

ASSOCIATION OF METIS & NON-STATUS INDIANS OF SASKATCHEWAN

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Wayne McKenzie, Executive Director
FROM: Larry Heinemann, Chief Consultant
DATE: January 4, 1985
RE: AMNSIS Land Commission

I would ask that you share the attached material with the Board at your next Board Meeting. It is also suggested that the proposed guidelines, question outline for submissions, and budget also be approved. I would suggest that the funds for this exercise be taken from the Constitutional budget, and that we propose it be amended accordingly. This may mean that some of the fees provided for in my contract will need to be charged to the Technical Unit budget. Since I do a good deal of general technical work for the Association, this should not pose a problem.

The budget includes travel costs for Board Members for Hearings outside their own Area, a travel allocation for each Area, and costs for facilities for meetings. Board Members should be able to cover their travel costs within their Area from their regular travel allowance. Staff travel and all related administrative costs can be absorbed by the Association from present budget allocations.

We are proceeding to set up firm dates for January and February on the assumption that this general proposal will be acceptable.



L. Heinemann

/nb
Attachment

AMNSIS LAND COMMISSION

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

1. Guidelines

- a) The Commission will meet at not more than two or three centers in each Area.
- b) The Area Directors will be responsible for selecting the dates for their Hearings in his/her Area and arranging for meeting rooms and the travel costs for persons making submissions.
- c) These dates will be selected within the framework of the general schedule outlined below (2) and in coordination with the Area Director in adjacent areas to be visited during the same week.
- d) The Area Directors will be responsible for advertising the meetings in his/her Area, and they may seek the assistance of AMNSIS and Wehta Matowin in this regard.
- e) It is suggested each Local be asked to make a submission on behalf of the Local. Elders in the Area should be asked to make verbal or written submissions. Other groups or individuals will be permitted to make submissions provided there is sufficient time.
- f) The submissions should generally follow the outline set out in Section 4 below. The submissions may be verbal or written or a combination of both.
- g) The Hearings will be open to the general public and non-Aboriginal persons or groups will be granted the opportunity to make submissions if they give advance notice of their intention.
- h) The Commission Members will have the right to question, for purposes of clarification and to elicit further details, all persons making submissions.
- i) One of the Board Members should be named as the permanent Chairperson of the Commission.
- j) Rob Milen will act as Secretary to the Commission and will prepare a summary of the main points made during each Hearing.
- k) The Hearings will begin at 1:30 p.m. each day and continue until 9:00 p.m. with a break of 1½ hours for dinner.
- l) Area Boards will cover travel costs of Local delegates from the allocation available to each Area for this purpose.

m) The Hearings at each location will be limited to one (1) day.

n) The Hearings in the far north will be attended by one Board Member and one staff member only, because of the high costs of travel and problems with accommodation.

o) It is suggested for now that these Hearings maintain a low profile. Following the First Ministers' Conference in April, 1985, the Commission could then assume a higher profile. There is a danger that too much public exposure at this time could negatively influence the negotiations with the Province over the next three months leading up to the First Ministers' Conference.

p) It is proposed we inform the Province by letter that this exercise is underway and that we indicated that they will be provided with a complete report after the exercise is complete.

q) Wehta Matowin will assist the Secretary with recording, as appropriate, the proceedings and that they publish a summary of Hearings in each monthly issue for the information of the membership.

2. Proposed Hearing Schedules (dates to be selected)

a) January - SouthEast Area

- Fort Qu'Appelle - Tuesday
- Punnichy - Wednesday

b) February

- Saskatoon - Monday
- Prince Albert - Tuesday
- Green Lake - Wednesday
- Meadow Lake - Thursday

c) March

- Beauval - Monday
- Ile-a-la-Crosse - Tuesday
- Buffalo Narrows - Wednesday
- La Loche - Thursday

d) April - No meetings scheduled.

e) May

- Yorkton - Monday
- Reserve - Tuesday
- Melfort - Wednesday
- Nipawin - Thursday
- Regina - Monday
- Moose Jaw - Tuesday
- Swift Current - Wednesday

NOTE: Hearings will be scheduled in two separate weeks during May and dates will need to be coordinated.

f) June

- Lloydminster - Monday
- North Battleford - Tuesday
- Stoney Rapids - Wednesday p.m./Thursday a.m.
- Uranium City - Thursday p.m./Friday a.m.

It is proposed that two persons from the Commission fly to Stoney Rapids Wednesday morning. They could complete their meeting and fly to Uranium City on Thursday afternoon with the meeting held that evening and Friday morning. They could then return Friday afternoon. To the extent scheduled flights may not be available, some charters may need to be used.

It is proposed a second week be scheduled for June to complete the Hearings as follows:

- Cumberland House - Tuesday
- Pelican Narrows - Wednesday
- La Ronge - Thursday

3. Proposed Budget for Period January 1 to March 31, 1985

a) Travel for Area Delegates - allocation of \$1,000 to each Area to be spent as determined by the Area Board	\$ 5,000
b) Meeting Rooms, Coffee, etc.	1,000
c) Extra Travel Costs for Board Members on Commission	<u>4,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$10,000</u>

Proposed Budget for Period May 1 to June 30, 1985

a) Travel for Area Delegates	\$ 5,000
b) Meeting Rooms, Coffee, etc.	1,000
c) Extra Board Members Travel	<u>4,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$10,000</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	<u>\$20,000</u>

NOTE: No travel budget is provided for the far north as there are only two active Locals, one at Stoney Rapids and one at Uranium City. Commission Members would visit both communities.

4. General Outline of Questions to be Addressed

The following questions should be addressed by those making submissions to the Land Commission.

- a) What kind of land base do members in your Area want?
1. A land base onto which Metis People can move and on which they can support themselves?
 2. Land which would provide a base for economic development?
 3. Land which would be a homeland?
 4. Land on which the occupants could practice Self-Government?
- b) If a land settlement is negotiated:
1. What lands can you identify in your Area which the Area membership would like to obtain as part of the settlement?
 2. Did the Metis have traditional use of or a traditional interest in the land?
 3. Who owns the land at present?
 4. If Crown land, are there third party interests such as parties having leases or royalty rights?
 5. If the land is privately owned, could it be obtained?
- c) If land is provided, how should it be owned?
1. by a local government body? (like a Reserve)
 2. by a regional Corporation in trust for all Area members?
 3. by a provincial Corporation in trust for all of the members?

- d) How should the land be developed?
1. by a local Corporation only for the benefit of persons who live on the land?
 2. by a regional Corporation for the benefit of all Area members?
 3. by a provincial Corporation with the members living in the immediate area of the land having first opportunity to develop the land and with the primary benefits to go to those members and with secondary benefits to go to the membership at large?
- e) What form of Self-Government do you believe the Metis should establish to manage their lands?
1. Autonomous Local Councils?
 2. Autonomous Regional Councils?
 3. Local or Regional Councils established under guidelines set by a Provincial Council?
- f) What rights do you want to have on Metis lands?
1. over the land?
 2. jurisdiction over development?
 3. jurisdiction over programs and services?
- g) How should these rights be provided?
1. as a third order of government entrenched in the Constitution?
 2. by recognizing Self-Government rights in the Constitution but with the jurisdiction, structure, and rights of such self-governing bodies to be provided for in Federal and/or Provincial legislation?
 3. by provision for Political Autonomy rights which could be exercised both on and off Aboriginal lands?
- h) What specific programs, services, and institutions should come under the control of self-governing bodies?
- i) Should we proceed immediately to obtain transfer of the Metis Farms?
- j) What do you see as the developments, options and opportunities for the Metis Farms?