



Métis National Council  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2022



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Since 1983, the Métis National Council has been the national and international voice of the Métis Nation within Canada. Through the Canada-Métis Nation Accord, the MNC advocates on behalf of Métis peoples across the Motherland and it's Governing Members—the democratically elected Métis Governments of Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia—to advance Métis rights and interests within their respective jurisdictions, including the implementation of the Métis Nation's inherent right to self-determination and self-government. The MNC is committed to accountability and transparency within its operations, and to its relationships with MNC Governing Members. Cassidy Caron is the President of the Métis National Council.

This 2021/2022 annual report outlines the work done at the Métis National Council from October 1, 2021 to October 24, 2022.



## What an incredible year it has been!

Together, your Métis Governments continue to bring about a new era of transformation for the Métis Nation. One in which its inherent rights to self-government and self-determination are being fully realized. We have so much to be proud of and so much more to look forward to!

Despite years of persistent challenges, your Métis Governments never stopped believing in the Métis National Council's potential to be a force for good within our Nation's transformation. An advocate for all, that uses its voice, resources, and influence to advance the collective aspirations of our Métis Governments and the citizens they serve.

Last September, we recommitted the Métis National Council to doing just that.

Together, we have introduced new policies and procedures that are enshrining financial transparency and accountability, open and timely communication, and respect for the MNC by-laws into the Métis National Council's very fabric. Essential measures that are restoring the MNC's integrity and re-earning the trust of our Métis citizens and external partners alike.

We have also returned the office of the MNC President to its original purpose: that of the chief spokesperson for national and international issues. One that promotes the cultural, social, economic and political interests of the entire Métis Nation, as guided and directed by the National Assembly and Board of Governors—the true institutions of our Métis democracy.



And we have done so in a way that recenters our relationships, by creating space for the open, healthy and respectful dialogue that is crucial to the advancement of our national Métis interests and to the continued existence of the MNC itself.

By doing these things, we have collectively stepped into a new era of Métis democracy, recognizing that the Métis National Council is not itself a Métis government, but rather a federation of Métis Governments—a place for Métis Governments to come together to advance their shared priorities. Because Métis are strongest when we work together.

And this is only the beginning. To stay relevant and meet the evolving needs of the Métis Nation, the MNC must continue to transform alongside you—its Governing Members, our Métis Governments. So that it can continue being a powerful vehicle for advancing our shared Métis aspirations through a collective voice. The MNC and I remain committed to doing just that.

I want to thank everyone who has and continues to play a critical role in the MNC's transformation, working tirelessly on behalf of all Métis citizens.  
***Meaningful, lasting change is possible. But only when we create it together.***





## **GENERAL OPERATIONS**

President Caron was elected at the General Assembly in Saskatoon on September 30th, 2021 and business started in Ottawa on October 1st, 2021. A large number of staff and consultants left MNC just prior to the election of the new President. This left MNC very short-handed with very few staff to pick up the load. However, working long hours and with dedication and determination, the MNC began to pull things together. It began meeting with the Federal Government and its Officials to discuss policies and funding for the Métis Nation. MNC began considering both employment needs to support the Governing members and the administrative needs to ensure the organization was transparent, sustainable and accountable.

The MNC has grown over the past year, with new, High-quality staff joining the team to ensure the strength of the national organization moving forward. We continue to review our staffing requirements to ensure that the MNC can best support Governing Members.

MNC has developed an Employee Handbook. This Manual provides guidance and establishes good governance rules respecting employees, the hiring process, flex schedules, overtime, sick leave and so many other matters. This Manual was provided to the staff for input and to the Board of Governors for approval.

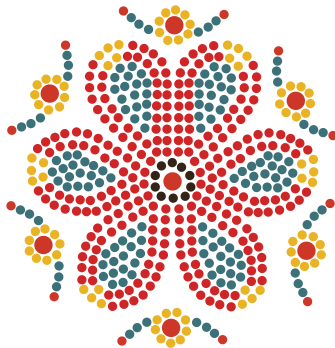
MNC has developed financial policies to ensure strong internal controls, to deal with year-end preparation and audit, financial and other reporting requirements, employee payroll, payment procedures and supporting documents, managing physical assets, financial investments, signing authority, conflict of interest, gifting, procurement and purchasing, lockdowns and remote workings, cell phone and internet policies, travel and expense reimbursement, and so much more.

The MNC provided financial statements and budgets to the Board of Governors that are transparent and in the interests of the Governing members.

The MNC is excited to share that we will be moving into a new office in the near future. The space will be shared with Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak, but the process of moving continues with the preparation of leasehold improvements. However, the staff and the executive are very excited about getting into their new home in a very central part of Ottawa with visibility for the Métis Nation.

