celebration of the present. A request for a Post-production assistant / trainee is being developed with METSI and DTI has agreed to the use of space to complete the project until the end of November.

c) Children's Festival

i) Operations

The Children's Festival was coordinated through the Batoche 2000 Committee Coordinator and the Gabriel Dumont Institute with a mandate to provide programming designed specifically for younger children in a safe area and of a cultural nature. Several developmental meetings were held with GDI staff Karon Schmon, Leah Dorion and Calvin Racette to begin the process of developing a long-term plan for a children's festival at Back to Batoche. Penny Condin, a Suntep student was hired through a METSI program and she developed a great deal of the children's festival programming with the assistance of the Batoche coordinator and Assistant coordinator Trina Turgeon. The festival provided activities for two age groups every morning and every afternoon that included workshops, games and cultural activities. The response from the parents and the kids was very positive. Suntep students were brought into the program to assist with the delivery of many of the activities.

ii) Site

The Children's Festival area was directly behind the main stage area and near to many campsites. It was located in a large open space surrounded by fence post and flagging to restrict traffic and to create a safe place for the children to play. A new playground set was installed before Batoche 2000 and the smaller children had plenty of fun playing on the new equipment.

The activities took place mainly in the yellow and white tent which was equipped with tables and chairs and a wealth of craft supplies provided for the children. Each child got at least one Back to Batoche participation ribbon.

Batoche 2000 Competitions

There were 6 different competitions that one could compete in, which included square dancing, Fiddling, Jigging, Talent Show, Bannock Baking and Mr. & Mrs. Batoche. The competitions were held for three days with the demonstrations being on the Friday, July 28th and the competitions being on Saturday, July 29th and Sunday, July 30th.

Square Dancing

Square Dancing competitions were on Friday & Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. There was a total of 5 teams competing in the open category of the square dancing competitions, and they included Peavine Dancers, Muskoday Nothern Lights, Edmonton Metis Cultural Dancers, Kohlsville Cloggers, and Ka-Wanni-Beek Eagles. The 1st place went to the Edmonton Metis Cultural Dancers with a cash prize of \$3000, the 2nd place team was Muskoday Nothern Lights with a prize of \$2000, and the 3rd place team was Kohlsville Cloggers with a prize of \$1000.

Fiddling

Fiddling Competitions were held on Friday and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. There were a total of 5 individuals competing in the open category of the fiddling competitions and they included Sam Dumais from Alberta, Walter Anderson from Alberta, Dean Maccolom from Alberta, Armand Lucier from Manitoba, and Rene Therrien from BC. 1st place went to Dean Maccolom winning a cash prize of \$500, 2nd was Armand Lucier winning a prize of \$300, and 3rd place was Rene Therrien winning a prize of \$250. The other two age categories of Junior and Novice had no one registered so they did not go on.

Jigging

The Jigging competitions were held on Friday and Saturday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This competition was broken down into four different categories novice, junior, women's, and men's.

Novice, ages 6-12 had a total of 33 participants. 1st place went to Blaine Desjarlais winning a cash prize of \$100, 2nd place was Melanie Desjarlais winning a prize of \$75, and 3rd place was Elazabeth Potskin winning a prize of \$50.

The junior category, ages 13-19 had a total of 19 participants. 1st place went to Raymond Gladue winning a prize of \$250, 2nd place went to Sonya Chartrand winning a prize of \$200, and 3rd place went to Syd Bear winning a prize of \$100.

The women's category had a total of 14 participants. 1st place went to Crystal Marinuk winning a prize of \$300, 2nd place went to Cathy Shynkaruk winning a prize of \$200, and 3rd place went to Joy Aubichon winning a prize of \$100.

The men's category had a total of 15 participants. 1st place went to Brent Potskin winning a prize of \$300, 2nd place went to Raymond Shumi winning a prize of \$200, and 3rd place went to Johnathon Potskin winning a prize of \$100.

The talent show

The talent show was held on Friday and Saturday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Sunday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The talent show was also broken down into categories, Novice, Junior, and Adult. The novice ages 6-12, had a total of 8 participants. 1st place went to Becky Martin winning a prize of \$50, 2nd place went to Brianna Reinson winning a prize of \$30, and 3rd place went to Brittany Thai winning a prize of \$20.

