

KÂ ISI NÂTAMA ÔTA ATI NÎKÂN
OUR WAY FORWARD

Métis Nation of British Columbia
Strategic Plan 2023/24 - 2026/27

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MNBC STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 - 2027

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A MESSAGE FROM MNBC'S PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



On behalf of our Board of Directors and our very dedicated staff at MNBC, I am pleased to present our strategic plan, *Kâ Isi Nâtama Ôta Ati Nîkân: Our Way Forward*, to all Métis citizens and Métis Chartered Communities across the province. This strategic plan marks a new way forward for our Métis Nation in British Columbia and charts the paths we will follow together to a future where all Métis people, communities and our children thrive.

Our MNBC Board and expert staff have been working tirelessly to forge new opportunities for key initiatives, agreements, partnerships, and relationships. As we move together toward true reconciliation, transformative change is required to break down the systemic barriers, discrimination, and other challenges that are the on-going legacies of colonization, intergenerational trauma, and exclusion. We also see the undue impacts upon Métis women, elders, youth and members of our 2SLGBTQIA+ communities which we continue to address and prioritize.

One of our greatest priorities as an Indigenous People is the protection and care of our children, especially our most vulnerable children in care. We are working across several areas to ensure a safer present and better future for our Métis children, including the foundational work in fighting to gain jurisdiction of our children in care, promoting cultural revitalization and wellness, ensuring quality education, and creating a host of new childcare spaces.

In forming our approach, the Board has continued to embrace a democratic, collaborative

leadership style that reflects key values drawn from our rich Métis culture and heritage. These cultural values have now been articulated for all staff as we bring forward true Métis leadership and ways of working in all of our interactions. We especially value our interconnected relationships with our 39 Métis Chartered Communities across the province as we work to support direct community level services as well.

As the Métis government in BC that represents the collective rights of Métis, one of Canada's three constitutionally recognized Indigenous Peoples with affirmed Aboriginal rights as Métis people in Section 35 of the Canadian constitution, we at MNBC are continuing to work collaboratively and rigorously with our federal and provincial partners to promote Métis rights and recognition, achieve jurisdiction of our Métis children in care, and clarify our position, which will also serve to help restore harmony to our relationships with First Nations in BC. MNBC will continue to hold true to our values, share more of our history and stories, and represent the collective rights and interests of Métis in BC.

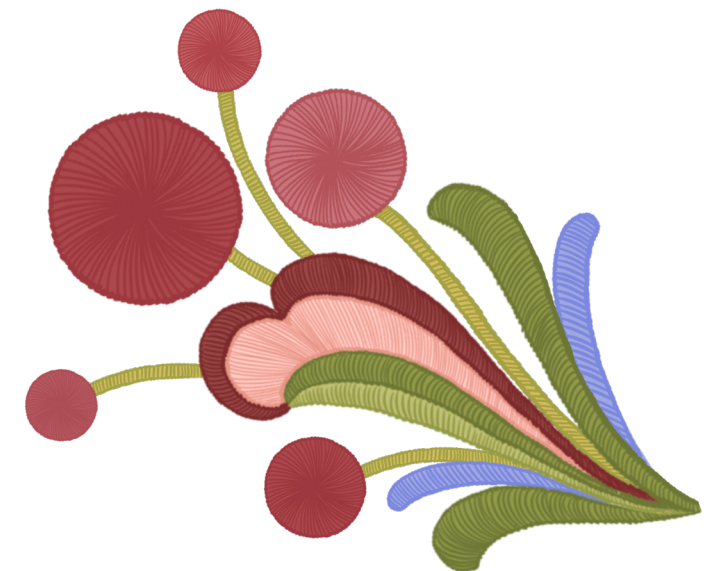
The path for Métis people has never been an easy road and we have continued to experience misunderstanding, discrimination, and exclusion, but we are committed to walking this road together, achieving our goals, and working respectfully with all we intersect with on the road. This approach is part of our cultural traditions as Métis. We have accomplished much, and we will accomplish even more as we work together and strengthen our relationship ties.