Most importantly MNC has had five Board of Governors' meetings since October 1st, 2021 and has resolved to meet regularly, at least once every 3 months on predetermined dates throughout a fiscal year. These meetings have been fruitful and instructive to MNC and its employees, enabling us to better serve our Governing Members.

It is an exciting time at the Métis National Council, and as we look forward towards the future, we are excited for the opportunity in front of us to best serve Métis Citizens and the Governing Members, all across the Motherland.



## ORGANIZATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

The MNC saw many changes in staffing this year, bringing in many new faces to support the work of Governing Members across the Motherland.

Our policy teams have grown exponentially to ensure that Governing Members' voices are supported and heard on a variety of files. While the MNC has worked closely with the Governing Members on files such as Justice/UNDRIP, Environment, and Health, we now have policy directors on other files to support the Métis Nation on, including Economic Development, Veterans, Child and Family Services, and Languages. All of these teams have experienced growth as well, with policy advisors coming into roles to ensure direct support for Governing Members while providing policy advice and advocacy to the Federal Government.

We have a new and redeveloped Communications team that works closely with the directors from the Governing Members to share messaging and

create content that speaks to Métis Citizens across the Motherland. The Communications team also offers support to the other branches of the MNC staff, offering support on event planning. Three of the biggest projects that the Communications team has been involved with over the past year has been the redevelopment of the Métis National Council website, the MNC's newsletter The Pemmican Post, and planning for the 40th anniversary of the Métis National Council, happening in 2023.

We've also brought in new senior staff to support the office of the President in the day to day management of the Métis National Council. This has led to the development of many new employee policies to best support the work of the Métis Nation.

As we continue to grow, we will continue to best support the needs of Governing Members and Métis Citizens across the Motherland.

## WORKING BETTER, TOGETHER

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### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

The last year reflects the President's commitment to good governance by returning the MNC to its intended role and responsibilities. In its internal role as facilitator for the Governing Members, MNC led a collaborative approach to set priorities, develop strategic policy, and build relationships. This has helped MNC to meet its historical mandate as the national and international advocate for the Métis Nation.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT

MNC has built a collaborative, effective and transparent approach to working with Governing Members. This work includes:

- ∞ convening and facilitating bi-weekly meetings of the Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak to seek direction and guidance for ongoing work from the federal government;
- ∞ establishing working groups with representatives from Governing



- Members and LFMO with the requirement that terms of reference be approved by Governing Members;
- ∞ Providing support to the Board of Governors during meetings and deliberations.

Given previous challenges in governance, MNC is renewing the relationship with the Government of Canada, and regularly meeting with departmental officials across the federal government.

Where common priorities align on federal initiatives, MNC worked collaboratively with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the Assembly of First Nations, as well as educational and research institutions.

### **ADVOCATING FOR POLICY CHANGE**

In the past year, the shared work between MNC, Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak allowed the Métis Nation to achieve significant milestones. With support from Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak, the MNC:

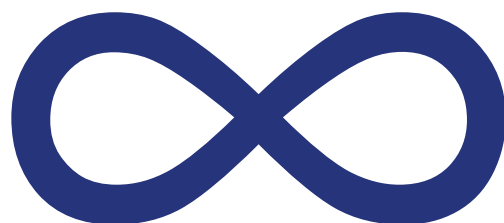
- ∞ Restarted the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism with meetings in January and May 2022, and co-developed table priorities with federal departments with financial support for policy development;
- ∞ Secured positive investments in Budget 2022 as a result of a co-developed Budget submission;
- ∞ Ensured Métis Nation participation in eight Federal/Provincial/Territorial meetings of ministers on topics including women, justice, housing, culture, and the environment, with representation by the National President as well as Presidents for Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak;