The junior category, ages 13-19 had a total of 4 participants. 1st place went to Misty River winning a prize of \$150, 2nd place went to Loretta King winning a prize of \$100, and 3rd place went to Harmonie King winning a prize of \$75.

The adult category, 20 plus had a total of 19 participants. 1st place went to Jennifer Wanlandy winning a prize of \$250, 2nd place went to Dean Gauthier winning a prize of \$200, and 3rd place went to Jules Caisse winning a prize of \$150.

Bannock Baking

Bannock Baking was held on Saturday, July 29th, and had total of 10 participants.

1st place went to Mrs. Amyott winning a prize of \$200, 2nd place went to Sara Ludette(?) winning a prize of \$100, and 3rd place went to Clarence Umperville(?) winning a prize of \$75.

Mr. and Mrs. Batoche

There were 6 couples/individuals nominated for Mr. & Mrs. Batoche 2000, they were as follows:

1. Edward & Cecile King
2. Bob & Betty Fiezsimmmons
3. Nora Ritchie & Henry Cummings
4. Raymond Gladue
5. Jamie Carruthers Gladue
6. Karen Larocque

Mr. And Mrs. Batoche 2000 were Edward & Cecile King and they were presented with a prize of 500 dollars.

Judges

The judges for each of the above competitions were as follows:

Jigging

Henry Cummings
Bella Kennedy
Harry Fulton

Square Dancing

Henry Cummings
Deborah Hartie
Marcel Gerard

Fiddling

John Arcand
Hap Boyer
Calvin Volrath

Talent Show

Jess Lee
Ted Longbottom
Fred Peltier

Bannock Baking

Rose Umperville
Frank Tompkins
Mr. Gerard

Mr. & Mrs. Batoche

Back to Batoche 2000 Committee

BALL TOURNAMENTS

Summary

The ball tournaments were to be held on Friday, July 28th, Sat, July 29th, and Sun, July 30th, with 4 different tournaments each on their own diamond. Four different tournaments were scheduled, Men's Provincial Fastball, Bantam Girls/Boys Fastball and Co-ed Slow-pitch The Bantam Girls fastball and Men's Provincial Fastball both were cancelled. The Bantam Boys fastball had 3 teams interested in playing, The P.A. Astros, P.A Grand Council, and Waterhen Lake, but the P.A Astros cancelled out at the last minute. So the plan was to have a best of three games between the two remaining teams to be held only on the Sat. However Waterhen Lakes showed up and some of their players had an unexpected death in their family so they headed back home and the tournament was cancelled. So that left us with the Slow-pitch tournament.

There was a total of nine teams entered in the co-ed slow-pitch tournament, they consisted of Beardy's, DTI, Damn Half Breeds (MNS), Crunch Crew and Red Dogs from Green Lake, PHMC, TNT from James Smith, Local 21, and Metis National Youth. The teams were split into three pools of three and played round robin in each pool. The top team from every pool was determined by runs for and against, and went on to the playoffs. The next best team got a wild card and also made it to playoffs. The top 4 teams where as follows:

1. Beardy's,
2. Local 21
3. TNT
4. Red Dogs

The over all winner was TNT winning a prize of \$550.00, second place team was Red Dogs winning a prize of \$400.00, and the third place was Beardy's winning a prize of \$250.00.

7. Financial Summary

a) Financial Report

Attached is a financial statement for the event "Appendix B".

b) Sponsorship

Sponsorship was derived from the following sources for Batoche 2000

- Federal Government
- Provincial Government
- MNS Affiliates
- Corporate Sponsors-Cash
- Corporate Sponsors-In Kind

Targets set for Batoche 2000 were reasonable and within the possibility of a funding campaign. A barrier to corporate sponsorship was a "wait and see" approach. It was late in the planning cycle for corporations. There were new sponsors willing to come on board. These included in-kind sponsorships from Athabaska Airways, Quality Hotel, and The Driving Force

Batoche 2000
Income Statement
 October 25, 2000

Revenue

Metis Nation and Affiliates	241,570
Government of Canada	86,575
Government of Saskatchewan	79,750
Corporate Sponsorship	7,500
Self Generated	26,075

Total Revenue 441,470

Expenditures

Event Management	54,761
Marketing/Promotions	23,061
Capital Infrastructure Summary	149,730
Site Set Up/Operations	71,537
Volunteers/Staff Support	7,130
Transportation	5,703
Traditional Cultural Programming	32,431
Contemporary Cultural Programming	62,280
Special Initiatives	26,610
Sports Events	22,234

