

# MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



## Monthly E-News

From the Office of MNBC President Clara Morin Dal Col  
(Issue #1)

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**NOVEMBER 2018 UPDATE**- There is so much happening on behalf of Métis people in British Columbia that I want to share with you; to aid in this; we will be publishing a monthly electronic newsletter to communicate that information directly to you. On or about the middle of each month, you will receive my *Update* newsletter by email; this is the first issue.

Even though there are lots of things happening, I will try and keep it to a length that you can read in about 2 minutes. I know that everyone is busy with their families, jobs, grandkids, or Community events and activities, so I will try and keep the information to the

key happenings and will add a link should you wish to learn more.

I also invite feedback – your suggestions, questions and comments.

**Community Engagement Sessions** – We are nearing completion of Phase II of our Métis Rights and Reconciliation Community Engagement Sessions in every Chartered MNBC Community. Since May of this year, our team has heard from more than 1,000 Métis Citizens, Community members, and other Métis people. MNBC board members and I have been able to attend many of the sessions, and the input on Métis S.35 Rights, Reconciliation and other key subjects have been very valuable. Thank you to our team for carrying out the sessions and my thanks to you for attending. A report on what we heard will be prepared once the sessions are over.

**Permanent Bilateral Mechanism Leaders' Meeting** – As a direct result of the Canada-Métis Nation Accord that was signed with the Prime Minister in April of 2017, we meet twice a year with key ministers of the federal government to review progress that our respective officials are making in working out the details of agreements on funding for important programs and initiatives for Métis people from Ontario west to here in British Columbia. Our most recent meeting was on October 25, 2018, in Ottawa. We have developed proposals that include \$1.174 billion over the next five years that will enable us to address the health needs of Métis people. We have also submitted proposals for Métis Nation Child and Family Services totalling \$1.11 billion over the next ten years.



**Housing Dollars Already Approved by Federal Government** – The Federal Government has already committed \$500 million to the Métis Nation over the next ten years to address the housing needs of Métis people. That works out to be about \$50 million a year for the entire Métis Nation and over \$6 million a year for us in British Columbia. We have never received such funding before. We need to ensure that the funding helps the largest number of Métis people with needs of improved housing.

**Funding for our Communities** – Every MNBC Chartered Community is eligible to receive more than \$15,000 in funding from MNBC this year to help meet their community needs and delivery programs and services to their members. Communities have never received such a large amount of funding before.

**Louis Riel Day is coming up on November 16<sup>th</sup>** and many of our Métis Chartered Communities will be holding special events to commemorate this special day for Métis people. Please remember our first leader and the incredible sacrifice that he made to give Métis people an important place in this Country. It was not until 1982 that Métis were finally recognized in the Canadian Constitution and it was not until April 13, 2017, when Prime Minister Trudeau signed the Accord in Ottawa providing us with the Nation-to-Nation and Government-to-Government recognition. I will be giving special thanks to our first leader, Louis Riel, when I, along with others, raise the Métis flag in front of the BC Legislature on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

I am honoured to continue to work on your behalf.

***Thank you,  
Clara Morin Dal Col  
President, MNBC***

#### About MNBC

*The Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) represents nearly 90,000 self-identified Métis people in British Columbia, of that, nearly 18,500 are provincially registered Métis Citizens with MNBC. The Métis National Council and the Provincial Government of British Columbia, as well as the Federal Government of Canada, recognizes the MNBC as the official governing nation for Métis in BC.*