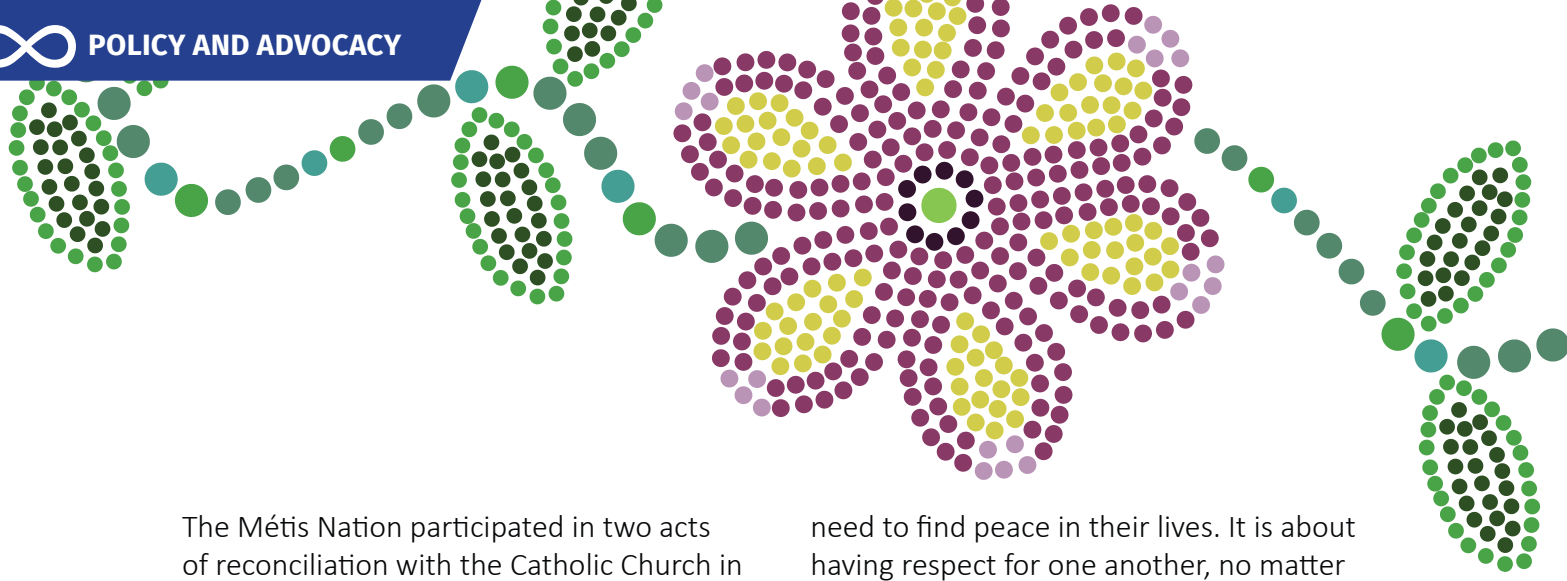
- ∞ Participated in the United Nation Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;
- ∞ Obtained the appointment of Métis Nation-Saskatchewan President McCallum to the Global Task Force for Indigenous Languages;
- ∞ Collaborated with the newly established Association of Métis Capital Corporations (AMCC) to advance economic development priorities;
- ∞ Obtained the appointment of several Métis officials to federal advisory councils; and
- ∞ Collaborated with the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on the Métis Nation Delegation to the Vatican and the Papal Visit to Canada, and advocated for Métis survivors.

### **UPCOMING WORK**

MNC will continue to build on its collaborative approach and be a strong voice for the Métis Nation. Some of MNC's upcoming work includes:

- ∞ Developing a multi-year strategic plan to ensure a transparent and accountable MNC;
- ∞ Organizing a Leader's meeting of the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism scheduled for December 2022;
- ∞ Coordinating Canada-Métis Nation Summit with the Prime Minister tentatively set for Winter 2023;
- ∞ Ensuring the Métis Nation is represented internationally co-hosting an event with Canada at the UN Climate Change Conference in Egypt, and participating at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.





The Métis Nation participated in two acts of reconciliation with the Catholic Church in 2022, one at The Vatican in late March and one in Canada, during Pope Francis' visit to Edmonton, Québec and Iqaluit.

Métis people have faced so much adversity, been placed in the most difficult, awful, inhumane of situations. Places and situations that sought to destroy our people, our families and our Nation. And yet, we are still here. The resilience, the strength, the perseverance of Métis Survivors serves as inspiration and a source of strength to continue advocating for what is right.

However, what is right for one, may not be right for another. The diversity amongst our people is beautiful. We share a common thread of culture, identity, of being Métis, yet we are diverse in the ways that we live our lives. We are self-determining in our own pathways and journeys and that is a beautiful thing.

The Métis National Council's participation in these two events is about Métis Survivors and supporting what they want, what they

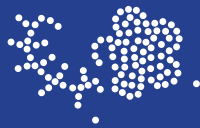
need to find peace in their lives. It is about having respect for one another, no matter where they are in their journeys, no matter what they determine they need to live a happy, healthy life and find peace within themselves.

We absolutely recognize that there is so much work ahead of us to seek out truth, justice and healing. That the work does not stop simply because of one individual's words of apology. There is work for us to do as individuals, communities, the Métis Nation, and there are also individuals, institutions and systems outside of the Nation who can, and need to, contribute to righting past wrongs.