Total Expenditures 455,477

Surplus/(Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures (14,007)

Note: A/R
 Millenium Bureau
 Based on maximum of \$82 089 20,514
 If received, Surplus will be 6,507
 OR
 A/R
 Millenium Bureau
 Based on minimum of \$68 417 6,842
 If received, Deficit will be (7,165)

Overhead Costs paid by MNS 10,980
 Not included in above figures

**Tripartite
Activity Report**



Metis Nation of Saskatchewan

Tripartite Process - Activity Report

Allan Morin: Minister Intergovernmental Affairs,
Tripartite and Bilateral Processes

Tripartite Activity Summary:

November 2000

Goals of the MNS Tripartite Process

The Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Intergovernmental Affairs Unit, under the direction of MNS Minister Allan Morin, continues with the development of northern, urban and Provincial governance, Metis women's perspectives and Metis Youth perspectives, consultations / policy and MNS Tripartite development initiatives.

Through these initiatives the Tripartite Unit strives to unite the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan for the purpose of building cultural identity and political power to alleviate the socio-economic conditions of our people.

History of the MNS Tripartite Process

The organization adopted its Constitution in December 1993 and declared Metis Nation Self-Government with a name change to the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Secretariate Inc. (MNS Inc.). Since that time, the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan has been legislating Metis laws in building the Metis Nation and its affiliates and Metis institutions

Summary on MNS Tripartite Activities From April 2000 to September 2000

Northern Project

With the completion and submission of the Northern Project Blue Print for Devolution to the Federal and Provincial Governments, this is regarded by all the Northern Project Leaders as the next critical step in advancing toward the overall mission of the Northern Project Protocol Agreement, signed in 1996.

A new Blueprint For Devolution was produced by a consultant in May 1999, and submitted to the MNS Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and subsequently forwarded to both Governments.

Seven major targeted areas or goals provide in the Blue Print are:

- Self-Governance
- Removal of barriers to land transfer to Northwest Métis control and ownership
- Northern Committee organizational development
- Devolution of Economic Development programs and services
- Devolution of Education, Training and Employment
- Public Education, Consultation and Communication

With the hiring of a new Northern Project coordinator in October 2000 a committee was established to meet on a weekly bases to complete deliverables required for the Tripartite work plan.

Metis Urban Governance

MNS Local Presidents from Prince Albert, Regina, North Battleford, and Saskatoon are the representatives for their urban areas in the Urban Council.

The Metis Urban Council is in the process of creating an accountability framework for Urban Governance, three key components:

1. Financial Accountability - insuring resources are focused on project arms and objectives and in conformity with criteria
2. Governance Accountability - creation of informed decision-making procedures that are effective and responsible.
3. Programs accountability - insuring our service and responses are current and responsive

To this end the Urban council has created a communications strategy which will be implemented upon ratification by the Metis Urban Council. This is a key component of the governance strategy as well as a deliverable.

The urban protocol agreement has been drafted. It is modeled upon a partnership strategy. This too, requires ratification.

The consultations with Urban Council are ongoing. The third quarter will begin with a review of a paper compiled by the Urban Coordinator for directional purposes.

In summary all deliverables have been met. A more comprehensive report is being prepared for distribution to the council. This will assist in the policy formulation concerning adoption of proposed models.

Métis women have been active within the Métis Urban Council of Saskatchewan. Meetings have been attended regularly. Métis women feel fortunate that they are participating in the Council at two different levels. A Métis women representative has participated in the Council with “observer status” over the past year, and would like to take a more active role.

Equity and Participation Initiatives

The purpose of the equity and participation initiatives is to ensure that the target groups, namely Women and Youth are present and actively involved in the development of Métis self-governance. The goal is for attendance and participation of the sub-committees at each step of the TMC governance developmental process, to ensure that input from the target groups is incorporated into decision making and influences policy development.

Metis Women’s Perspective

The Metis Women’s Perspective Executive (MWP) committee reviewed the First and Second Quarter

report and were pleased with the report as they met the outlined deliverables within each quarter as outlined in the 2000 - 2002 Tripartite Work Plan.