Our Board of Directors and MNBC staff look forward to acting on this plan and supporting the Goals of the Nation to help bring reconciliation and wellness in all forms to all Métis in BC, to move past the legacy of colonization that we as an Indigenous people have carried far too long, and which our children do not deserve to inherit.

The future is very bright for Métis Nation British Columbia as we continue to work together on *Kâ Isi Nâtama Ôta Ati Nîkân: Our Way Forward*.

Maarsii,

Lissa Smith
President



A MESSAGE FROM MNBC'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Kâ Isi Nâtama Ôta Ati Nîkân: Our Way Forward, MNBC Strategic Plan 2023-2027 is the culmination of a year of strategic engagements, planning, and feedback from across Métis Nation British Columbia. Senior staff leadership have also been conducting a series of regional visits to share information and learn about how our operational work is impacting communities on the ground. We are listening and we continue to learn as we respond to the needs of our more than 24,000 Métis citizens and 39 Chartered Communities.

One of our key internal initiatives has been the promotion of Lateral Kindness Training across MNBC and the shift to Métis cultural values, which include integrity, kindness, innovation, respect, teamwork, humility, and resilience. How we carry ourselves as MNBC staff will be key to achieving the goals and outcomes identified in this strategic plan.

The operational arm of Métis Nation British Columbia now includes over 20 ministries and departments, all working toward achieving our vision and implementing our mission through six new strategic goals. These Goals of the Nation include:

- > Promote Métis Rights and Recognition, and Achieve Jurisdiction of Our Children
- > Promote Cultural Revitalization and Cultural Wellness
- > Pursue Socio-Economic Reconciliation
- > Support Métis Chartered Communities
- > Generate Core Capacity, Infrastructure, and Economic Development
- > Develop and Restore Respectful Relationships and Partnerships



As the work of Métis Nation British Columbia expands to serve our vision of creating a future where all Métis people, communities, and children thrive, we will continue to adapt, innovate, and increase our capacity to help. And while we have made great progress, we recognize that there is still much more work to be done to achieve true recognition and reconciliation to ensure Métis citizens have access to the programs and services they need, and the critical infrastructure required to deliver these services in culturally safe ways.

This plan also helps to articulate our strategic priorities and new initiatives to achieve our goals. There is no doubt that the work of MNBC is broad, complex, and sometimes challenging, but also incredibly meaningful in terms of positive impacts and outcomes for Métis in BC.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of our dedicated and hardworking staff at MNBC who have navigated these times of change with us. MNBC leadership, Chartered Communities, and citizens are incredibly grateful for your knowledge, wisdom, and skillful support.

We are already implementing *Kâ Isi Nâtama Ôta Ati Nîkân: Our Way Forward*, and we look forward to continuing to work together as we achieve even greater outcomes for Métis people and communities in BC.

Maarsii,

Colette Trudeau
Chief Executive Officer

OVERVIEW

Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC), established in 1996, is the Métis government in British Columbia, representing the collective Section 35 rights of over 24,000 Métis Citizens who are registered with MNBC and thirty-nine 39 Métis Chartered Communities. MNBC also advocates for the over 98,000 self-identified Métis in British Columbia, many of whom are at various stages of their journey in achieving citizenship, to participate fully in our rich democratic and governance traditions and activities. In 2002, the “National Definition” of Métis was formalized by representatives of the Métis Nation. Our central Citizenship Registry adheres strictly to the national definition to determine Métis citizenship. MNBC continues to advocate for recognition of our Indigenous rights as Métis, and our self-determination within the Canadian federation.

Métis Nation British Columbia’s strategic plan, *Kâ Isi Nâtama Ôta Ati Nîkân: Our Way Forward*, charts our path along six central themes which form our “Goals of the Nation” in BC. These new goals will help us as the Métis government to achieve the outcomes that are critical to our vision and act on our mission to support the well-being of all Métis people in BC, with a special focus on our Métis children who are the future of our Nation.