One incredibly valuable aspect to what is taking place this year is that the conversation is continuing. The conversation of who we are, where we have come from, the truths about what has taken place on these lands and the lasting effects of colonization. We will continue talking about what happened, advocating for what Métis Survivors, communities and the Nation want for a brighter future now and for the coming generations.

**As an Elder once shared:**

*"We don't have to be just like one another. Be like the medicines. The medicines are all individual and beautiful, they grow in different places and they serve different purposes. They make every different place strong and beautiful in their own ways. Be like the medicines."*







## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AND JUSTICE

### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

- ∞ Meeting routinely with a regular working group for UNDRIP, that group meets with Canada and other NIO's. There is also a regular working group meeting around UNDRIP with the Governing Members. This group meets with the federal government and with National Indigenous Organizations to work together in developing UNDRIP strategies moving forward.
- ∞ Working closely with the Governing Members on the Justice file, particularly around the Indigenous Justice Strategy.
- ∞ MNC worked with the Governing Members to get funding on both Justice and UNDRIP and coordinated with Governing Members and LFMO on shared language and roles/ responsibilities in development of funding proposals.
- ∞ Supported the work of the Governing Members to receive funding on the Indigenous Justice Strategy.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT

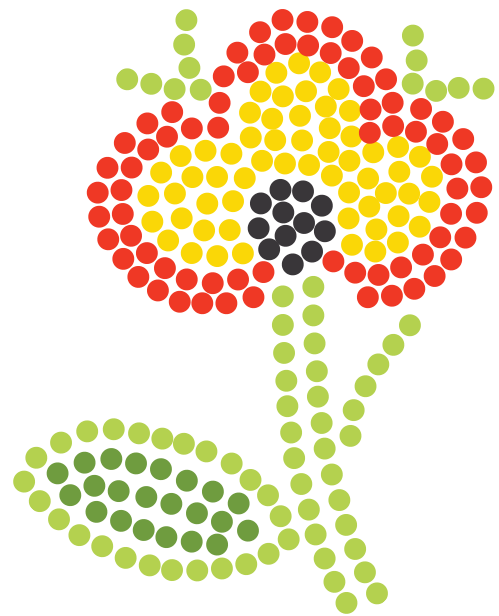
- ∞ The Justice Department, Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak have received funding to engage with Métis citizens to identify justice needs, priorities and opportunities for Métisspecific justice reform.
- ∞ During initial meetings of the Métis Nation internal working group, Governing Members were clear that they wanted to lead the development and advancement of their priorities. To this end, Governing Members continue to engage with Métis citizens and develop proposed measures and priorities for the UNDRIP action plan.

### ADVOCATING FOR POLICY CHANGE

- ∞ MNC has represented the Métis Nation to ensure the self-determination of how UNDRIP has been implemented federally this year.
- ∞ To address trends, MNC Department of Legislative Affairs and Justice and Governing Members have begun working with Justice Canada, Public Safety Canada, and Indigenous Services Canada.

### UPCOMING WORK

- ∞ Continue to engage with citizens as a part of the Indigenous Justice Strategy to identify the needs, priorities, and opportunities for Métis-specific justice reform.
- ∞ Convene a dedicated justice working group with the MNC, Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak and begin regular meetings by the end of 2022.
- ∞ Organize a Métis Nation Justice and UNDRIP Forum in the spring of 2023 to provide a national forum for the Métis justice issues and developments.
- ∞ Support production of UNDRIP Action Plan for June 2023.



## ENVIRONMENT

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### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

- ∞ The MNC alongside the Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak participate in the Canada – Métis Joint Table on Climate Change with the Federal Government. This Table is working together to develop a new name, vision and Terms of Reference which will be rooted in culture and language. This National Table meets twice yearly.
- ∞ MNC alongside the Governing Members are leading the development of a brand new National Métis Climate Strategy.
- ∞ MNC is sending the first Métis Nation delegation to COP15 (Convention on Biodiversity) and COP27 (Climate Change) with representation from across the Motherland.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT BY GOVERNING MEMBERS

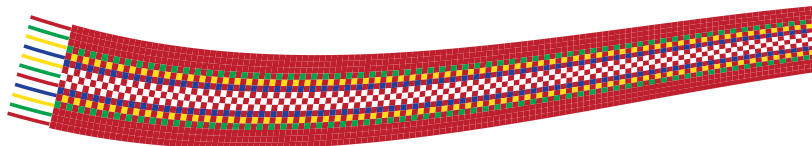
- ∞ The MNC supports the Governing Members on Métis Guardians initiatives in exercising their rights and responsibilities to the lands, waters, and ice of their traditional territories. GMs do this through community-based initiatives.
- ∞ The MNC supports the Governing Members on Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCA's), especially with the new call for proposal to develop land-based education and conservation initiatives.
- ∞ The MNC has supported GMs in the co-development of the new funding on Indigenous Climate Leadership, ensuring the advancement of Métis leadership, and guaranteeing that Métis voices are heard as they work to protect the Motherland from climate impacts and changes.