The Executive reviewed the current consultants work on the MWP working tool as outlined in the strategic plan for 2000/2001. The Executive made some minor changes to the draft working tool that will assist Metis Women at the grassroots level to better implement the MWP and conduct the Community Consultations. Metis Women's Community Consultations have begun. The first consultation took place in North Battleford on Sunday November 12, 2000. Contact the Metis Women's office in North Battleford for more information at 306.445.6822.

The MWP initiative continues to maintain their involvement and implement the Metis women's perspectives. This process is continued through appointed representatives for the various initiatives within the MNS initiatives structure. The initiatives included for the MWP the Northern Project, Urban Governance, Metis Provincial Governance, Justice Sub-Committee and the Economic Development Sub-Committee. Each Metis women's representative reports on all activity for each respective portfolio in a quarterly fashion following the Tripartite Work Plan format.

Metis Youth Perspectives

Representatives of the Métis Youth sub-committee are to attend and participate in each of the three governance initiatives of the TMC with designated representation on the Northern Project Committee, Métis Urban Council of Saskatchewan and Métis Provincial Governance Leaders. In addition to the governance initiatives, the sectoral activities of the previous TMC work plan also include representation from the Métis Youth sub-committee. The Economic Development and Justice Task Force committees each include a representative seat for Métis Youth.

The Metis Youth are continually getting involved at different levels within the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan to develop as young leaders. Numerous meetings, workshops, leaders summit's and seminars are attended by the Metis Youth.

The Metis Nation of Saskatchewan Youth Council (MNSYC) consists of representatives from each MNS Region. The representatives congregate at least once per quarter throughout the fiscal year. At the meetings reports are given on Metis Youth Perspectives and how it is being implemented and advocated into each initiative.

Portfolio Assignments

The executive of the MNSYC with the Minister of Youth, appoint portfolios to the members of the MNSYC. Portfolio assignments are as follows:

Trevor Kennedy Sports, Culture & Recreation and Tripartite & Bilateral
Jennifer Brown Communications and Environment
Deanna Obleman Batoche and Tripartite & Bilateral
Naomi Atkinson Justice and Housing
April MacPherson METSI, MACSI, and Métis Women
Wayne Blondeau Economic Development

The remainder of the membership will be receiving portfolios at future meetings. The MNSYC are currently looking at who would be ideal to sit as the representative for the youth in other portfolios.

Tripartite Consultations and Policy Directions

ongoing consultations and reporting

Minister Allan Morin regularly reported on Tripartite activities to the PMC at all the PMC meetings in this quarter. In addition, the Leaders Summit in September provided an excellent opportunity to report and consult on the Tripartite Process.

develop communications strategy

A communications strategy developed by a consultant was presented at our Leaders Summit. In addition, funding proposals have been submitted to the Governments and are pending.

attend and report at regularly scheduled MNLA

There were no sittings of the MNLA in this quarter.

presentation of Tripartite Work Plan and budget at PMC and Treasury Board meetings

Tripartite Coordination and Administration

Coordination and support services for the TMC are provided by the MNS Department of Intergovernmental Affairs. The Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs oversees Tripartite initiatives, including technical staff and consultants. As well, the Minister assists in Tripartite negotiations and discussions, directs policy development and takes responsibility for the reporting functions of the Tripartite Management Committee. The Minister ensures that planning takes place and sees to it that the Work Plan is carried out.

The Tripartite Office is on the Second floor of the Metis Nation head office in Saskatoon. The Interim Director is Art (Butch) Durocher. The two Development Officers are Mr. Roger Parent and Mr. Tristan Zachow. Under the Tripartite Work Plan the Tripartite staff hold specific portfolio's. Mr. Durocher Supervises the Unit's overall activity and deals with Consultations and Policy Direction as well as Coordination and Administration. Mr Parent holds the Northern Project, Urban Governance and Metis Provincial portfolio's. Mr. Zachow holds the Metis Women's Perspective as well as the Metis Youth Perspective portfolio. All portfolio's report to Minister Allan Morin, of Intergovernmental Affairs.

If anyone should have any questions regarding our process and work plan, please feel free to contact our office anytime. We can be reached at 1-888-343-6667 or 343-8285.

**Bilateral
Activity Report**

Bilateral Activity Report
AGM
November 18th, 2000

Introduction

The Metis Nation - Saskatchewan (MNS) Bilateral Process saw some activity in various sectors. The SERM (Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management) portfolio was active in Fishing, Trapping, Hunting, Forestry Development Issues, Land Use Planning, Provincial Park Review, as well as issues concerning Federal Gun Control.