With this new strategic plan, we are moving toward a more comprehensive and values-based approach that prioritizes the areas and actions that will best serve our people, support all MNBC staff to do great work on behalf of our people, and forge respectful relations in all we do.

Core to our approach is the development of Métis cultural values for our Métis government that will guide and govern how we work together and how we interact with all of our communities, partners, and key relationships. These values are drawn directly from Métis cultural teachings and will be infused in how our leadership and staff approach our work in a good way.

In addition to our overall strategic plan, each MNBC ministry and department will now have its own Annual Ministry Plan that will align with our vision, mission, and strategic goals, with appropriate key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure our progress, reported quarterly. In this way, our work across all areas including our ministries, communities, committees, and councils will be strategically integrated and aligned so we all move forward together.

OUR VISION, MISSION AND CULTURAL VALUES

VISION

Métis Nation British Columbia envisions a future where Métis people, communities and children thrive. We are connected to our rich Métis culture, heritage and languages; we achieve strong socio-economic outcomes; and our Métis rights as an Indigenous people are recognized.

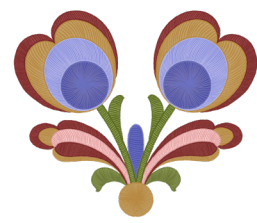


MISSION

As the Métis government in British Columbia, we represent Métis citizens and promote the rights, recognition, priorities and interests of all Métis in BC. We create opportunities for our people, communities, and children to flourish, and work to ensure access to a range of programs and services to bridge socio-economic gaps and increase overall well-being for Métis in BC.

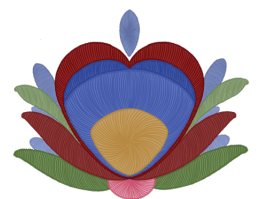
CULTURAL VALUES

To achieve our vision and mission, we commit to upholding our Métis cultural values in our work together at MNBC, in our communities, and in all our relationships. We embrace the values of integrity, kindness, innovation, respect, teamwork, humility and resilience.



KWAYES'KWÂT'SOWIN - INTEGRITY

We hold integrity as a core value. We are honest with ourselves, our colleagues, our communities and our partners. We are reliable and follow through on our word.



KISÎWÂT'SOWIN - KINDNESS

We show and practice lateral kindness in our organization and to everyone with whom we interact on behalf of MNBC. We practice kaa-wiichihitoyaahk: we take care of each other.



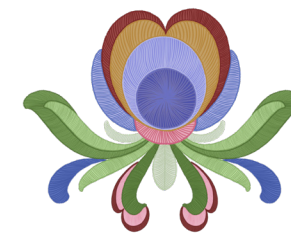
AHTISIHCIKÊWIN - INNOVATION

We draw on the spirit of Métis innovation and bring forward our curiosity and creativity to problem solve and develop new solutions for our people.



MANÂCIHITOWIN - RESPECT

We respect ourselves, others and all Creation.



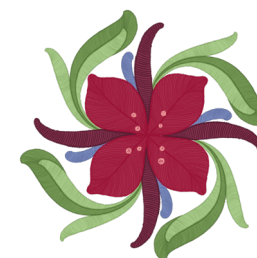
ATOSKÂTOWIN - TEAMWORK

We work together and actively seek opportunities to share information, collaborate on initiatives, and practice reciprocity for stronger outcomes. We embrace teamwork to achieve greater potential for success.



TÂPAHTIYIM'SOWIN - HUMILITY

We show and practice cultural humility and cultural agility. We are open to new ideas and recognize the wisdom that surrounds us from others who carry experiences different than ours.



SÎPIHKISÔWIN - RESILIENCE

We are resilient and do not fear challenges or setbacks but remain courageous and learn from each step of the journey. We channel the courage of our Métis ancestors who faced adversity and remained resilient.

GOALS OF THE NATION

Through our series of strategic engagements, several key themes have emerged where priority action is needed to create the level of transformative change necessary to achieve reconciliation for Métis people in BC. These six goals of the Nation will be the primary focus of MNBC for 2023/24 to 2026/27.

#1. PROMOTE
MÉTIS RIGHTS AND
RECOGNITION,
AND ACHIEVE
JURISDICTION OF
OUR CHILDREN

#2. PROMOTE
CULTURAL
REVITALIZATION
AND CULTURAL
WELLNESS

#3. PURSUE
SOCIO-
ECONOMIC
RECONCILIATION



The following sections will further articulate these goals and share some of the strategic priorities that we have currently identified to support the achievement of these goals. It must be noted that the strategic priorities focus mainly on new, high impact initiatives, and that there are dozens and dozens of on-going initiatives that are not highlighted but will be included in specific Annual Ministry Plans as we continue to support the needs of Métis citizens in British Columbia.

#4. SUPPORT
MÉTIS CHARTERED
COMMUNITIES

#5. GENERATE
CORE CAPACITY,
INFRASTRUCTURE
AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

#6. DEVELOP
AND RESTORE
RESPECTFUL
RELATIONSHIPS
AND
PARTNERSHIPS





GOAL ONE:

PROMOTE MÉTIS RIGHTS AND RECOGNITION, AND ACHIEVE JURISDICTION OF OUR CHILDREN

Assert our Métis rights as an Indigenous People under Section 35 of the Constitution of Canada and gain our rightful recognition and jurisdiction of Métis children in care.

As one of Canada's three Aboriginal Peoples recognized in Section 35 of the Constitution, we will continue to promote Métis rights and recognition in British Columbia. Métis Nation British Columbia upholds our Section 35 rights, and we are working in good faith at federal and provincial tables to clarify and implement these rights as the Métis government in British Columbia in order to achieve reconciliation and bridge the significant socio-economic gaps that persist.

Importantly, we are working tirelessly to gain our rightful jurisdiction of Métis children in care under new federal child protection legislation. Children are at the centre of all we do, and ensuring a better future for all Métis children starts with the need to transform our child welfare system to not only ensure the protection of our most vulnerable Métis children in care, but to build a family preservation system that focusses on proactive family services to better support children and families before interventions are needed. To be clear, only Métis people can determine what is best for Métis children, and at MNBC we are deeply committed to achieving the implementation of this basic human right that has been taken from us through regaining our rightful jurisdiction as an Indigenous people.

We are also seeking to restore respectful relations and expand shared understandings of our Métis specific rights with First Nations in BC, as we recognize that these important relationships need to be improved. In engaging our core cultural Métis values, we are seeking to work more closely with First Nations to develop specific community-level agreements which may include community protocol agreements, child protection MOUs, and other shared priorities and opportunities to strengthen our collective efforts in reconciliation.

The Métis have been known as "Otipemisiwak": "the people who govern themselves," and our Indigenous right to self-determination is core to our Métis identity, both culturally and politically. At MNBC, we will continue to review and strengthen our governance processes and structures. As an Indigenous People, we embrace the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and its manifestations at the provincial level as the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and at the federal level as the

United Nations Declaration Act (UNDA). We will continue to work toward a self-government agreement with Canada as outlined in the 2017 Canada-Métis Accord, our 2018 MOU with Canada, and reaffirmed in section 4.4 of the UNDA Action Plan. We also continue to actively pursue a reconciliation agreement with the Government of British Columbia as outlined in the 2021 Letter of Intent with BC.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Continue our work at the federal Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination (RIRSD) table to achieve a self-government agreement in fulfillment of Canada's constitutional obligations toward Métis people.
- Ensure the federal UNDA Action Plan items are implemented and built upon, including section 4.4: "Consistent with the commitments set out in the Memorandum of Understanding for Advancing Reconciliation (MOU) signed in 2018, as well as under the UN Declaration and other mechanism, Canada will continue to advance reconciliation between Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) and Canada by fulfilling its commitments in the MOU by co-developing agreements and shared solutions regarding the subject areas listed at 1.2, as well as other items of mutual interest."
- Continue our federal and provincial effort to gain jurisdiction of our Métis children in care.
- Clarify our Section 35 Métis rights in British Columbia through our MNBC Engagement Policies.
- Ensure provincial DRIPA Action Plan items specific to MNBC are implemented and built upon.
- Continue negotiations with the provincial government to achieve a reconciliation agreement and fiscal agreement as outlined in the 2021 Letter of Intent with the Province.
- Continue to support our rigorous Métis Citizenship Registry and process as foundational to our Nation.



GOAL TWO:

PROMOTE CULTURAL REVITALIZATION AND CULTURAL WELLNESS

Preserve, promote and revitalize Métis culture, heritage, and languages and strengthen cultural wellness as a foundation of overall well-being for Métis people.

As Métis people, we have been gifted with an incredibly rich cultural heritage. We are a distinct Indigenous people with cultural roots in both Indigenous and European cultures and have combined these origins through ethnogenesis into a unique cultural expression and distinct political consciousness as well. As Métis people, we are grateful to our ancestors and respect our Elders for all of their gifts of cultural wisdom. The greatest gift any culture has is its language, as language embeds a culture's philosophy, history, perspectives and cultural paradigms. The loss of any culture's language is a global loss to human consciousness. We recognize and support three dialects of Michif: Southern Michif, Northern Michif, and French Michif. We are focusing not only on proficiency but achieving fluency among Michif speakers in BC.

At MNBC, we are passionate about preserving, promoting and revitalizing Métis culture, history, traditions, practices and languages, including what UNESCO terms "intangible cultural heritage." Our work in environmental protection and climate justice will be more clearly framed within our Métis specific rights, and focus primarily on our intangible cultural heritage, our traditional knowledge, and ways of being and will be founded on working respectfully and in harmony with First Nations, with appropriate licensing, agreements and permissions.



As Indigenous people, we are passionate about our role in promoting a healthy Earth, and in working collaboratively with First Nations as the stewards of this land since time immemorial. Research in the area known as the "social determinants of health"

affirms what Indigenous people have always known: you cannot have true wellness without cultural wellness. Our very physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health is predicated upon our cultural wellness.

In order to achieve true physical and mental health as Métis people, we must strengthen our cultural foundations, which colonization through residential schools, day schools, the 60's scoop, and other discriminatory policies and legislation was designed to exclude, dispossess, and erase Métis culture. We are reclaiming our culture through revitalizing and promoting awareness of our rich cultural heritage. One of our signature initiatives listed in our strategic priorities is the launch of the Amelia Douglas Institute for Métis Culture, Heritage and Languages. Our full story as Métis people in British Columbia has yet to be told, and we are excited to share and educate more broadly.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Launch the Amelia Douglas Institute (ADI) for Métis Culture, Heritage and Language
- Collaborate with Métis artists, knowledge carriers, and historians to promote the recognition and appreciation of Métis cultural heritage.
- Develop and deliver cultural programs, events, and educational resources that foster pride and identity among Métis individuals and communities.
- Develop a Métis social determinants of health framework.
- Promote, safeguard and share Métis intangible cultural heritage.
- Operate a pilot Métis health and wellness centre.
- Offer Métis cultural safety courses for professionals in various fields.
- Through the Anti-Racism Task Team, advocate for the integration of Métis cultural practices and approaches to health and wellness within healthcare systems and policies.
- Share more of our history, stories, and experiences as Métis people in BC, and celebrate our changemakers.



GOAL THREE:

PURSUE SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECONCILIATION

Address racism and systemic barriers to lift up Métis people, families, Chartered Communities and individuals of all ages, genders, and abilities to help bridge socio-economic gaps that still exist due to the legacy of colonization.

Métis people in British Columbia continue to be over-represented in negative outcomes across all social determinants of health, including but not limited to educational outcomes, employment, justice issues, health and mental health indicators, housing security, food security, and overall economic well-being. There continues to be a lack of culturally-safe services for all Métis people. Métis children and families require a far greater range of culturally-safe services and supports, as well as much needed K-12 funding. Métis seniors and elders face many challenges related to low income, and Métis youth and 2SLGBTQQIA+ also continue to be marginalized by a lack of culturally safe resources and intersectional understanding. Métis women continue to be over-represented in the justice system, and many Métis women and girls continue to experience gender-based barriers, including on-going gender-based violence and the issue of MMIWG. This is not acceptable.

MNBC is striving to bridge these socio-economic gaps and create greater well-being for all Métis in BC across our many “social sector” ministries, which include but are not limited to our largest ministries of Education, Post-Secondary Education and Employment Training, Health, Mental Health and Harm Reduction, and Housing and Homelessness, and also our ministries that focus on intersectional populations with specific needs, including but not limited to our ministries of Women and Gender Equity, Elders, and Youth.

One emerging area of greater advocacy and engagement is in Justice with the development of a much-needed Métis Justice Strategy. We are also further looking to reduce poverty, reduce housing precarity through homelessness programs and supports, and strengthen food security as well.

In addition to reconciliation activities on the part of the provincial and federal government that promote social improvement, full reconciliation must also include economic reconciliation to create the on-going, generational conditions of well-being. We must stop the intergenerational cycles of trauma, exclusion, lack of access to justice, and low socio-economic outcomes. Education and training are the primary path out of poverty for many, and MNBC is vigorously pursuing more ways to support Métis learners through tuition funding programs and supports, and the planning and development of a new Métis post-secondary institution well underway.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Increase K-12 funding for Métis children and families.
- Launch the Métis Justice Strategy
- Continue our work on the Anti-Racism Task Team and develop a highly visible Métis anti-racism campaign
- Develop a Homelessness and Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Promote and support food sovereignty
- Strengthen MMIWG and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Advocacy
- Provide more resources to address the Métis youth self-harm and suicide epidemic
- Advocate for a Métis Treatment Centre
- Develop a Métis Health and Wellness Centre
- Advocate for federal legislation introducing national Métis health benefits
- Collaborate with healthcare providers, researchers, and policymakers to develop culturally appropriate healthcare services and programs for Métis people in British Columbia.
- Support initiatives that address the social determinants of health and promote holistic well-being for Métis individuals, families, and communities.
- Create more K-12 and early learning resources and supports for Métis children.
- Collaborate with industry, government, and educational institutions to create training and employment programs that are culturally relevant and responsive to the needs of Métis individuals and communities.
- Develop our Métis post-secondary institute and advocate for increased post-secondary funding for Métis learners.
- Ensure an inclusive policy lens on all MNBC programs and services to be responsive to the needs of Métis women, 2SLGBTQQIA+, youth and elders.



GOAL FOUR:

SUPPORT MÉTIS CHARTERED COMMUNITIES

Support empowered and engaged Métis Chartered Communities by strengthening agreements, increasing governance capacity, and providing greater opportunities through better communication, strategic partnerships, programs, and services.

Métis Chartered Communities (MCCs) are at the heart of our governance structure. Métis people have always organized ourselves into community level democratic entities. The members of every Chartered Community directly elect their community representatives to represent them at our Métis Nation Governing Assemblies, ensuring a strong, democratic community voice in our decision-making processes. We are continuing to welcome home our Métis people who have been disconnected through colonial processes. Importantly, one of the four main criteria of the national definition of Métis citizenship also includes acceptance by a recognized Métis Chartered Community. The foundations of our own citizenship are based on community connection.

Métis Chartered Communities, which are primarily operated by volunteers, deliver many of the frontline programs, resources, events and community connections that Métis people seek at the community level. Although MCCs have been a vital and integral part of our Métis Nation governance structure, direct capacity support for our Chartered Community operations has been lacking. This is now changing.

Going forward, Métis Nation British Columbia will seek to provide greater capacity support to our 39 registered Métis Chartered Communities, in addition to a host of new priorities designed to improve communication, relations, services and opportunities with the Chartered Communities who make up Métis Nation British Columbia.

The Ministry of Community Services, as well as MNBC's Communications Division, will strengthen communications channels between MNBC and MCCs. The co-development of renewed Chartered Community agreements will further define and refine the relationship between MNBC and MCCs.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Co-develop renewed Métis Chartered Community Agreements to reflect the developing relationship with MNBC.
- As we build new fiscal framework capacities, launch the MCC direct funding support program to all registered MCCs with renewed community agreements in place.
- Create more partnerships with MCCs, including on social housing, childcare, and other infrastructure projects.
- Continue to develop and implement programs and initiatives to address the unique needs and aspirations of Métis communities in British Columbia.
- Continue to advocate and support greater emergency preparedness for communities with increasing impacts of climate change
- Strengthen Community Services to increase communications, understanding and assistance to MCCs.
- Assist MCC's to foster partnerships with government agencies, non-profit organizations, and private sector entities to enhance the capacity and well-being of Métis communities.
- Support respectful relations with First Nations in BC and encourage community level protocol agreements and other shared understandings.
- Provide governance training to grow MCC governance capacity.



GOAL FIVE:

GENERATE CORE CAPACITY, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Generate greater core capacity, infrastructure, and economic development opportunities to serve the growing needs of Métis people and communities in BC.

Métis people have been “the forgotten people” for too long. Our history as an Indigenous people is one of colonization, dispossession, and broken promises, which has resulted in a lack of sustainability, social infrastructure, and economic development opportunities for Métis people. Prior to and even after the inclusion of Métis as one of Canada’s three recognized Aboriginal peoples in Section 35 of the Constitution in 1982, Métis people have existed in a jurisdictional limbo which has often resulted in a lack of sufficient support from any level of government. MNBC seeks to strengthen our core capacity, infrastructure, and economic development opportunities.

Through the development of the United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the provincial Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) and DRIPA Action Plan, the federal United Nations Declaration Act (UNDA) and UNDA Plan, Métis people are starting to gain access to the supports they need. These international, national, and provincial frameworks provide a basis for the recognition, protection, and promotion of the rights and well-being of Métis people in the province.

Métis Nation British Columbia has primarily operated from time-limited project funding which provides substantial challenges for planning, sustainability, and growth. MNBC will be seeking different funding agreements, models and partnerships to help meet this important goal.

Métis people historically have been entrepreneurially minded, and through a new economic development strategy, MNBC will seek to further support our Métis entrepreneurs and business owners. Our economic development initiatives will also align with our Métis specific rights, and we will seek willing partnerships with First Nations and other levels of government on ventures of shared interest.

Through the development of our MNBC Facilities Master Plan and Critical Social Infrastructure study, we will advocate for increased funding and resources to build and maintain critical infrastructure in our Métis communities across the province, including social housing,

childcare spaces, Chartered Community administrative space, cultural centres, health and wellness centres, and other spaces, aligned with our Métis Design Book. We also will seek every opportunity as we build our infrastructure to be mindful of our role as Indigenous people to put the environment first and pursue the “greenest” development options.

We will also continue to focus on and develop our MNBC staff, which is our Métis public service, to enhance the capacity, skills, and employee engagement of all our staff. We will continue to improve our organizational development and infrastructure, including People and Culture initiatives and digital governance infrastructure.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Negotiate new fiscal frameworks.
- Develop an Economic Development Strategy.
- Create more resources for Métis entrepreneurs and Métis businesses.
- Partner with the Métis Finance Corporation on key initiatives.
- Explore development of a Métis Economic Development Corporation.
- Access and leverage available housing and infrastructure funding to implement the MNBC Facilities Master Plan & Critical Social Infrastructure Plan.
- Promote greater opportunities for Métis tourism.
- Pursue “green” options to safeguard the environment.



