

AMENDED BY-LAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF METIS AND NON-STATUS
INDIANS OF SASKATCHEWAN

The following By-Laws were passed at the General Assembly of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan on Friday, July 17, 1981, at Batoche. The present By-Laws are hereby repealed and the following By-Laws are substituted in its place. These amended By-Laws constitute these sole By-Laws governing the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

BY-LAW NO. 1 - MEMBERSHIP:

- (1) In these By-Laws, unless otherwise indicated, the word Metis, means a person with Indian ancestry, who is not a Treaty Indian as defined by the Indian Act and includes any Non-Status Indians.
- (2) Any Metis or Non-Status Indian who is a member in good standing of a duly registered AMNSIS Local, upon payment of the prescribed fee, can become a member of the provincial Association; provided that no member of AMNSIS shall have a right to vote with respect to the affairs of the Association until they are 16 years of age.
- (3) Each individual member shall pay an annual membership fee as may be determined by the members in a general meeting.
- (4) This organization shall be non-sectarian and non-partisan.
- (5) Membership applications may be sold in a form prescribed by the Association.

BY-LAW NO. 2 - OFFICIAL COLORS:

- (1) The official colors of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan shall be determined by the membership.
- (2) The Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan shall have its own flag as determined by the membership.

BY-LAW NO. 3 - ANNUAL MEETING:

- (1) The Annual Meeting of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan shall be convened annually at such date and place as may be fixed by the Executive, provided at least thirty days written notice be given to the president or secretary of each Local and provided that the Annual meeting shall be convened as close to the "Metis Heritage Days" or "Back to Batoche" cultural event as possible.
- (2) In case of a special meeting, the Executive shall ensure that fifteen days written notice of date and place of meeting be given

to the president or secretary of each Local.

(3) Delegates to the Annual meeting shall be chosen by each Local on the following basis:

- (A) Four delegates for the first one hundred members;
- (B) Three delegates for each succeeding one hundred members or any part thereof.

(4) Expenses for delegates to the Annual meeting shall be paid by the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

BY-LAW NO. 4. - REPRESENTATION AND VOTING AT AN ANNUAL MEETING:

(1) Only delegates, who are paid up members, shall be allowed to vote at the Annual Meeting.

(2) New Locals shall not be registered with the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan without prior approval by vote, of the area in which it is located. Proper notice of intent to register will be forwarded to the Area Director not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the area meeting.

BY-LAW NO. 5 - ELECTIONS

(1) For the election of Executive members the Association shall establish a poll in each AMNSIS Local for the purpose of enabling all paid up members to vote in these elections.

(2) In the case of a by-election for any executive position, the Association shall establish a poll in each AMNSIS Local for the purpose of enabling all paid up members to vote in the by-election.

(3) For the elections of Board members the Association shall establish a poll in each Local in each area for which an election is being held for the purpose of enabling all paid up members to vote in these elections.

(4) In the case of a by-election for any Board position, the Association shall establish a poll in each Local in the area where the by-election is being held for the purpose of enabling all paid up members to vote in these by-elections.

(5)a. In every case where an election or by-election is held the Association may appoint a Chief Electoral Officer, and any other officials it deems fit to conduct the election or by-election in question.

b. In every case, where an election or by-election is held the Chief Electoral Officer may set a date or dates upon which to hold advance polls for those voters who are eligible to vote in the said election or by-election but who are unable to vote on the date set for the said election or by-election.

(6) In conducting an election or by-election the Chief Electoral Officer may draw up a list of guidelines to be followed in an election or by-election subject to approval by the Association.

(7) These guidelines for conducting an election or by-election are null and void unless within fifteen (15) days after approval has been granted by the Association, these guidelines are registered with the Corporations Branch, Dept. of Consumer and Commercial Affairs, Province of Saskatchewan.

(8) Upon the counting of all ballots in any election or by-election, the Chief Electoral Officer shall inform all candidates and the Association by double registered mail, or by any other reasonable means of communication of the results of the election or by-election and shall declare a winner.

(9) The Chief Electoral Officer shall also inform all candidates and the Association by double registered letter, or by any other reasonable means of communication, of any discrepancies and spoiled ballots in each poll.

(10) Within 15 days after receiving the election or by-election results, any candidate may within a further seven days by registered letter or by any other reasonable means of communication to the Association request a recount and/or hearing to register any complaint pertaining to his/her election or by-election.

(11) The Association will appoint a seven member committee including a Chairman, from the Executive and Board, including the Provincial Secretary, to undertake the recount and/or hear any complaints pertaining to any election or by-election at a time and place specified by the Association.