Various meetings, consultations and deliverable activities in Health, Housing are reviewed under Bilateral Sectoral Initiatives. In addition, there were activities carried out in the different sectorial areas between our various Affiliates and the corresponding provincial Departments. For example, GDI and DTI have their own agreements with the province and report directly to them.

The main activity recently, has been the negotiation and development of the Metis Act. Considerable work has been accomplished in this regard.

Bilateral Process Meetings

There was a Tier II meeting held on October 6th, in Regina. It was attended by our officials and they met with officials from the province. At that meeting, our officials discussed the Metis Act, the Metis Aboriginal Rights Forum and pressed the province to provide updates on our Governance proposals. Some changes to the Metis Act were proposed and after discussion, they were referred to the Tier I level.

There was a Tier I meeting held on November 9th, in Regina. It was attended by the Executive and the CEO and we met with Ministers Belanger, Hilson, Goulet and Nilson. The main agenda item was the Metis Act. At this meeting, it was decided to present the Metis Act at the AGM.

There were no Leaders Forums held in the past quarter. We are hopeful that this will change in the near future.

Metis Act

As referenced above, a considerable amount of work has been done on this initiative. We presented the Act at our Leaders Summit and it was subsequently endorsed by the PMC on September 15th. Along with the Act, we negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding where the province and the MNS have agreed to a process to address certain issues. We are now presenting the Act to the Metis people of the province here today. The next step in this process after this is for the province to ratify it.

Metis Aboriginal Rights Forum

The Metis Aboriginal Rights Forum is an informal and non-binding forum where views are exchanged without prejudice. A Metis Aboriginal Rights Forum was held on November 9th. At that Forum, we discussed Metis Hunting and Fishing Rights with top officials from Justice and SERM. The discussion also dealt with the anticipated MOU between SERM and the MNS. At this meeting it was suggested Metis Rights should be discussed in a broader, more expanded context than just what the SERM/MNS Task Force is dealing with. We are following this up by exploring what criteria would be attached to this process.

Sectorial Activities

In addition to the above, there are semi-independent processes ongoing between the province and some of our Affiliates. These included the Health, Housing and Lands and Natural Resources Sectors. Their reports are provided here.

Health

Metis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc. continued to provide addictions program and service delivery during the second quarter of 2000 – 2001, July 1, 2000 to September 30, 2000. Our main government partner is Saskatchewan Health, Community Care Branch who funds MACSI under four conditional grant agreements: Regina Addictions, Saskatoon Addictions, Prince Albert Addictions and MACSI Core/Field Educator Programs.

MACSI completed the previous year's audit for the period ending March 31, 2000 with our auditor, Ernst & Young. The draft audit received MACSI Board of Directors approval and our auditors are preparing the final copy for board signatures. The audit shall be released once signed by our Executive members.

The joint Management-Union Job Description Evaluation process is still in development and is expected to be ready for piloting in the third quarter, then implementation shortly thereafter. Once completed, MACSI intends to complete an employment audit of MACSI addiction workers using provincial standards within the provincially funded addiction services sector. This is a long-term strategy that will require MNS lobbying and advocacy in bringing the Government of Saskatchewan to the negotiating table to address wage equity/parity within the provincially funded addictions industry.

In response to the MACSI letter of June 6, 2000, a meeting was attended by MACSI Executive Director James Froh, and Saskatchewan Health staff Jim Simmons, Pat Inglis, Donna Blakley and Barry Lacey on September 8, 2000. Specific budget shortfalls under MACSI's four contracts with SK Health were shared in the hope of finding solutions to MACSI long-term deficit issues of under-funded staffing levels and non-salary expenses. A follow-up letter and financial information is being sent to SK Health in preparation for the 2001/2002 Government of Saskatchewan budget

development cycle. A future meeting date is set for November 30, 2000. MACSI requests that the Saskatchewan and MNS Ministers of Health meet to further discuss these funding shortfalls under the Bilateral Process Tier I meeting protocol.

The Program Review Committees commenced their work: Prince Albert met on September 26 and Regina met on September 28. Saskatoon Committee will be meeting for the first time on October 16. This novel community-based review of MACSI programs and services is a first of its kind and their recommendations are eagerly anticipated sometime in February 2001.

