

---

# MONTHLY REPORT

---

*Region: Northeast Region 7*

*By: Paulette Flamond*

*Report Date: AUGUST 2021*

I was so pleased to host our CEO and other MNBC staff to the Northeast in August. This was a four-day tour of the different communities. On August 22nd, we started it with a community gathering in Fort St John with around 50 people attending. This was an opportunity to meet staff and visit the information booths with our Health Department, Women's Representative Carol Paynter and Community Services Coordinator Erin Powers and Dennis Juarez doing a membership drive. The event included a dinner, and I was happy to see all the joy, laughs and smiles from our members visiting and enjoying each other's company.

The next day we gathered at the Employment and Skills office where Minister Gladue and I got to announce more funding for students. This was a happy day as our students deserve the extra support. A presentation was made later in the day to the City of Fort St John City Council by Bailey Munford and myself about the potential of purchasing land in Fort St. John for a housing development. This housing will help so many in our community including our Elders and I support this initiative 100%.

We travelled to Dawson Creek and Kelly Lake on August 25th. This was a great opportunity for our CEO and staff to visit our MNBC residents and to see the potential in Kelly Lake. The community is still working on its membership and the membership drive that MNBC did that day managed to get six applications for citizenship. The community is excited about the possibility, and I have been working with the MNBC citizens from there since I was elected Region 7 Director. On the last day we travelled to Hudson Hope and visited with the President Val Paice. It was wonderful to see all the Metis art displayed in its offices and to hear about the programs and services that the community needs.

The METV crew was with the tour the entire time and did interviews with our members including local entrepreneurs and artists and we can all watch this program to be aired in the fall, so stay tuned. We had a local townhall on the 18th with Northern Health to share data on the vaccine rates in the Northeast as this is still a region with low vaccine rates. I continue to chat with our citizens about the importance of vaccines and encourage people to be safe.

I attended one meeting 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!

I received several calls from our local Metis Elders looking for health supports and I'm very pleased that our Ministry of Health sent out postcards to our citizens informing them of our Elders support programs. This to me is an act of kindness towards our Elders and hopefully one day our government will have more resources to help everyone.

Enjoy your last days of summer and be safe.