(12) At any recount or hearing pertaining to any election or by-election, the Provincial Secretary, the Chief Returning Officer, all candidates involved in the election or by-election in question, their legal counsel, and legal counsel representing the Association of Metis and Non-Status may be present for the recount or hearing.

(13) The recommendation of the seven member committee will be made promptly to the Association who will render a final decision.

(14) For the purpose of this By-Law, "Association" means A.M.N.S.I.S. Executive and Board of Directors.

(15) No individual shall be entitled to vote or to run for any elected position (Executive, Board, Local) unless that individual is a member in good standing of a duly registered AMNSIS Local.

BY-LAW NO. 6 - EXECUTIVE

(1) (a) The membership shall elect the following executive officers of the Board of Directors; each of whom may be re-elected.

- (A) President
- (B) Vice-President
- (C) Provincial Secretary
- (D) Treasurer

(b) In the annual elections held August 1, 1981, all executive positions up for election will be for a period of one year until the next annual election at which time all elections for all executive officers will be for a period of three years and such officers may be re-elected. Those up for election in 1981 are the Vice-President and Provincial Secretary. The President and Treasurer shall remain in office until their term expires in 1982.

(2) The executive of the Board of Directors of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan shall have the authority to conduct and administer the affairs and business of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan between BOARD meetings, and to issue statements in the name of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

(3) At all meetings of the executive, three members shall constitute a quorum.

(4) Every Executive member is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

(5) The following persons are disqualified from being an executive member of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan:

(a) anyone who is less than 16 years of age.

(6) An executive member ceases to hold office when:

(a) he dies or resigns;

(b) he is removed by majority of all the Board of Directors polled for missing more than three consecutive Board meetings without reasonable excuse.

(7) A member of the executive may also be removed by a recorded vote of all the Board of Directors polled for improper conduct or for just cause. Such action requires a 3/4 majority of the Board. No Board member shall vote for the removal for any member of the executive without the prior approval and direction of his/her Area Board. Any such vote for the removal must be ratified by a special meeting of the Association.

(8) A resignation of an executive member becomes effective at the time a written resignation is sent to the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan or at the time specified in the resignation, whichever is later.

(9) Any vacancy for any executive position shall be filled by a by-election called by the Board of Directors within three months of the vacancy and such by-election shall be held in accordance with By-Law No. 5.

BY-LAW NO.7 - DUTIES

- (1) President - the President shall be a member of all committees. The President shall preside over all meetings of the executive. In his absence the Vice-President shall preside. In the absence of the Vice-President a chairman shall be elected by the meeting to preside.
- (2) Provincial Secretary - the Provincial Secretary shall attend all meetings of the executive and Board of Directors and shall keep accurate minutes of those meetings. The Provincial Secretary shall have charge of the Seal of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, which Seal whenever used, shall be authenticated by the signature of the Provincial Secretary and the President. In case of death or inability of either to act this duty shall be discharged by the Vice-President. In case of the Provincial Secretary's absence, his or her duties shall be discharged by such officer as may be appointed by the Executive.
- (3) Treasurer - the Treasurer shall receive all monies paid to the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan and shall be responsible for the deposit of the money in whatever bank or credit union the Board may order. The Treasurer shall consult regularly with the Comptroller to keep such books as he is directed by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall not authorize payments for vouchers or disbursements unless the necessary receipts are presented. The Treasurer shall present a detailed account of receipts and disbursements to the Board of Directors on a monthly basis. The Treasurer shall prepare for submission to the Annual Meeting a statement duly audited as hereinafter set forth of the financial position of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, and submit a copy of same to the Provincial Secretary for the records of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.
- (4) The Executive shall be responsible to the Board of Directors.
- (5) The Treasurer is also responsible for organizing the Annual meeting and the Metis Heritage Days and/or Back to Batoche cultural event and is also responsible for raising of finances in regard to these matters.
- (6) Each executive member shall make monthly reports of his/her activities to each Board member and each Chairman of the Area Boards.

BY-LAW NO.8 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- (1) There shall be eleven (11) regions designated as follows:

1 - Extreme North

7 - West Central

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| 2 - Northwest 1 | 8 - Northeast |
| 3 - Northwest 11 | 9 - East Central 1 |
| 4 - Northwest 111 | 10 - East Central 11 |
| 5 - Western Region 1 | 11 - Southeast |
| 6 - Southwest | |

2) (a) The membership in each Area shall elect a member to the Board of Directors each of whom may be re-elected.

(b) In the annual election held August 1, 1981, all Board of Directors positions up for election will be for a period of one year until the next annual election at which time all elections for all Board positions will be for a period of three years.

(c) Those Areas up for election in 1981 are:

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|---------------|------------------|
| Northwest 1 | Northwest 11 |
| Northwest 111 | Western Region 1 |
| Southwest | West Central |

(d) All other Area Directors shall remain in office until their term expires in 1982.

