



Ref. 58917

May 12, 2023

President Lissa Dawn Smith
Métis Nation British Columbia
380 – 13401 108 Avenue
Surrey BC V3T 5T3

Dear President Lissa Dawn Smith:

The Province of British Columbia (Province) recognizes Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) as the representative government of Métis in British Columbia (BC). The Province looks forward to continuing to work together to strengthen our government-to-government relationship, aligned with our 2021 Letter of Intent to pursue a “whole of government” approach to shaping our commitments and establishing a reconciliation agreement.

In 2006, MNBC and the Province signed the Métis Nation Relationship Accord, which was renewed in 2016 as the Métis Nation Relationship Accord II. Federally, in 2017, the Canada-Métis Nation Accord was signed by the Prime Minister, acknowledging the Métis Nation’s right to self-determination and self-government. The following year, a Memorandum of Understanding between Canada and MNBC was signed to continue advancing Métis self-determination in British Columbia.

.../2

The Province is committed to a distinctions-based approach in our work with Métis Nation BC in a manner that acknowledges the specific rights, interests, and priorities of Métis people in meaningful consultation and collaboration to implement self-determination and self-government, and the Province recognizes that Métis people in BC have certain Aboriginal rights as one of the three distinct groups of Indigenous peoples in Canada under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

The Province looks forward to continuing to work together to achieve the distinctions-based commitments outlined in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan, and to achieving our shared priorities and outcomes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Murray Rankin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Murray Rankin, KC
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation