



Métis Nation British Columbia

2013-2014

OPERATIONS & MINISTRY REPORTS





17th Annual General Meeting

Saturday September 27, 2014

Richmond, BC

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**MNBC Chief Executive Officer
AGM Report
September 2014**



A Report from the MNBC Chief Executive Officer – Dale Drown, CAE

This year MNBC's ministries have each prepared an annual report reviewing the highlights of the past 12 months and looking forward at planned initiatives and activities for the balance of this 2014/15 fiscal year that ends March 31, 2015. At a glance, Métis Citizens will see the many different issues and activities that our ministries and our 38 staff are working on throughout British Columbia on behalf of all Métis people.

There have been a number of firsts this year including our Central Registry issuing 10,000 Citizenship Cards, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth for British Columbia, the signing of an MOU with the Premier of British Columbia and all Regional First Nations Leaders to address the serious issue of violence against women and girls, the celebration of Louis Riel Day in more communities in BC than ever before, and the funding of 16 different Chartered Communities and organizations through the CCAY program.

On the consultation front, given the number of projects being proposed by industry in British Columbia, there has been more consultation with Citizens and Communities than ever before. Industry is coming to MNBC because they know that the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency has designated MNBC as the official organization representing Métis in British Columbia and industry proponents recognize that Métis interests and rights must be considered.

On the employment front, MNBC is building relationships with industry to provide employment opportunities and skills development for Métis people like never before. Industry realizes that MNBC and our leadership have a province-wide mandate, and want to work with us as a result. For the first time ever, Northern Crane, one of our partner companies was seeking through us to fill 300 positions.

As you will see in the following reports it has been a very busy year for all of our ministries and I am very appreciative of the good work being done by all of our staff.

As we move forward through the balance of the fiscal year, each of the ministries has their priorities, and each is guided by the following five strategic goals:

- MNBC will be the Métis political organization of choice for Métis people in British Columbia
- MNBC will be the aboriginal organization of choice for partnerships in British Columbia
- Ensure that everything MNBC does is designed to make a positive difference for Métis people in British Columbia

- Ensure that Métis people in British Columbia are benefitting from economic opportunities throughout British Columbia
- Continue the strengthening and growth of MNBC's financial and operational base

Finally, on behalf of all staff, I want to express our recognition to President Dumont and our Board of Directors for their hard work and commitment to all Métis people in British Columbia. I also want to express our thanks to our Chartered Communities and all of the time and effort put forward by our Community leaders and our Citizens in helping to make a difference for Métis people in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Dale Drown, CAE
Chief Executive Officer
Métis Nation British Columbia



MNBC Ministry for Children and Families
AGM Report
September 2014



Minister for Children and Families: Daniel Pitman
Director for Children and Families: Cole McGillivray

This AGM report will highlight the purpose of the Ministry for Children and Families, its accomplishments this past year and identify the priorities for this upcoming year.

Purpose of MNBC Children and Family Services

The long-term objective for the MNBC Children and Family Services is to support the delivery of services for Métis children and their families in British Columbia. This includes supporting the development of a Métis-specific Child and Family Services framework and working in partnerships with the Métis Commission of BC, the BC Ministry of Child and Family Development as well as the Métis service providers.

Accomplishments from September 2013 to September 2014

Historic signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between MNBC and the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth, BC

It is noteworthy to identify the main objectives of this important Memorandum of Understanding which are to have a joint dialogue and advocacy process that focuses on:

- advocating on behalf of Métis children and youth to ensure that they are fully supported in their well-being and development from birth to adulthood, including that they receive culturally-appropriate levels and types of services from government and agencies of sufficient quantity and quality to address their needs, circumstances and aspirations;
- supporting Métis peoples to be effective advocates for their children and families;
- advocating for the development of programs and services that respond to the experience of the Métis communities;
- advocating for the well-being of Métis children, including keeping Métis children within Métis communities whenever possible and minimizing unnecessary disruption to their lives;
- providing advice to the Representative for Children and Youth regarding issues affecting Métis children and youth;
- identifying and collaborating on research that supports Métis children and youth;

MCFD Aboriginal Early Years Advisory Circle

This provincial policy table oversees the management and funding of five million dollars for urban Aboriginal Early Childhood Development programs and services throughout BC. MNBC representation on this committee ensures Métis communities will have equal access and support to this funding for Métis-specific early childhood development programs.

Service Delivery Letter of Understanding Signing with the Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society

This Letter of Understanding ensures that MNBC and Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society are working in collaboration to provide Métis-specific child welfare services to Métis children and families who are residing in the Ktunaxa traditional territories.

Priorities Moving Forward

This past year has had both challenges and successes in regards to MNBC ensuring culturally safe services exist for Métis children and youth in care. However, it has been said that with every challenge comes an opportunity, therefore this coming year will focus on creating more opportunities to raise awareness with MCFD and Aboriginal Delegated social workers on the importance of providing culturally appropriate services to Métis Children, youth and their families.

Public Health Service Authority (PHSA) Indigenous Cultural Competency Child Welfare Training

MNBC had the opportunity to review this training curriculum for social workers to ensure there was Métis content in it. Upon completion of the review, MNBC had recommended that a separate module on Métis culture, language and history be included into this curriculum. MCFD has denied this request, but MNBC continues to advocate for funding to have the Métis training module developed as part of this training for social workers.

Strengthening working relationships with Aboriginal and Mainstream Service providers and governments

It has become apparent there is a need to broaden our networks and partnerships to ensure all Métis children and families have access to culturally safe services and programs. Therefore, MNBC will work on developing partnerships with the following organizations: BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centers; the Federation of Aboriginal Foster Parents Association; Aboriginal Delegated Agencies; the Métis Commission; the Ministry for Children and Family Development BC; Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, BC and the representatives for Children Services from the five governing assemblies of the Métis Nation Council and the Representative for Children and Youth BC.

Permanency Planning for Métis children and youth in care

Research had demonstrated that a child who spends more than a year in care would likely have poorer outcomes as an adult. Given this research and the currently reported statistics of Métis child and youth in government care, MNBC will assist the Ministry of Child and Family Development and Aboriginal Delegated Agencies in permanency planning by trying to identify long-term Métis caregivers and/or adoptive parents for Métis children and youth in care.



**MNBC Central Registry
AGM Report
September 2014**



Minister: Marilyn Taylor
Director of Registry: Laurel Katernick

Central Registry Accomplishments September 2013 to September 2014

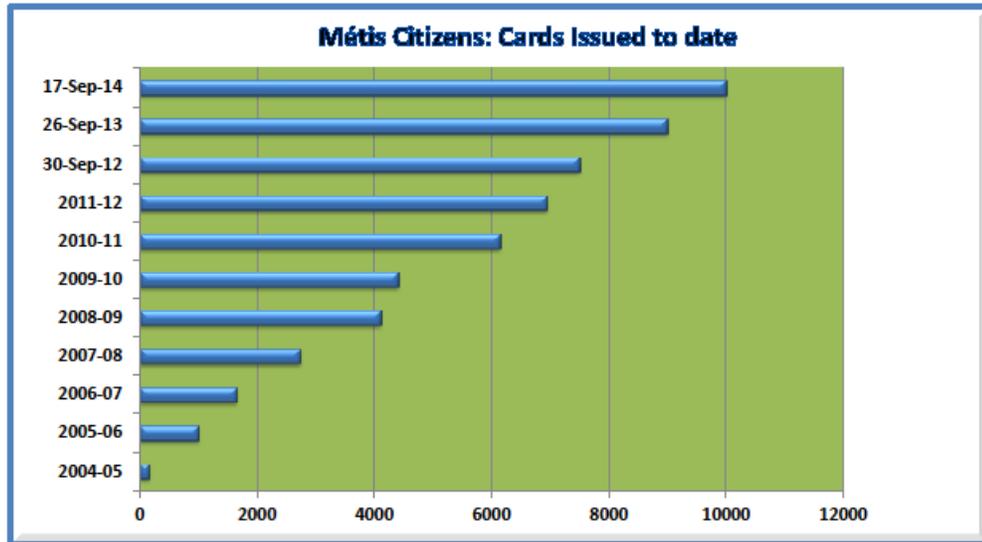
- 1. MAJOR MILESTONE OF 10, 000 CARDS ISSUED TODATE!!**
- Central Registry received an average of 300 incoming calls per month.
- Central Registry has received 707 new applications to date.
- Prepared official Voters Lists for the 2013 By-Election.
- Re-implemented distribution of statistical reporting to Regional Directors and Chartered Métis Community leaders.
- Responded to requests for Chartered Métis Community Citizenship list for the purpose Chartered Community AGM notifications and invites.
- Developed & implemented Central Registry Change of Address form in electronic format. This form can now be filled out and submitted electronically via the MNBC website.

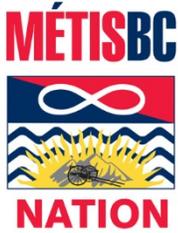
Central Registry Top Three (3) Priorities 2014-2015

- 1) Twenty percent increase in number of cards issued annually in 2014/15 i.e.: 1,000 to 1,200**
 - Strengthens the MNBC Citizenship Registry
 - Strengthens the MNBC Governance
 - Potential increased opportunities for Métis people in the province of BC
- 2) Reduce & maintain processing time for complete applications to 12-16 weeks.**
 - Increase time utilized by Registry staff for complete application processing.
- 3) Seven (7) MNBC Chartered Community Membership List pilot projects (i.e. 1 in each MNBC region.)**

Support Chartered Communities to update current membership lists with the use of resources available to the MNBC Central Registry. (I.e. StreetSweeper Address Correction & Validation Software in conjunction with MNBC Citizenship lists.)

- Support MNBC Chartered Communities with updated membership lists.





MNBC Ministry for Culture, Heritage & Language
AGM Report
September 2014



Minister for Culture, Heritage & Language: Daniel Pitman
Cultural Coordinator: Leona Shaw

Summary of activities:

- Participated and proudly displayed Métis culture throughout the province at various events. MNBC's display showcases animal furs and hides, traps, traditional clothing (beaded vests, moccasins, and a wedding dress), Louis Riel's address speech from the 1800's (original newspaper article), Hudson Bay blankets, Michif language cards, and many other items. Lisa Shepherd (from GEMS) often attends many of the events as well and holds jigging lessons and displays her own artwork. Some of the main events included:
 - Métis Days, Fort St James
 - Vive Les Voyageurs, Fort Langley
 - Cloverdale Rodeo, Surrey
 - Aboriginal Day, Jasper National Park
 - New Caledonia Days, Fort St. James
 - Various community events and gatherings across the province
- MNBC represents one of Aboriginal communities that make up the Jasper Aboriginal Forum and has signed an endorsement with Parks Canada in support of the Jasper Aboriginal Cultural Area -*Guidelines for Transitional Use*. Parks Canada and the members of the Jasper Aboriginal Forum are working together to transform an 8 hectare section of land in Jasper National Park into the Jasper Aboriginal Cultural Area – a site where Aboriginal people whose ancestors' traditionally occupied areas within the park can gather to reconnect, celebrate, and share. It will support traditional practices such as; cultural camps, sweat lodges, and Elder-youth teachings. Another goal is to ensure that the plants and animals continue to flourish, waterways remain pristine, and traditional practices continue for future generations.
- Parks Canada provided funding to have an impressive Métis flag made and it was raised on this special Day.
- Parks Canada created a video about Métis in Canada and included MNBC citizens in the filming.
- Created a Metis recipe cookbook featuring recipes from community members throughout the province (used to raise funds for BCMANR).
- Secured funding to support our communities celebrate Louis Riel Day.
- Created a Métis culture video, featuring pictures from community members throughout the province. Video can be accessed on the MNBC Facebook page and on You Tube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZa4SCFsoO4>

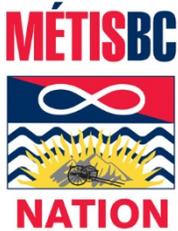
- MNBC has started to create a cultural registry and database. When launched, it will enable citizens and (and other MNBC website users) to access contact information about Métis cultural educators, teachers, and knowledge holders (i.e. jiggers, artisans, beaders, story-tellers, etc.)
- Searching (ongoing) for potential funding opportunities to promote Métis culture (Government, Foundations, etc.)
- Research (ongoing) on Métis culture and how best to promote it (find out what other provinces have done, research effective ways to promote Métis and/or Aboriginal culture, etc.)

Key accomplishments:

- Obtaining funding to provide each community with funds to celebrate Louis Riel Day
- Participating and proudly displaying Métis culture throughout the province at various events.
- Strengthening and maintaining our relationship with Parks Canada, who have generously supported the promotion of Métis culture (purchased the Métis flag, Jasper Aboriginal Cultural Area, events at Fort St. James Historic Site)

Goals for 2014/2015:

1. To develop and gain momentum in the Ministry of Culture, Heritage & Language. It is of crucial importance to MNBC to secure funds to develop capacity in this Ministry and help support Métis communities throughout BC promote culture, heritage and language.
2. Search for, find, and apply to more potential funding sources to promote Métis culture, heritage, and language projects for 2014 (festivals, displays, Aboriginal & Louis Riel Day, etc.).
3. Showcase Métis Culture, Language and Heritage at events across the province.



MNBC Ministry for Economic Development
AGM Report
September 2014



Minister for Economic Development: Bruce Dumont
Industry Engagement and Partnership Liaison: Colleen Hodgson

Joint Venture Agreements

Belvedere Place Contracting - A Letter of Understanding (LOU) will shortly be signed with Belvedere Place Contracting (BPC). The LOU will establish a formal partnership agreement between BPC and MNBC and will provide for the formation of a 51% Aboriginal owned company for purposes of procurement. A joint venture agreement is being drafted for implementation. For more information about BPC go to <http://www.bpcltd.ca>

Williams Scotsman - A Letter of Understanding (LOU) will be signed with Williams Scotsman Canada (WSC). The LOU establishes a formal partnership agreement between WSC and MNBC and will provide for the formation of a 51% Aboriginal owned company for purposes of procurement. A joint venture agreement is being drafted for implementation. For more information go to <http://www.willscot.ca>

Labour Market Partnership Accords

Spectra Energy – A benefits agreement was signed with Spectra Energy that includes; identifying potential employment opportunities; identifying training needs and supporting employment; identifying potential cost sharing opportunities in respect of specific skill training courses, which may include the involvement of third parties or other levels of government; exploring potential contracting opportunities and other business opportunities.

Kinder Morgan Canada – A benefits agreement is being negotiated with Kinder Morgan Canada that includes; a Metis Business Development Fund to prepare Metis businesses for procurement opportunities and support for training programs.

Enbridge Northern Gateway – MNBC and the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) received funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education for the Aboriginal Emergency Medical Responder Program. Through the Labour Market Partnership Accord, Enbridge contributed funding to support a Métis Community Coordinator to support Métis students in the program.

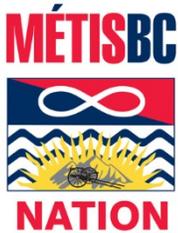
Métis Business Development

Energy Development and the Métis in Western Canada

Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) and Métis Nation Alberta (MNA) hosted the “Energy Development and the Métis in Western Canada. The focus of the summit was to discuss the role energy resource development will play in Métis communities in British Columbia and Alberta and improve the level of Métis people’s participation in, and benefit from, employment and economic opportunities across all industry sectors throughout British Columbia and Alberta.

Métis Business Registry and Pre-Qualification

A business registry has been developed for Métis businesses in B.C. and includes an opportunity for businesses to register online to prepare for opportunities in expanding energy development. MNBC is supporting Métis businesses in the pre-qualification process that all industry proponents require in order to access Aboriginal set-asides.



**MNBC Ministry for Education
AGM Report
September 2014**



Susie Hooper, Minister of Education
Colleen Hodgson, Director of Industry Engagement, Partnerships and Education

Post-Secondary Education and Training

MNBC and the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the 2013 Annual General Meeting. It is through this partnership that the JIBC and MOU were successful in receiving funding for the Aboriginal Emergency Medical Responder (AEMR) program. A Metis Community Coordinator is being hired by MNBC to support Metis students in the program which will begin delivery in Prince George and Fort St. John in November 2014.

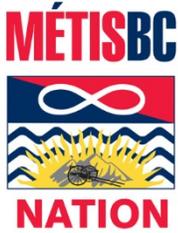
Energy Development Workforce Strategy – Training and employment strategies are being developed with industry partners including Northern Gateway, TransCanada, Kinder Morgan and Spectra Energy. These initiatives bring together industry, government and post-secondary institutions in B.C.

Coastal Corridor Consortium Métis Learning Facilitator - A Métis Learning Facilitator was hired by MNBC to support Métis students at Vancouver Community College and other post-secondary institutions in the lower mainland. The facilitator will focus on recruitment, retention and employment opportunities for Metis students.

MNBC and CN – A partnership was developed between CN and MNBC in order to facilitate recruitment for Conductors and Rail Track Maintainers in the northeast. Recruitment was implemented through the MNBC Employment and Training Program. MNBC is pursuing an MOU with CN through their Aboriginal Community Sustainability initiative.

Imagination Library

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation renewed the Imagination Library agreement for the 6th (sixth) year in a row and there are now over 200 Métis children under the age of five receiving monthly books. The program continues to grow and MNBC will continue to lobby for continuous funding for this important literacy initiative.



**MNBC Métis Employment & Training
AGM Report
September 2014**



**Minister for Employment and Training: Glen Ohs
Acting Director for Employment and Training: Arlene Lambert**

Métis Employment and Training (METP) has been very active over the last twelve months as we prepare for the final scheduled year of the Aboriginal Skills Employment and Training Strategy. Time has been spent finding efficiencies in the operations to ensure that funding was available for as many clients as possible in a timely manner; connections with community were re-emphasized; partnerships with other service providers and with small local employers have been developed.

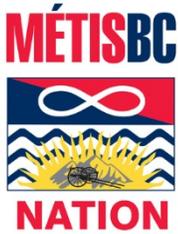
As we enter the final year of the strategy, the focus has been on the employment component of the program as many of the clients have completed their training and are now actively seeking assistance with job searches and resume writing. Wage Subsidies and the Employment Supports Program have been aggressively marketed to employers to ensure they understand the benefits of hiring a Métis individual.

The employment landscape within British Columbia is dynamic as the resource sectors are continually surging or receding. As a result, the Regional Staff has worked very hard over the last year to ensure that the training provided to Métis persons is in alignment with labour market demand and will also provide long term sustainable employment through transferable skills regardless of the what industry is in “demand” at the current time. Long-term sustainable employment is ultimately our goal for all Métis persons in British Columbia.

The METP team, both in the seven regional offices and the provincial office, is working extremely hard to ensure that MNBC is positioned as strategically as possible for any program renewal or for the launching of a new employment and training program. The three pillars of ASETS (Accountability, Partnerships and Demand Driven) are in the forefront of every team member’s mind when decisions are made in all aspects of the program.

For the current fiscal year, the programming budget has been almost completely committed and efforts are being made to secure additional funding from our government agency. It is an excellent position to be in for the final year of the strategy and is the result of the hard work and dedication of the METP team. Through the next several months the Regional Staff will continue to provide support to both funded and non-funded clients to ensure they are successful in their job searches and training endeavours. Regional relationships with employers will be developed and strengthened to provide employment opportunities both now and in the future.

The next six months will be busy for METP as the current ASETS program sunsets on March 31, 2015. I am proud of the dedication and passion that the METP team has displayed in the last year and I know that each and every one of us are prepared to put the work and effort in over the next six months to ensure future employment and training funding is secured by MNBC for the Métis people of British Columbia.



MNBC Ministry for Health
AGM Report
September 2014



Minister for Health: Lissa Smith
Director for Health: Tanya Davoren

Métis Nation British Columbia recognizes that Métis people require additional supports in programming and services to attain health and wellness that is equal to that of other British Columbians. Services and programs that currently exist in the Province may not be accessible or inclusive of our Métis people. The lack of specific data around Métis health contributes to the Métis population falling through the cracks of the current healthcare system. MNBC is interested in developing an evidence-based approach to decision making. Therefore, in order to identify the Métis population's health needs proper data collection is required.

The Metis Public Health Surveillance Program (MPHSP), through our informed consent process, has worked with the BC Provincial Ministry of Health to create for the very first time, a Metis database of just over 1500 MNBC Citizens. The information that we will be able to derive from data draws will assist us in identifying the health needs of the Metis population. Without this hard evidence we are unable to prove the need for additional supports and services for Metis people and families.

MNBC's Health Ministry regularly receives calls and emails asking about health benefits, like glasses, dentures, hearing aids and prescription assistance. With more evidence the MPHSP will strive to prove the need for such resources, but we need your help!

We have set a goal of an additional 300 Metis Citizens consenting by March 31st, 2015. Please check and see if you are a part of the Metis Public Health Surveillance Program and talk with your family and Metis friends and encourage their participation. The only thing the province will know is that you are Metis and MNBC will never have access to any of your information, as it is held at the province where it has been since your birth. The data will be reported out in a public health manner, so you can never be identified individually (i.e. 472 Metis people in BC have diabetes).

The Metis Health Ministry just mailed out a Health Magazine entitled "Metis Public Health – Keeping Our Communities Strong". We hope that this magazine piqued your interest in health and you have a greater understanding of why we need to have more Metis people involved in the Metis Public Health Surveillance Program so that we have Metis health data.

The magazine also mentioned the MNBC Comprehensive Survey, 500 Metis Citizens were randomly chosen to participate and the first 300 will receive a \$20 Gift Card for Save-On-More or Canada Safeway. We have had many people ask if they can take the survey, the recipients do indeed need to be randomly chosen or it skews the data, but thank you for being champions for

Metis health!

Highlights of the past year

Metis Nation's Health Ministry has worked with our funders to provide opportunities to generate Community Capacity.

The Community Capacity Proposals were funding for activities that were undertaken in late spring of 2014. Grant applications were open to Métis participants from MNBC'S February Proposal Writing Workshop and to MNBC'S Métis Chartered Communities. MNBC saw these grants as an opportunity to give back to their Chartered Communities by providing participants with grant writing skills and the tools to be successful by securing funds to support youth and health initiatives in their respective communities.

16 Community proposals were funded for projects that include walking groups, cultural workshops, community gym passes, community health challenges, snowshoeing, and more. 6 Youth led health related projects were also funded.

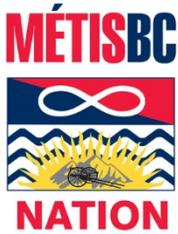
MNBC assisted the Metis Chartered Communities in Richmond, Powell River and Vernon access funding through the Aboriginal Health Initiative Program at Interior Health Authority and Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. AHIP funded women's programming in all of the Communities as well as a walking group in Vernon.

In a collaborative effort to improve cancer care for Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia, five organizations announced their partnership on an unprecedented strategy to advance improvements in continuity of cancer care for First Nations, Métis and Inuit patients in rural and remote communities. The First Nations Health Authority, BC Cancer Agency (BCCA), Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) and British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC) all entered into a three-year project that includes \$950,000 in funding from the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC). The aim of this project is not to duplicate efforts, but to *improve* existing cancer care for Aboriginal peoples in the province and beyond.

The 2014-2017 project has been planned to improve the continuity of care in a culturally competent and safe manner for Aboriginal cancer patients, with a focus on rural and remote communities to ensure sustainable transformative change. A Cancer Focus Group was first held in December of last year and we look forward to working with our Communities on this important work.

MNBC's Health Ministry was very pleased to be able to offer \$50,000 in Health Bursaries through the generosity of Aboriginal Health at the Provincial Health Services Authority. The \$50,000 was broken down into: 4 Bachelor awards at \$5,000, 1 Masters award of \$10,000 and one Doctorate award of \$20,000. Congratulations to the successful applicants.

Metis Nation British Columbia is pleased to have secured funding to re-hire part time employee Gail Parenteau as of September 30th, 2014. Gail was the past Regional Health Coordinator/Educator for the Interior Health Authority catchment area. Gail has been a valuable resource in the Thompson/Okanagan and Kootenays and we are now able to offer her services province wide. Welcome back Gail!



MNBC Ministry for Natural Resources
AGM Report
September 2014



Minister of Natural Resources: Bruce Dumont
Acting Director of Natural Resources: Christopher Gall

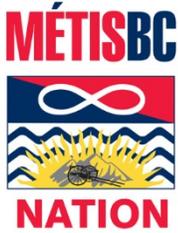
Summary of Activities:

- Natural Resource staff has made numerous project submissions to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) and to the National Energy Board (NEB) on various mining and energy resource related projects in British Columbia.
- Currently engaged in more than 30 projects and ensuring Métis concerns are identified and forwarded into regulatory process and/or directly to the proponent.
- Organized several community meetings and engagement sessions across the province to hear from Métis communities.
- Currently engaged in the Kinder Morgan/Trans Mountain Expansion project EA process. MNBC has Intervenor status and has held numerous community engagement sessions in Regions 1, 2, and 3.
- Met several times with Parks Canada on several initiatives in Fort St James and Jasper National Park. We also participated in the Caledonia Days in Fort St James.
- Engaged and meet quarterly as part of the Northern Gateway Community Advisory Board.
- The A/Director along with the Chair of BCMANR, and MNBC's CEO met with the Provincial Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resources – Assistant Deputy Minister Tom Ethier in September to discuss recognizing the MNBC harvesting card. Continue to explore, research, and work towards gaining future harvesting rights for Métis in BC.
- Currently engaged with Port Metro Vancouver and involved in the consultation process and working groups in regards to the proposed Roberts Bank Terminal project (RBT).
- Secured funding to begin a Métis specific Use and Occupancy Mapping (UOM) project. Hired mapping expert, Terry Tobias, to design study and train MNBC staff members to produce top-notch Métis land use and harvesting maps that can be used to protect and benefit Métis interests in BC.
- Began UOM interviews in Region 7.
- Updating the annual online Harvester survey to make it more user-friendly and capture more meaningful data. MNBC has hired Linux to help re-design the online survey.

- Secured funding from the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) and continue to build a meaningful relationship with Environment Canada (EC) and CWS.
- Participated in the Métis National Council Environmental committee meetings.
- Working with other departments in MNBC to compile historical information to document Métis historic presence in British Columbia.
- Continue to work meaningfully with BCMANR and the 8 BCMANR Captains on all consultation projects and harvesting issues.
- Wrote and distributed 3 editions of the BCMANR newsletter, *Within Our Sights*.

Goals for 2014/2015:

- Continue UOM mapping across the province
- Continue to search for, and secure funding, to ensure Métis land use activities (and resources) are preserved and promoted across the province.
- Work closely with the BCMANR Captains to continue to pursue Métis Harvesting Rights in British Columbia



**MNBC Ministry for Sport
AGM Report
September 2014**



**Minister responsible for Sport – Kate Elliott
Director of Sport – Tanya Davoren**

Métis Nation British Columbia's objective is the development of a sports and recreation strategy that will include Métis people of all ages and abilities. MNBC Ministry of Health continues to work with Aboriginal, Sports, Recreation, Physical Activities Partner's Council (ASRPAPC) to ensure the inclusion of Métis people of all ages and abilities. We know that increasing Métis people's access and participation levels in sports programming and recreation activities improves health outcomes. The strategy takes a youth centered approach because, as the largest growing population sector in Canada, they represent the future for Aboriginal communities. Youth are the sector of the population most easily attracted to participating in sport, recreation and physical activity, and for whom the opportunity to learn about a healthy, active lifestyle and achieve better health, enhanced self-esteem and self-confidence can best translate into positive life choices that, in turn, will improve health in the short and long term.

MNBC's Sport Ministry recognizes the financial barriers to participating in organized sports and recreation activities, and will work towards ensuring equitable access.

Please follow the below links for financial assistance:

Athletics for Kids <http://www.a4k.ca/>

KidsSport <http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/british-columbia/>

BC Athlete Assistance Program

http://www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/sport/programs/BC_athlete_assistance_program.htm

Viasport <http://viasport.ca/other-funding-sources>

<http://www.viasport.ca/aboriginal-youth-sport-legacy-fund>

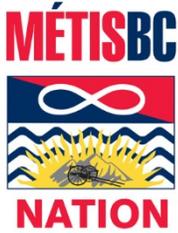
BC Athletics <http://www.bcathletics.org/AthleteSupport/>

Métis Nation British Columbia was very proud to provide sashes for all the Métis Athletes and Coaches on Team BC at the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) in Regina Saskatchewan in July 2014. Congratulations to each and every one of you for being a part of this tremendous event!