3) (a) The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan. It shall have full authority to issue policy statements in the name of the Association in agreement with the decisions of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan annual meeting.

(b) The Board of Directors shall have final authority over all matters of policy, program, and interpretation of the constitution and By-Laws.

4) At all meetings of the Board of Directors eight members shall constitute a quorum.

5) Subject to sections 13, and 1^b7, should any office become vacant on the Board, the Board of Directors shall within three months after the vacancy call a by-election to fill the vacancy in accordance with By-Law No.5.

6) The following persons are disqualified from being a Board member of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan:

(a) anyone who is less than sixteen (16) years of age.

7) A Board member ceases to hold office when:

(a) he/she dies or resigns;

(b) he/she is removed by a majority vote of all the Board of Directors polled for missing more than three consecutive Board meetings without reasonable excuse;

(c) he/she is removed from office by vote of non-confidence pursuant to section 12 of this By-Law.

- (d) he/she is removed from office pursuant to the terms of section 13 of this By-Law, or Section 17 of this By-Law.
- (8) A member of the Board also ceases to hold office when by a recorded vote of all Board of Directors polled for improper conduct or for just cause. Such action requires a 3/4 majority of the Board but must be ratified at the Area Board of the Area Director in question.
- (9) A member of the Board is not prevented from holding a salaried position, with the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan, providing the prior approval of the Board has been granted.
- (10) In an emergency or crisis situation as determined by the Board, the Board of Directors shall have full and complete authority over every aspect of the affairs of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan including strategy, hiring, firing, calling of meetings, finances, and all other matters.
- (11) (a) It is the duty of every Area Director to set up an Area Board in his/her area within six (6) months of the 1981 Annual Elections.
- (b) The Area Board is to be comprised of every Local President from the Area, or any such other person or persons designated by each Area Local.
- (c) The Area Director will ensure that the Area Board meet at least twice yearly and at least once yearly the Executive shall attend an Area meeting in each Area.
- (d) Every Area Board meeting is open to any member of the Executive of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.
- (e) No Area Director shall miss an Area Board meeting in his/her area without just cause or without reasonable excuse.
- (f) The Area Boards are to provide direction to the Area Directors with respect to the aims, goals, and aspirations of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan in the Area represented by the Regional Director.
- (g) It is the duty of the Area Director to inform/his/her Area Board of the policies, aims, goals, and aspirations of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.
- (h) At any time, if in the opinion of the Locals represented on an Area Board that the Area Director is not carrying out his job or discharging his responsibilities, the Area Board shall call a special meeting with at least 15 days written notice to all Locals in the Area and the Area Director, at which meeting a motion of non-confidence may be considered.

(i) At any meeting to consider a motion of non-confidence the Area Director shall have an opportunity to hear any complaints against him/her and shall have opportunity to fully defend himself/herself.

(j) At any meeting to consider a motion of non-confidence, any Executive member of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan may be in attendance.

(k) Following a presentation by the Area Director the Area Board Locals, as represented in person by each Local President, or any such other person or persons designated by each Area Local, shall hold a recorded vote on a motion of non-confidence in the Area Director.

(l) No motion of non-confidence is valid unless two-thirds of all Locals in the Area, as represented in person by each Local President, or any such other person or persons designated by each Area Local, vote affirmatively for such a motion.

(m) The effect of a vote of non-confidence is to cause immediately the termination of the responsibilities of the Area Director and to declare the position of Director to be vacant.

(n) The Provincial Secretary of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians shall be notified immediately of any motion passed by an Area Board expressing non-confidence in an Area Director.

(o) The Provincial Secretary will then notify the Executive and Board of any motion of non-confidence passed by an Area Board.

(p) The Executive and Board must call a by-election within three (3) months to replace the vacancy caused by the dismissal of an Area Board member due to a motion of non-confidence duly passed at an Area meeting in accordance with By-Law No. 5.

(q) Where for any reason an Area is no longer represented by an Area Director, the Area Board Locals, as represented by the Local President, or any such other person or persons designated by each Area Local, has the authority to elect an interim Area Director until a by-election has been called and held by the Executive and Board of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan to fill the vacant Area Director position in accordance with By-Law No. 5.

(r) Any interim Area Director elected by an Area Board shall have the same responsibilities and authority as any other duly elected Area Director.

(12) Every Area Director who fails to set up an Area Board in his Area within six (6) months after the 1981 Annual Elections shall be automatically removed from office with a by-election to be called within 60 days by the AMNSIS Executive and Board of Directors in accordance with By-Law No. 5.

(13) Every Area Director shall send monthly reports to his/her Area Board of his/her activities, including his/her attendance at AMNSIS Executive and Board meetings with a copy of such monthly reports to be sent to the Provincial Secretary of AMNSIS.