### ADVOCATING FOR POLICY CHANGE

- ∞ The Environment team at the MNC has worked with the Economic Development team to advocate for NRCAN capacity for each GM to invest in expertise to enhance new policies.
- ∞ The Environment team is also working closely with Health to co-develop a Métis vision and strategic path forward to address climate change and health concerns.
- ∞ The MNC is leading discussions on the development of a National Climate Strategy.
- ∞ The MNC continues to work towards funding supports for the Governing Members on Emergency Management.

### UPCOMING WORK

- ∞ MNC will be attending and hosting events at the upcoming UN COPs focused on climate change and the environment.
- ∞ The MNC alongside the Governing Members will be hosting our first event on conservation in January 2023 focused on species at risk, fish and fish habitat, the Guardians program, and much more. (Vancouver)
- ∞ Our next Canada-Métis Joint Table on Climate Change will be held at Métis Crossing in March 2023.
- ∞ The MNC is hosting its first ever Wildfire Gathering in Edmonton at the end of October 2022.
- ∞ The MNC will be releasing a fulsome report on Emergency Management in early November 2022.





## MÉTIS NATION CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

### BRINGING NATION TOGETHER

- ∞ Created initial workplan for Senior CFS Director position
- ∞ Coordinated development of Métis Nation CFS Directors Technical Committee
- ∞ Held 2 Technical Committee In-person Meetings and 2 Video Conference Meetings
- ∞ Planned and held first of 4 CFS Directors Technical Committee Strategic Visioning sessions
- ∞ Attended Métis Nation Governing Members and Directors Meeting July 14, 2022, in Ottawa
- ∞ Facilitated Technical Committee participation in meetings with,
  - the Public Health Agency of Canada regarding Distinctions based Data strategy and information sharing project,
  - ISC and Spruce Creative initiative to provide information and direction to create distinctions based public information regarding the federal Act Respecting First Nation, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families, and
  - Federal/Provincial/Territorial/ Indigenous Technical Working Group

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT

- ∞ Successfully negotiated 2022-2025 MNC Capacity Building & Workplan Funding Budget
- ∞ Initiated ISC & MNC Child, Youth and Family Services Reform working level bilateral meetings
- ∞ Participated in planning session for MN-S new Child and Family Services Working group regarding self-determination and Child and Family Services
- ∞ Met with MN-S Minister responsible for Child and Family Services

- ∞ Leading re-establishment of Métis Nation Data Strategy Working Group Participant;
  - the Child Maltreatment Surveillance and Research Working Group
  - Federal/Provincial/Territorial/ Indigenous Technical Working Group
  - Bilateral Child and Family Services Reform meetings with ISC

### ADVOCATING FOR POLICY CHANGE

- ∞ Contributed to Métis Nation affidavit for Application for leave to intervene - SCC QCCA Reference Appeal
- ∞ Participated with MNBC regarding response to denial of Indigenous Governing Body Status by ISC
- ∞ Recruiting Policy and Legislative Advisor to support MNC CFS priorities
- ∞ Participated in two Permanent Bilateral Mechanism Senior Officials Meetings

### UPCOMING WORK

- ∞ Finalize Memorandum of Understanding on Métis Nation-Canada Child, Youth and Family Services Accord
- ∞ Finalize draft CFS Directors Technical Committee Terms of Reference
- ∞ Complete facilitated Strategic Vision process and Work Plan development with Métis Nation CFS Directors
- ∞ Restart Métis Nation Data Strategy Working Group with ISC
- ∞ Institute regular ISC & MNC CFS Directors Technical Committee Child, Youth and Family Services Reform working level bilateral meetings
- ∞ Hire Policy and Legislative Advisor to support MNC CFS priorities
- ∞ Attend individual Governing Member Offices to meet with CFS Director and officials.