Commissioner Fyke met with MNS Health Minister Don Favel, MNS Saskatoon Elders Program Coordinator Judy Elliot and MACSI Executive Director James Froh on September 20 in Saskatoon at the MACSI Core office. This informal conversation was the MNS' first contact through the Premiere's Royal Commission on Health Review in Saskatchewan. Commissioner Fyke is preparing his preliminary report for release in October 2000. Principles of accessibility, accountability and fairness were discussed as well as informal opportunities to pass on comments on Metis health concerns in Saskatchewan. MNS will have additional opportunities to pass on comments once the preliminary report has been tabled for discussion.

Housing

Provincial Metis Housing Corporation is currently winding up delivery of the housing repair programs for this fiscal year. The year 2000 budget was available in June and it wasn't long before the approval letters were being sent out. We are finding that with the extension of the programs and knowing that there will be budget dollars next year, by maintaining a steady inspection pattern and signing of clients, we have a good number ready for approval upon getting the next years budget.

As earlier noted we have fully utilized our 2000 budget and we still have many RRAP, ERP projects out for bid. These as well as all the other applications that we have on file will be rolled over to next years budget.

We will be entering the second last year of the program extension for delivery, I feel it is very important that these programs be continued on a full time basis. There is always a great demand for home repair programs and always will be. Not only do we have a housing shortage in Northern SK it is also very important to maintain the existing housing stock.

I would recommend that this be brought up at a tier 1 meeting ASAP to address this issue. The following is a list of activities that PMHC has undertaken over the past three months.

1. Presentations and meetings:

- Batoche Days, presentation booth
- Directors meeting
- Meet with MGHD on several occasions regarding budget dollars as well as negotiate our expanded territory request.

- Various homeless issue meetings @ Regina, Saskatoon
- SHC budget reviews
- Leaders Summit @ Saskatoon, SK
- Meeting with the NRSTA board in LaRonge Re: sewer and water Project for Northern, SK

1. Program Activities July, August, September, 2000

- Applications received	=	109
- Applications canceled	=	99
- Applications closed out	=	104 finals
- Applications approved	=	150
- Active files	=	152
- Out for bid	=	149
- Inspections carried out	=	(approximately)

In addition to the approx. 150 jobs out for tender we have approx. 250 applications on file as well. We are currently sending out letters to all that have applied for assistance to let them know that this budget has been utilized.

We are anticipating the 2001 budget in April- May and we will then start processing applications once again.

Lands and Natural Resources

The office of the Lands and Resources Coordinator continues to work on building closer and stronger relationships between the Metis Nation and the Department of Resource & Environment thru the Bilateral Task Force, meetings with Department officials supplemented with meeting local Metis members.

Currently, the issues that have occupied the time of the Coordinator, George Morin is the matter of the Memorandum of Understanding on Enforcement & Compliance. Dave Harvey, Director of Enforcement has been working with the Lands & Resources Coordinator.

The matter of Employment Equity is a priority for SERM. SERM has requested the Metis Nation for input into their meeting of their employment objectives. Dan McGill, SERM's Employment Equity Coordinator has been discussing the way input will take place, more meetings are planned. The Government of Saskatchewan is embarking upon the implementation of the National Biodiversity Action Plan. The draft plan calls for conservation and prudent management of our biodiversity which includes all species of plants, animals, and microorganisms and the ecosystems and ecological processes of which they are parts. John Vandall has met with George Morin on how the

Metis Nation can participate in the plan. More discussions are planned.

Forestry Branch of SERM thru the office of Allan Wilcocks has been meeting with Norm Hanson

from the Task Force and George Morin on how Metis people fit into the expansion of forest development. The results of these discussions are then fed to the Bilateral Task Force. A proposal for increased funding from SERM for the Task Force has been developed and submitted to SERM. Verbal assurances are that MNS can expect some increase in funding support from SERM

Another major duty of the Coordinator is respond to the Metis public about hunting and fishing rights. Most inquiries come thru the phone however there have been instances where the Coordinator has had to attend local meetings.

The Firearms Law, Bill C-68 is a concern to the Metis Nation. A proposal has been submitted to the Canadian Firearm Centre for funding. The funding is to provide information about Bill C-68 and to provide application assistance. There is no word yet from Ottawa about the proposal.

At present, a meeting of the Task Force is planned for late November.