(14) No person shall be a candidate for Area Director in any region unless he/she is nominated by the Members of that Area.

(15) Any person elected as Area Director must acquire a permanent residence within the Area for which he/she has been elected within 60 days after being elected.

(16) Any Area Director who moves out of his/her Area or fails to acquire a permanent residence within the Area for which he/she has been elected within 60 days after being duly elected shall be deemed to have resigned his office and a by-election must be called by the AMNSIS Executive and Board within 60 days of said resignation in accordance with By-Law No. 5.

BY-LAW NO. 10 - ASSOCIATION OF METIS AND NON-STATUS INDIANS OF SASKATCHEWAN HEADQUARTERS

(1) The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the hiring or firing of the necessary staff with the exception of the Executive Director, who shall be hired or fired by the Executive.

(2) The Executive Director shall be the Administrative Officer and shall be paid such remunerations as may be determined by the Board.

BY-LAW NO. 11 - COMMITTEES:

(1) Any committees may be elected at the Annual meeting and in case any necessary committees have not been so elected, the Executive of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan may establish committees to carry out the work of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

(2) The Executive shall have the authority to remove a chairman or any member of any committee for just cause or improper conduct, or for conflict of interest. The Executive shall have the power to appoint a new chairman.

(3) The chairman of a committee may recommend that the Executive appoint or remove any committee member for just cause, improper conduct or for conflict of interest.

BY-LAW NO. 12 - REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

(1) (a). Any member may have his membership suspended by the Board for any conduct or act which the Board shall deem unreasonable and as a result of such suspension any office held by the former member shall be declared vacant.

(b) No member may have his membership suspended by the Board of Directors until that member has an opportunity to defend himself/herself before any committee set up by the Board to hear the member so affected.

(c) The recommendation made to the Board by any committee set up to hear any member regarding a member's suspension shall be final.

(2) Any member may withdraw from membership in the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan upon notice in writing directly to an office of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

(3) A record of memberships shall be forwarded to the Provincial Secretary of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

(4) Membership fees shall not be refundable.

BY-LAW NO. 13 - WINDING UP:

(1) On the winding up of the organization all assets remaining after the payment of any just debts and obligations shall be distributed to one or more organized charitable organizations in Canada.

BY-LAW NO. 14 - AMENDMENT:

(1) The By-Laws may be amended at the Annual Meeting by the majority of 3/4 of the members present.

BY-LAW NO. 15 - LOCAL ORGANIZATION:

(1) The Local shall be made up of at least nine members and shall be the basic unit of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan. Each Local shall be so governed by a Local executive, which shall be elected annually at a general meeting of the Local. All individual members, who have paid their current membership fee and are in good standing, shall be entitled to vote.

(2) Name of Local - Locals shall be named by number of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan and the executive shall allocate the district numbers. A Local

may be given an historical name of significance of the Association by the executive instead of a number.

(3) Executive - a Local may consist of the following:

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|-------------------|------------------------|
| a. President | c. Secretary-Treasurer |
| b. Vice-President | d. any other executive |

(4) No Local may contain in its By-Laws any provisions contrary to or inconsistent with, the By-Laws of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

BY-LAW NO. 16 - DUTIES OF LOCALS:

(1) The Local shall organize locally the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

(2) The Local shall carry out the program locally of the Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan.

(3) The Local shall recruit new members and may collect donations.

(4) The Secretary-Treasurer shall immediately place all membership fees in a chartered bank or credit union to the credit of his/her Local organization.

(5) The executive of each Local shall immediately report to the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan upon the formation of a Local and shall give the names and addresses of each member, as well as provide assurance that there has been compliance with By-Law No. 4(2).

(6) The Local shall report any act of misconduct and other offenses which might bring the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan into dishonour or disrepute.

(7) The Local may designate a person or persons to sit on the Area Board in the area which the Local is situated in the absence of or in place of, the Local President.

(8) Each Local will actively participate in the Area Board in the Area in which the Local is situated.

BY-LAW NO. 17 - REGISTER:

(1) The Secretary of each Local shall keep an up-to-date register of each member, who has paid the prescribed membership fees and shall forward a record of the membership to the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan Head Office on a quarterly basis. Upon payment of prescribed fees such person shall become a member of the Local of which such fees were paid.

BY-LAW NO. 18 - VOTING AT MEETING OF LOCALS:

(1) Any member of any Local of the Association of Metis and Non-Status Indians of Saskatchewan shall be entitled to vote and to

hold office in the Local.

(2) Any member shall be entitled to attend a meeting of any Local, but only regular members in good standing and members of that Local shall be allowed to vote in the Local.