## HEALTH SECTOR

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### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

- ∞ Developed the Health Sector strategic plan with the joint effort for the MNC and Governing Member representatives.
- ∞ Consistent technical meetings with the Métis Nation Technical Health Committee and working groups that discuss various health priorities such as mental health, COVID-19, Rare Disease diagnosis among others.
- ∞ Supporting and collaborating on initiatives and projects with other MNC Departments, including Environment (the intersection of health and climate change) to facilitate the broader success of the MNC.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENTS BY GOVERNING MEMBERS

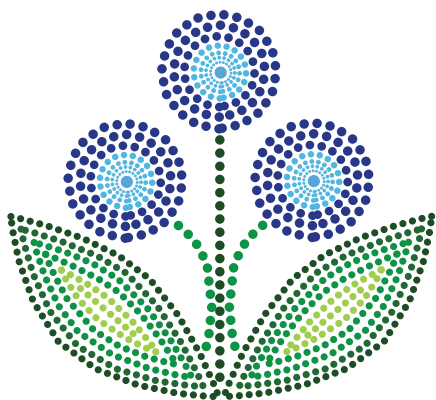
- ∞ Capturing voices of the Governing Members and supporting engagement with Métis citizens from across the Motherland to inform health priorities.
- ∞ A focus on supporting Governing Members in evaluating and reporting on various projects progress by developing broad policy documents and tools to be adapted to each Governing Members needs.
- ∞ Engagement on Anti-Indigenous Racism in the Health Care System has been a key priority, the MNC has collectively created background documents that will support Governing Members, academics, researchers and organizations to evaluate policies and procedures to implement culturally safe programs across the Motherland.

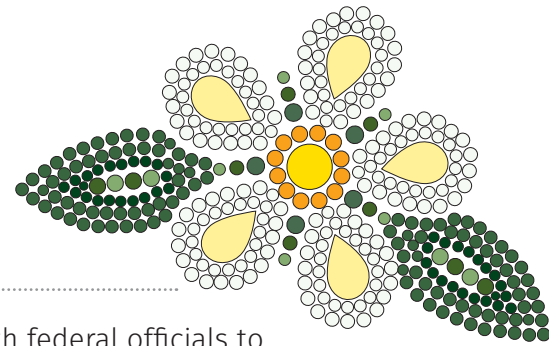
### ADVOCATING FOR POSITIVE POLICY CHANGE

- ∞ Engaged Federal representatives from every Federal Departments responsible for health development.
- ∞ A particular focus has been given to increasing Health Capacity funding to support the MNC's work with the Canada-Métis Nation Health and Wellness Accord in mind.
- ∞ Work and priorities as the MNC advocates for policy change and advancement has been informed by the needs articulated by Governing Members and Métis citizens through engagement efforts.

### UPCOMING WORK

- ∞ Second Annual Métis National Health Forum with Governing Members, federal representatives, Métis citizens, frontline workers and others in Gatineau, October 18-20, 2022
- ∞ Health and Climate Change Meeting planned with the Department of Environment, with Governing Members in Gatineau, October 20-21, 2022.
- ∞ Mental Health and Cannabis Workshop with Governing Members, Mental Health Commission of Canada and Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction in Vancouver, December 1-2, 2022.
- ∞ Ongoing bi-weekly meeting with Governing Members as a part of the Métis Nation Technical Health Committee.
- ∞ Continued support of effective engagements between Governing Members and federal officials.





## MÉTIS EDUCATION AND TRAINING STANDING COMMITTEE

### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

The Métis Education and Training Standing Committee (MESTC) was formed in July 2022 to replace the Métis Human Resources Development Agreement (MHRDA) Working Group. The MESTC includes representation from MNC governing members working within the realm of the Indigenous skills and Employment Training Program (ISETP), the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy (PSE), and the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC). Jointly, these three program areas carry funding agreements that represent an investment of \$1.4 Billion to the Métis Nation.

The MNC's program diversity reflects the Métis Nation's expanding relationship with the Government of Canada. As such, the MESTC is a more inclusive structure with a broader mandate that brings together education and training representation from across the Métis homeland.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT

The MESTC has begun to engage federal officials to co-develop performance management models for the three programs areas under its jurisdiction. The overall goal is to ensure a distinctions-based co-development process that meets the terms and conditions of the Canada-Métis Nation Accord.

To ensure full participation from Métis officials across the homeland, the committee will hold its first in-person meeting in the two days preceding the MNC Annual General Meeting, and this meeting will be followed by future

engagements with federal officials to pursue on-going relationships at the officials' level and to develop a robust work-plan for the three mandated areas.

### ADVOCATING FOR POLICY CHANGE

The development of a Métis K-12 education proposal was identified as a key short-term priority. In September, the MESTC researched this topic extensively and drafted a new Métis K-12 paper that includes a federal (financial) ask based on a funding formula that is already present under federal per capita expenditures for the First Nations K-12 education program. The draft K-12 proposal calls on the federal government to recognize the deficits in Métis education by investing in infrastructure, curriculum development, and Métis control of Métis education.

