



RESOLUTION 1

DEFEATED AT THE 2025 MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Subject: Constitutional Updates for Clarity of Equality Rights

Legislation Affected: *Constitution*

Submitted by: Métis Nation Governing Assembly via Métis Nation of Greater Victoria

Submitted to: AGM Clerk

Date Submitted: May 31, 2025

Vote Required for Approval: 75%

WHEREAS

1. The Métis Nation of British Columbia *Constitution* serves as the foundational piece of governing legislation for Métis citizens.
2. All Métis citizens are valued members of our Nation.
3. The wording of the equality rights provisions in the current MNBC *Constitution* are not consistent with modern forms of equality rights provisions in other jurisdictions.
4. Due, in part, to the impact of colonization, the rights and dignity of individuals are more likely to be infringed upon on the basis of any of the characteristics listed in the proposed amendment to Article 5.
5. It is important to uphold the spirit of *wahkohtowin* by affirming the rights and dignity of individuals and the protection of the characteristics listed in the proposed amendment to Article 5 in a time of heightened discriminatory rhetoric across Turtle Island.
6. It is necessary to clarify that the Nation may act in an ameliorative way that could otherwise be considered to discriminate on the basis of a protected characteristic.
7. It is necessary to enshrine the rights of all citizens in our *Constitution*.
8. The proposed amendment to Article 6 seeks to prevent an interpretation that may exclude children and gender-diverse individuals from the fundamental right of equal enjoyment of civil and political rights within our *Constitution*.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- A. Article 5 of the *Constitution* be amended by deleting the struck-through words and inserting the underlined words, as set out below:

5. The Métis Nation undertakes to respect and ensure to all Métis citizens within the Nation rights without ~~distinction of any kind such as sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other views.~~ discrimination of any kind such as on the basis of:

- 5.1. Race, including perceived race and colour;
- 5.2. Ethnic background, origin or expression, including language and Métis identity;
- 5.3. Religion or creed, religious belief, religious association, or religious activity;
- 5.4. Political or other views, including political association or activity;
- 5.5. Spousal or family status;
- 5.6. Age;
- 5.7. Genetic characteristics;
- 5.8. Physical or mental disability or related characteristics or circumstances, including reliance on a service animal, a wheelchair, or any other remedial appliance or device;
- 5.9. Sex, including sex-determined characteristics or circumstances, such as pregnancy, the possibility of pregnancy, or circumstances related to pregnancy;
- 5.10. Gender identity or expression;
- 5.11. Sexual orientation; and
- 5.12. Social condition, including income, source of income, occupation, and education.

It is not discrimination or contrary to this Article for the Métis Nation to carry out a program or activity, including employment equity, that has as its object the amelioration of conditions of Métis citizens who are disadvantaged due to one or more of the protected characteristics.

- B. Article 6 of the *Constitution* be amended by deleting the struck-through words and inserting the underlined words, as set out below:

6. ~~Métis men and Métis women~~ All Métis Citizens equally enjoy all civil and political rights set forth in these articles.