Team BC has made history at the Regina 2014 North American Indigenous Games. They are the first team in the history of the Games to win both the Overall Team Title and the John Fletcher Spirit Award. The John Fletcher Spirit Award is presented to the contingent that best demonstrates the spirit of teamwork, fair play, respect and integrity throughout the NAIG competition week.

Team BC competed in 13 sports and won a total of 160 medals (63 gold, 49 Silver, 48 bronze) over the course of the competition week. This put the team in first place, just one medal ahead of

Team Saskatchewan – the Host province. This is the first time BC has won the Overall Team Title at the NAIG.



**MNBC Ministry for Veterans
AGM Report
September 2014**



**Minister for Veterans: Lissa Smith
Director for Veterans: Tanya Davoren**

We would like to encourage all Métis Veterans to register with the Métis Veterans of British Columbia. We would also ask for your assistance in supporting Métis Veterans within your families and communities in registering for Métis Veterans of British Columbia, and it is greatly appreciated and valued.

Métis Veterans are Active, Retired or Reserve members of Army, Navy or Air Force and Active or Retired members of the RCMP, Coast Guard, Merchant Navy and applicable Police Forces.

We are actively seeking representation from North Central, Northeast and Northwest regions. We currently have 2 applicants for the Vancouver Island Regional Representative position.

Metis Veterans – BC Regional Representatives:

attend Metis Chartered Community meetings, Regional Governance Council Meetings (when funding allows), Annual General Meetings and Metis Nation Governing Assembly, Participate in Colour Party (Flags) and as Dumont Scouts, read all relevant materials, which may include minutes, reports, and financial statements in advance of meetings to identify errors, omissions, and actions that may require follow-up.

Metis Veterans – BC would like to remind you that Remembrance Day is right around the corner. Arrange your wreath as soon as possible with your local Legion, the cost is approximately \$35 - \$45 and submit your receipt for your Metis Chartered Community to MNBC for reimbursement. Please ask to be placed near the front as you are representing our Nation and your Community. It would be wonderful if local Metis Veterans could be involved, please see how you can help the Veterans in your Community attend and hopefully assist with the wreath laying.

Fundraising efforts

Metis Veterans of BC donated \$1,000 to the Batoche Veterans monument this past July at Batoche. The funds are being utilized to inscribe the 8 stone pillars with names of Metis Veterans. The MVBC are selling tribute packages that consist of a sash armband, a Batoche Monument Pin and a Monument postcard. The money raised from the tribute packages will be donated back to the Monument fund so the remaining funds required to complete the inscriptions can be achieved.

Metis Veterans of BC have the Aboriginal Commemorative Pin for sale for \$10. The pin has a Metis Sash in the design and is very attractive.



Ministry of Youth

Minister Responsible for Youth: Kate Elliott
Director of Youth/ORAAP Program Director: Colette Trudeau

ACTIVITIES – SEPTEMBER 2013 UNTIL NOW

Cultural Connections for Aboriginal Youth 2013-2014

Metis Nation British Columbia, through the support of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, supported 16 Metis Chartered Communities and organizations through the CCAY Program. Although met with funding challenges, communities were resilient and programming was a success by supporting over 1,200 Metis Youth to garner employment skills and training. CCAY has been transformed into Partnership Capacity Supports and is now administered by the National Association of Friendship Centres.

Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan

Metis Nation British Columbia has aligned its work with the creation of the BC Regional Plan to ensure the new Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS) supports Metis-specific needs. MNBC is currently in the process of completing an environmental scan of the organization for the past 5 years and will be hosting community engagements across the Province.

Unified Aboriginal Youth Collective

Metis Youth British Columbia has been very active as part of the Unified Aboriginal Youth Collective. The UAYC held the Annual Youth Forum in Tofino, BC to gather youth voice related to the BC Jobs Blueprint. Through youth engagement efforts, the UAYC created a working document entitled 'Unified Aboriginal Youth Collective: Employment and Training Report that will be presented to Ministers across the Province to ensure the needs of Aboriginal youth are being reflected in all BC Jobs planning.

4R's Young Leaders Initiative

The 4Rs movement was launched by 14 indigenous and non-indigenous organizations, which include: The Assembly of First Nations, The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, Métis Nation British Columbia (on behalf of the Métis National Council), YMCA Canada and more. It is our belief that we can and must use this diversity to shape a strategy for reconciliation of Canada's Indigenous and non-Indigenous.

MNBC (on behalf of the Metis National Council) has completed the following activities:

- Supported 10 Metis Youth from across Canada to participate in a 4R's gathering in Edmonton.
- Assisted in the creation of the 4R's Strategic Plan.