### UPCOMING WORK

In the coming months, the MESTC is proposing to organize a Métis national symposium on education. If approved, the symposium will focus on lifelong learning and will include ELCC programming as part of its agenda. In addition, the MESTC will formalize ISETP, PSE and ELCC sub-tables and will develop work plans that will be shared with ESDC and ISC to trigger national program administrative resources. As part of this, the MESTC mandate will require the co-development of national performance measures under each funding stream. As described in the sub-Accords between the Métis Nation and Canada, these accountability framework agreements will be co-developed.



## HOUSING SECTOR

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The MNC Housing sector has undertaken a series of initiatives over the past year to support the prosperity and well-being of the Métis Nation.

### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

- ∞ In June 2019, the Canada-Métis Nation Homelessness Accord was signed, setting the stage for cooperation and collaboration between the MNC and its then-five Governing Members to develop Métis-specific approaches to homelessness.
- ∞ Through their Engagement Protocol Agreement, the MNC is responsible for coordinating national engagement with Canada and Governing Members to advance approaches to prevent and reduce Métis homelessness.
- ∞ The priority of MNC engagement with Canada and Governing Members is to identify the Métis homelessness priorities, gather data on Métis homelessness and determine gaps and opportunities for future development.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENTS BY GOVERNING MEMBERS

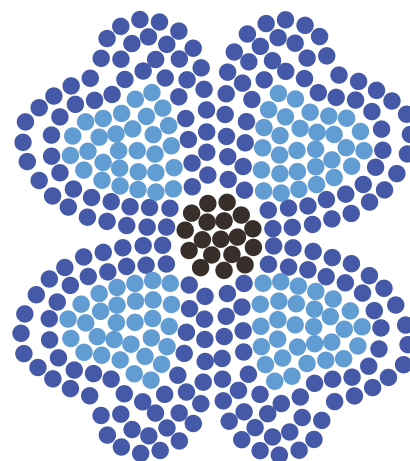
- ∞ Supporting the Governing Members in service delivery and implementation of Reaching Home in activities including community consultation, integrated responses, designing and delivering homelessness programs that are holistic and culturally supportive.
- ∞ Engage with the reporting of the outcomes of the Reaching Home Program by funding Recipients to help ensure Métis Nation citizens and their families are connected to more stable housing.

### ADVOCATING FOR POSITIVE POLICY CHANGE

- ∞ Exploring better integration of an accountability framework under Reaching Home with the housing reporting/accountability framework under Governing Members housing agreements with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.
- ∞ Remaining committed to making progress on accountability in a timely manner to mitigate future challenges in terms of data and evidence for future investments in homelessness supports.

### UPCOMING WORK

- ∞ Continuing to assess the feasibility of integrating both homelessness and accountability frameworks and deciding next steps and implementation.
- ∞ Resume co-development of the accountability framework and development of a process that is informed by regular meetings and input from Governing Members.
- ∞ Secure approval for the developed framework and decide a timeframe to implement the plan based on the input of the MNC, Governing Members and other officials.



## MICHIF LANGUAGE

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### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

While the Métis Nation has experienced significant growth in the last fifteen years the number of citizens that speak the Michif language has continued to decline. For many years Métis communities have acknowledged the need to grow the number of fluent Michif speakers and increase awareness of and appreciation for the language of our nation. Métis citizens recognize that in order to see meaningful change, only collaboratively developed strategies for language revitalization based on a shared vision for our future will ensure the Michif language survives. To build these strategies it is imperative that Métis communities are engaged to provide guidance and direction.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT

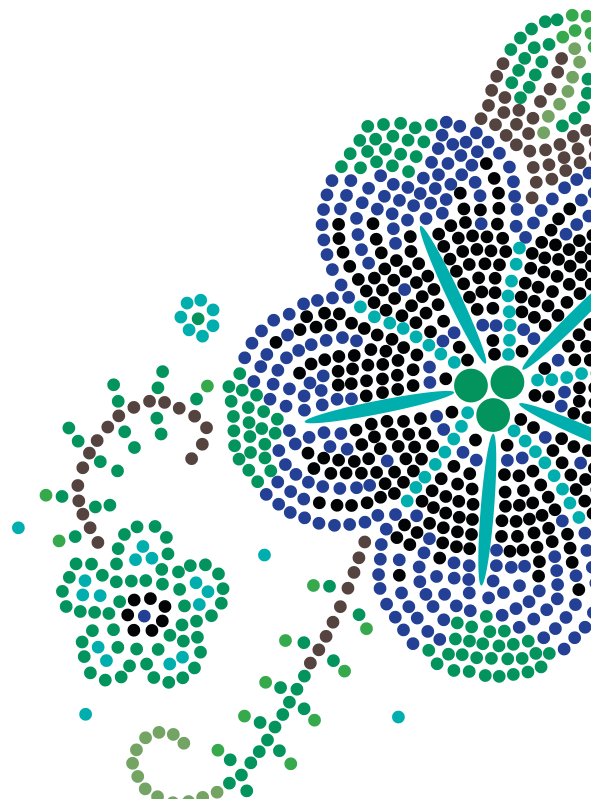
In 2021 the Métis National Council commissioned researchers to engage with Governing Members and community representatives to identify priorities for Michif language learning and revitalization. The results of these consultations were that Métis citizens felt increased opportunities for learning Michif were needed, that the Michif language needs to be more broadly infused into programs and services, and that further awareness-building efforts need to be undertaken to emphasize the critically important role language plays in Métis culture.