GOAL SIX:

DEVELOP AND RESTORE RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Develop and nurture mutually respectful relationships with Métis Chartered Communities, First Nations, federal, provincial, and municipal levels of government, other organizations and entities, and pursue key partnerships and agreements.

A key theme running through all the work of Métis Nation British Columbia is the importance of respectful relations with all our Chartered Communities, key partners, and governments of every level, including federal, provincial and First Nations governments.

Through enacting and living our Métis cultural values throughout MNBC, we seek to carry these important values of integrity, kindness, respect, innovation, teamwork, humility, and resilience in all of our interactions.

We also seek to improve, clarify, and align our communications across MNBC to produce more consistent messaging, and to support our Métis Chartered Communities with better communication channels and engagement opportunities as well.

We recognize that the foundation of any relationship is trust and respect, and we will seek to build both in all our relationships through greater direct engagement and open dialogue with all of our partners and potential partners. We seek to partner in areas of shared goals, interests, needs, and priorities to help achieve reconciliation.

Métis Nation British Columbia will also focus on developing respectful relations and forging new relationships across BC. MNBC is committed to positive and respectful relations with First Nations and acknowledges, upholds, and respects the inherent and treaty rights of First Nations in British Columbia. We acknowledge, respect, and honour First Nations stewardship of this land since time immemorial.



MNBC is committed to working with First Nations respectfully as we move forward in reconciliation to move past the profound impacts of colonization on our peoples and forge new opportunities to pursue areas of shared interest and priority.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Foster a culture of respect, understanding, and reconciliation in all aspects of the relationship-building process, including provincial, federal and First Nations relations.
- Develop stronger relationships and partnerships across social sector agencies and organizations, including but not limited to:
 - Health Authorities
 - School Districts
 - Colleges, Universities, and other Training Organizations
 - Cultural Organizations
 - Professional Organizations
 - Business Sector
 - Philanthropic Sector
- Develop and restore mutually respectful relations with First Nations.
- Develop more community-level agreements and understandings with First Nations in BC.

KÂ ISI NÂTAMA ÔTA ATI NÎKÂN OUR WAY FORWARD

At Métis Nation British Columbia, we recognize that our best way forward is together. This strategic plan for our Métis government is designed to bring our compelling vision to life for all Métis in BC, and to support socio-economic reconciliation and the well-being of our Métis citizens, children, families, and communities into the 21st century and beyond.



APPENDIX 1: NORTHERN MICHIF TRANSLATIONS & PRONUNCIATION

Northern Michif translations provided by Vince Ahenakew and Duane Favel of Île-à-la-Crosse, SK

Our Way Forward

Kâ isi nâtama ôta ati nîkân - (Sounds like: kaa-iss-eh naa-ta-ma oh-ta ah-ti nee-gaan)

Integrity

Kwayes'kwât'sowin - (Sounds like: kw-ay-yes-kwaa-t-so-win)

Innovation

Ahtisihcikêwin - (Sounds like: ah-ti-seeh-see-gee-win)

Humility

Tâpahtiyim'sowin - (Sounds like: taa-paah-teey-im-so-win)

Kindness

Kisîwât'sowin - (Sounds like: ki-see-waa-t-so-win)

Teamwork

Atoskâtowin - (Sounds like: ah-tos-kaa-toe-win)

Resilience

Sîpihkisôwin - (Sounds like: see-pihk-so-win)

Respect

Manâcihitowin - (Sounds like: ma-naa-tah-hit-to-win)

Visit the 'Michif Phrase Search' to hear audio recordings by scanning this QR code:



