



RESOLUTION 4

SUBMITTED TO THE MARCH 2024
MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

Subject: Clarifying Citizenship Eligibility/Acceptance

Legislation Affected: *Citizenship Act*

Submitted by: Métis Nation Columbia River Society

Submitted to: MNGA Clerk

Date Submitted: January 25, 2025

Vote Required for Approval: 75%

WHEREAS:

1. The Métis National Council General Assembly adopted the following “National Definition” in 2002:

“Métis” means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry and who is accepted by the Métis Nation.”

2. In its judgement in *R. v. Powley 2003*, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed that Métis are a rights-bearing Aboriginal people and set out the components of a Métis definition for the purpose of claiming Aboriginal rights under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 based on ancestral connection to and acceptance by historic Métis communities.
3. Pursuant to the Powley decision, Canada has supported the MNC Governing Members in establishing and maintaining citizenship registries. To be registered as Métis, a person must apply to the Métis Registry operated by the MNC Governing Member in the province in which they reside.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The *Citizenship Act* be amended as follows:

- A. Insert the following as Article 3.1.3

3.1.3 The Applicant recognizes they must not be enrolled on any other Aboriginal registry. This includes being registered as a member, citizen or beneficiary under the Indian Act or with any other organization or group that claims to represent Métis or other Aboriginal peoples for the purposes of rights, interests, and self-government.

B. Subject to approval of A above, in Article 3.2 insert “3.1.3” after 3.1.2 so that the article will read:

3.2 Once the Registrar is satisfied that the Applicant has met the conditions in Articles 3.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 3.13, the Registration Authority may issue the Applicant notification of community acceptance not exceeding 90 days, and then issue a Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Card.