Gathering Our Voices

MNBC supported 8 Metis Youth from across the Province to participate in Gathering Our Voices. Their participation increased the awareness of the MNBC Ministry of Youth and the

MYBC Committee. The MYBC committee members who participated in Gathering Our Voices volunteered at the MNBC exhibition table and MNBC staff provided a workshop on Proposal Writing.

Proposal Writing/AYM Forum

The Proposal Writing and Social Enterprise Workshop were held at the Richmond Vancouver Airport Hilton from February 21-23, 2014. MNBC was responding to the feedback from our Community ORAAP reports by providing training for Métis community members and Metis Youth, in Proposal Writing and Project Management to increase community capacity.

Community Funding Opportunity

MNBC was pleased to announce that we would be able to distribute up to \$40,000 in community based funding grants to successful Métis participants at the Proposal Writing Workshop. Thirty-eight proposals were received and twenty-two proposals were successful in receiving support under the youth or health component of the funding.

ACTIVITIES – MOVING FORWARD

PRIORITY 1: *Re-establish CCAY-like programming at the Community level under the Urban Aboriginal Strategy, in partnership with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres.*

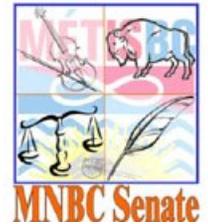
PRIORITY 2: *Continue participation and supporting initiative like the Off-Reserve Aboriginal Action Plan, the Unified Aboriginal Youth Collective and the 4R's Young Leaders Initiative.*

PRIORITY 3: *Complete 5 Year Environmental Scan of Metis Nation British Columbia and host Community Engagements, with a focus on Youth and Elders.*

PRIORITY 4: *Continue partnership with the MNBC Ministry of Children and Family to increase Metis youth foster supports within the Provincial Government.*



MNBC Senate
AGM Report
September 2014



Minister of Justice: Annette Maurice
Prepared by: William Thibeault, Senate Clerk

APPEALS

During the period since September 2013, the Senate has met three times; October and December of 2013 and in March of 2014. Since the Senate had met once prior to the last AGM that provided the requisite four meetings for citizenship appeals during the fiscal year period of April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014. For this fiscal year (April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015), the Senate has been informed by the CEO that there is not any funding available for face to face meetings, but efforts could be made to provide for electronic communications methods for appeal meetings. The Senate has concerns about the reliability and confidentiality of electronic communications for the purposes of appeals – which deal with personal data and with the issue of identity, and studies have indicated this to be critical point for people and particularly for aboriginal peoples.

Senate meetings are primarily for rendering determination on citizenship appeals, although other items of business are often a part of meetings. In the three sittings since last September, the Senate was able to hear the evidentiary packages on twelve appeals. The Senate was also able to review and ratify thirteen “Denial of leave to Appeal” letters that had been issued by the Senate Clerk with the revised process the Senate had established for that purpose.

In all cases, it is important to note that by having the Senate as our judiciary, MNBC as a nation is making the decisions on citizenship appeals rather than having the decision go to a body or court separate from the nation. This provides the nation, and citizens, with the natural authority to determine membership, and saves government and the nation the potentially very high costs that would be associated with the conventional court system if such appeals went to that body, which would be the case without an internal judiciary. This ability is also a critical aspect of self-governance, of establishing ourselves as a self-sufficient and sustainable Nation.

As of this time, there are thirteen active files in process, and six citizenship appeal files in abeyance that are carried over from past years. These files are for individuals where the genealogy is based on the asserted historical presence of Métis and Métis communities in British Columbia. There is not currently sufficient information to be able to prove that there were historic Métis communities in the province, more research work is needed on this important subject.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The Senate continues to be very interested in the development of restorative justice program for the nation. Funding for restorative justice training was sought last year, but the request was not successful. The Senate will continue to pursue the development of restorative justice for the nation, as this appears to be a natural evolution for the future of the Senate and the Nation.

OTHER ITEMS

Currently, the Senate still has only six members, as there is not a Senator appointed for Region 6 (North West) at this time, and this has been the case for approximately one year now. MNBC is still working on the process for appointment of a Senator for that region.

FUTURE

The Senate will endeavour to continue to work with the political and bureaucratic arms of the nation to find the funding required for the Senate to perform its duties as the judiciary of the Nation. Complementary to this, the Senate will independently pursue other funding sources than those of the political and bureaucratic arms.

There is concern on the part of the Senators as Senatorial duties are specified in the legislation, but the Senate does not have the necessary resources to carry out those duties. If funds/resources can be provided, the Senate will continue to render judicial decisions and provide the other Senatorial duties required. However, the Senate believes it cannot properly exercise its duties under the current constraints; that a secured funding mechanism must be developed to enable the Senate to carry out its legislated functions. Based upon the inability to render judicial decisions and the removal of interaction with the citizenry of the nation, as all Senate interactions are coordinated through the Senate Clerk, the Senate believes they could be seen to be in a position of culpability to the nation, and are considering a mass resignation.