

Métis Nation British Columbia pulls out of the Métis National Council | FAQ

1. Why did Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) exit the Métis National Council?

The Métis National Council (MNC) was founded by provincial organizations in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. It grew to include Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) and Métis Nation Ontario.

Recently, two founding members left the MNC. The Manitoba Métis Federation exited in 2021, and Métis Nation-Saskatchewan pulled out of the MNC in September 2024.

MNBC was ready to work with the remaining MNC members: Otipemisiwak Métis Government (formerly Métis Nation within Alberta) and Métis Nation Ontario.

However, between the three remaining parties, there was now an inequitable distribution of votes. This meant that MNBC would not have an equal voice in advocating for our Citizens on the national stage, with one Governing Member holding an absolute majority.

To address this, MNBC came to the MNC's Annual General Assembly with open hearts and minds to find a more balanced solution. Neither the Otipemisiwak Métis Government nor Métis Nation Ontario accepted MNBC's balanced proposal, which honoured Otipemisiwak Métis Government's role as a founding member. This is the reason MNBC [walked away](#) from the Annual General Assembly on October 30, 2024.

MNBC has faced additional inequities as a Governing Member of the MNC. In addition to the imbalance in the MNC voting structure, MNBC has also been impacted by an unfair funding formula. As a result, MNBC's Citizens were unable to access funding that was available to other Governing Members from the federal government. It has become evident that neither the Otipemisiwak Métis Government nor Métis Nation Ontario is willing to support a balanced solution to address the inequitable treatment of MNBC within the MNC structure.

After careful consideration, our Métis Chartered Communities voted to leave the MNC during our Winter Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) on November 30, 2024. We leave in a position of strength, poised to advocate for our constitutionally protected section 35 rights, secure fair representation, and ensure equitable treatment for our Citizens moving forward.

2. What does this mean for Métis in B.C.?

MNBC will continue working on behalf of Métis Citizens in B.C. and the 39 Métis Chartered Communities we represent. Our mandate is to develop and enhance opportunities for approximately 28,000 Métis Citizens and advocate on behalf of the over 98,000 self-identified Métis living in B.C.

We will continue to advocate for Métis rights and interests, while building and strengthening partnerships with First Nations Governments, as well as Federal and Provincial governments.

MNBC is open to working with all Métis governments in other provinces in an equitable and bilateral manner.

MNBC's Ministries and Departments remain committed to meeting the needs of our Métis Citizens in important areas such as education and skills training, housing support, health and wellness programs, cultural initiatives and more.

3. Will this impact the programs and services I access through MNBC?

MNBC is proud to offer quality programs and services, impactful gatherings and meaningful cultural initiatives to our Citizens across B.C. The decision to leave the MNC will not change the ability of MNBC Citizens to participate in existing programs, services or other initiatives, or access funding. Our funded programs and services will continue without interruption.

4. What will happen to MNBC's funding?

There will be no change to MNBC's current funding agreements. Future agreements with the Government of Canada will be negotiated directly. MNBC will represent the interests of Métis living in B.C.

5. Will this impact my Citizenship?

MNBC is honoured to advocate on behalf of approximately 28,000 Métis Citizens, with more applications arriving daily. We are proud of our robust citizenship



process, which traces applications back to the historic Métis Nation. Citizenship application intake and processing will continue without interruption.