
MONTHLY REPORT

Region: 7 Northeast BC

By: Paulette Flamond

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Tansi, and happy summer, July was a month working of planning for the visit of our CEO Daniel Fontaine and staff to visit the Northeast in August. We are all so excited and pleased that a regional initiative will begin in the Northeast. Some of the communities that are planned for visits include: Fort St John, Dawson Creek, Kelly Lake and Hudson Hope. Also, the METV crew will be visiting the Northeast and featuring some of our rich history, chatting with local artist, entrepreneurs and students that have received funding from MNBC. This will be an excellent time to share in the concerns and issues that we face here in the Northeast. On August 22nd there will be a meet and greet with the CEO to chat about what the citizens here would like to see in the Northeast.

I also attended two meetings with the Metis Financial Corporation of BC and am looking forward to meeting in person this September in Kelowna to attend a retreat. This work is very dear to my heart as I love seeing the support that is happening for our Metis citizens across BC. I have always believed that education and entrepreneurship is a vital endeavor to help our people to become self-reliant. The more people we support through education and entrepreneurship the stronger our Nation will become! We were pleased to find out that the Regional Initiatives and Innovation Grant application was approved. This project will be managed by Moccasin Flats Metis Society. It is my understanding that the video interviewing will get under way soon so that the Elders can all be interviewed. The communities decided on a video that will depict the historical ties that the Metis had in the Northeast dating back to the 1700's. This video will be an important resource tool that will be used to help educate others throughout BC while showcasing the resilience of our citizens.

The Presidents are still active in their community assisting their members in all aspects of supports, as well as helping others in applying for their citizenship cards. A membership drive will happen here soon, a support staff has been hired by MNBC to assist in a recruitment drive. I chat weekly with local Metis that do not have their MNBC citizen cards, it is my goal during my term to support them to get their cards. I believe that there are at least several hundred potential citizens here in the Northeast.

I continue with my Tuesday meetings with our Senior Health Director Tanya Davoran. These are meetings to catch up on all topic's health related. I am so pleased with her work on the book, Kaa-Wiichihitoyaahk (We Take Care Of Each Other) if you haven't had a chance yet please get ahold of a copy. It is a beautiful book to share with family and friends.

I continue my work with the Metis people in Kelly Lake by advocating for interim charter membership to MNBC. I am hopeful that it will be able to receive Chartered status soon and then it can receive the support that other communities are receiving.

Hope you are all enjoying Summer and stay healthy; I am forever grateful to support where I can.