### ADVOCATING FOR POLICY CHANGE

As we continue to advocate for Métis languages, it has become clear that changes need to be made in how funding for language learning and revitalization is distributed. To this end the MNC is currently working with Governing Members and Canada to finalize a new model that would see funding flow directly to MNBC, MNA, MN-S and MNO. This new model will expedite the process of getting funding to Métis communities.

### UPCOMING WORK

To support this new funding model the MNC is establishing a Métis Language Working Group that will work to develop a Métis Nation Michif Languages Action Plan. This critical body will provide guidance through engagement with Métis communities on Michif language revitalization and will support the advancement of a 10 year Canada-Métis Nation Michif Language Accord.



## VETERANS

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### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

- ∞ Brought together Veterans and Technical Leads from the Governing Members to develop a Terms of Reference for the National Métis Veterans Committee.
- ∞ Travelled to Batoche for in-person meetings during the Back to Batoche festivities.
- ∞ Worked together to re-implement the application process for the Métis Veterans Legacy Program.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT

- ∞ MNC provided administrative and technical support to the Veterans Committee.
- ∞ Supported Métis Nation of Ontario Veterans Council President Brian Prairie who travelled to Ottawa to be a part of the national ceremony honouring Queen Elizabeth.

### UPCOMING WORK

- ∞ Finalizing the Terms of Reference so that Métis Veterans can develop policy positions and do advocacy work on behalf of Veterans across the Motherland.
- ∞ Reviewing applications for the Métis Veterans Legacy Program to support Métis Veterans through Recognition Payments and the development of Commemorative Projects.
- ∞ Reviewing the Métis Veterans Legacy Program and looking for areas of improvement and expansion.
- ∞ Meeting with Veterans Affairs officials planned for early 2023 to develop strategy for best working practices between officials.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

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The newly reconstituted MNC Department of Economic Development has undertaken a series of initiatives over the past year to support the prosperity and well-being of the Métis Nation.

### BRINGING THE NATION TOGETHER

- ∞ Actively supporting economic development policy dialogue at two meetings of the newly incorporated Association of Métis Capital Corporations (May and October 2022).
- ∞ Re-constituting the Métis Nation economic development technical committee with representatives from every Governing Member.
- ∞ Supporting initiatives of other MNC Departments, including Justice (UNDRIP implementation) and Environment (natural resources), to facilitate the broader success of MNC.

### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENTS BY GOVERNING MEMBERS

- ∞ President Smith's participation with Indigenous leaders from Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan of the Indigenous Peoples Economic and Trade Cooperation Arrangement (IETCA) in Ottawa on June 23, 2022.
- ∞ Meeting arranged with Federal Departments and key foreign government partners with MN-S technical lead in Ottawa from September 13 – 15, 2022.
- ∞ Capturing the voices of Governing Members and Métis citizen-owned clean-tech businesses from across the Métis Homeland for display at the international Climate Change meeting (COP27) in Egypt in November 2022.

### ADVOCATING FOR POSITIVE POLICY CHANGE

- ∞ Engaged Federal representatives from every Federal Department responsible for economic development.
- ∞ A particular focus has been placed on Indigenous Services Canada to increase Federal procurement from Métis citizen-owned businesses and Natural Resources Canada concerning national benefits sharing with Métis Governments.
- ∞ All this work is driven by the needs articulated by Governing Members. Every funding submission incorporates capacity requests, in-line with the funding formula, to support the participation of Governing Members in consultations, engagements, policy development and program implementation work.

### UPCOMING WORK

- ∞ First Métis Nation economic development event gathering technical leads of Governing Members in Ottawa, October 12 - 13, 2022.
- ∞ Ongoing facilitation of meetings between Governing Members and Federal Departments, and support of Governing Members before and during these meetings.
- ∞ Continued support of effective engagements between Governing Members and Indigenous peoples of other lands and foreign Governments.



## PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS







Métis National Council  
Ralliement National des Métis



[Métisnation.ca](http://Métisnation.ca)

