

## **Peter Bishop.** (1940-2013)

Peter Bishop was born on June 17, 1940, at Green Lake, the son of Alexis William Bishop and Isabelle Fraser. Isabelle Fraser was the daughter of Norbert Fraser and Margaret Aubichon, married in 1905. Her sister Exilia Fraser married Louis Fiddler at Meadow Lake.

Peter Bishop was born in 1940 at Green Lake. He attended St. Pascal School in Green Lake. He worked as a fieldworker with the Métis Nation Saskatchewan from 1973-1977 and was an Area Director for MNS (Southeast) from 1973-1975. He was a school teacher and in 1995 was nominated for teacher of the year. Peter worked for the Westmont Community School Association and Communities for Children for five years. He was part of the Urban First Nations Healing Project for five years and an original board member of the Quint Development Corporation.

Peter's father, Alex, was active in the early days of the Métis Association of Saskatchewan and president of the Green Lake Local; he also served on the first school board in Green Lake. Alex was born at Muskeg Lake, Saskatchewan in 1886; he attended the St. Michael's Indian Residential School in Duck Lake. He worked for the Hudson's Bay Company, hunted trapped and traded furs.

Peter's older brother Rod Bishop (1938-1998) was a social activist who worked with Jim Brady and Malcolm Norris in reorganizing the Métis Association of Saskatchewan in the 1960s, and was vice-president of the amalgamated (north and south) Métis Society. At the time Joe Amyotte was president of the southern Saskatchewan Métis organization, the Métis Society of Saskatchewan and Rod was president of the northern group, the Métis Association of Saskatchewan. Rod had taken over when Malcolm Norris became too ill to run it. Thus, in 1967, Joe Amyotte became president of MSS and Rod Bishop became Vice-President. Rod served on its board of directors during the 1970s and 1980s. After leaving MSS AMNSIS in the late 1980s he was elected as mayor of Green Lake. As mayor he played a crucial role in preventing the privatization of the Green Lake government farms. He was the moving force behind the organization of a fisherman's union in northern Saskatchewan and also worked as an opponent of the uranium industry in Saskatchewan. Rod was posthumously awarded the Order of Gabriel Dumont – Gold Medal on December 3, 2005.

### Reference:

Judy Elliot and April Gardippie, "Peter Bishop," *New Breed Magazine*, July-August, 2003: 28.



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