

Third Crown-Métis Nation Summit Another Milestone on the Path to Reconciliation



The third Summit of Prime Minister Trudeau with the Métis Nation since the Liberals came to power in 2015 ended with the common resolve of the Prime Minister and Métis Nation leadership to continue their co-development of policies and programs to advance self-government and

socio-economic development for the Métis people.

In his opening statement, Prime Minister Trudeau said reconciliation efforts will span generations but said the government has come a long way in working with the Metis Nation on long-standing

challenges, including housing and post-secondary education.

"I really want to put forward this relationship as the model of what reconciliation can be," stated Trudeau.

President Clément Chartier applauded the dedication of the



Prime Minister fulfilling his vision of reconciliation, saying the Nation Metis has witnessed it in action working with his cabinet ministers on Métis Nation priorities under the Canada-Métis Nation Accord. He presented the Prime Minister with the Order of the Metis Nation, the highest award for people who have made a significant contribution to the Métis.

The Summit opening also included a short video of 98 year-old Paul Delorme, a veteran of the Dieppe raid in 1942, receiving the first cheque of \$20,000 under the \$30-million Métis Veterans

Recognition Payment Agreement that was put into effect at the end of the Summit by Métis Nation Veterans Minister David Chartrand and federal Minister of Veterans Affairs Lawrence A. MacAulay (see video).

The Summit then reviewed progress in social and economic policy areas including child and family services, languages, health, post-secondary



education, economic development and homelessness. It also looked at the new fiscal relationship between the federal government and Métis Nation governments and plans to improve data collection and track results of the many federal investments in the Métis Nation.

The Summit set Year 3 Priorities which will include: education K-12; justice and policing; youth and sports; Métis s35 rights; environment, clean growth and infrastructure; and Métis Nation 2020. It concluded with the signing of sub-accords under the Canada-Métis Nation Accord in the areas of post-secondary education, economic development, homelessness and governance funding.

We will remember them, today, tomorrow, forever



Though their numbers have shrunk to a handful who are no longer able to make the long journey to the beaches of Normandy, Métis Nation veterans of the Second World War live on in the thoughts and memories of succeeding generations. The resolve of the Métis Nation to commemorate the remarkable achievements of

the veterans was on full display at events in France to mark the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landing of Allied forces in Normandy on June 6, 1944 and the campaign to liberate Europe from Nazi occupation.

On June 5, 2019, MNC Vice-President and Veterans Affairs Minister David Chartrand led a Métis Nation delegation to the Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery for a commemoration attended by the Governor General of Canada, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, and French dignitaries. On the same day, Frank Godon from Boissevain, Manitoba presented the uniform of his father,

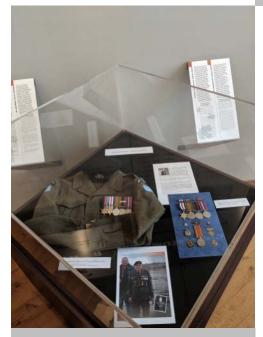
Francis, a prominent Métis Second World War veteran, to the Juno Beach Centre, a museum at the site Canadian soldiers landed on D-Day.

"It's not the uniform that really matters, it's the man who wore it," said Mr. Godon.

Five years ago, Francis Godon told the Juno Beach Centre's curator that when he passed away he wanted to donate his uniform to the museum. He



Frank Godon donates his father's uniform to the Juno Beach Centre on June 5, 2019.



WWII Métis veteran Francis Godon's uniform displayed at the Juno Beach Centre

died on Jan. 12, 2019 at the age of 94.

An anti-tank gunner in the Winnipeg Rifles, Francis Godon stormed Juno Beach on June 6, and advancing inland was captured by the Germans on a scouting patrol. He was taken to a location where prisoners were being executed and was spared by a British attack. After being forcemarched by the Germans for 20 days in June, he spent 28 days in a seething box car being transported to a labour camp in Germany where he spent over 11 months as a POW.

Francis Godon was part of the Métis Nation delegation that visited the Juno Beach Centre in 2009 to open a Métis exhibit to which the uniform and boots will be added.

For his son Frank: "It's an honour to showcase what my father helped do during the war—the liberation of France, putting a stop to fascism. Personally, I don't think here in Canada we appreciate it as much."

On June 6, 2019, Veterans Affairs Minister Chartrand led 40 delegates of the Métis Nation to the official commemoration at Juno Beach

to mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. Canadian forces suffered 1,074 casualties including 359 killed on D-Day itself and a total of 18,700 casualties including 5,000 soldiers killed during the overall Normandy campaign. Prime Minister Trudeau provided a moving tribute to the sacrifices and contributions of the Canadian veterans including Indigenous veterans.

On June 7, the delegation participated in commemoration services at the Canadian War Cemetery at Bretteville-sur-Laize containing Canadian soldiers killed during the later stages of the Battle of Normandy. Here, members of the Métis Nation delegation reflected on their special connection to the veterans.

For Marc LeClair, a chance encounter with Mr. Bill Tymchuk, a Normandy veteran from the Lake Superior Regiment, shone light on his grandfather, J.H. Genaille who was killed on August 12, 1944 in the Battle of the Falaise Gap to complete the encirclement of German forces in Normandy.



Minister Chartrand presents Métis beaded poppy to WWII veteran at the Canadian War Cemetery on June 7

"The death of my grandfather had a profound effect on our family," said LeClair. "My grandfather was a hero we never knew. I wasn't born yet and even my father barely knew him since he was only 8 years old when my grandfather died fighting to close the Falaise Gap. I have visited my grandfathers' grave a number of times and always wondered what he actually experienced. Mr. Tymchuk was able to provide me with a step by step account of what the "Lake Sups" went through from the time of their landing in Normandy on July 20, 1944 and the closing of the Gap on August 21, 1944, nine days after

my grandfather died. I am forever grateful to him."

For Tiffany Monkman of Winnipeg, the 75th Anniversary events allowed her to honour the contributions of her grandfather, Ronald Monkman, of Victoria Beach, Manitoba who died last year. Ron Monkman served in Holland and Germany during the war and was part of the Métis Nation delegation that attended the opening of the Métis Exhibition at the Juno Beach Centre in 2009. She said her grandfather had long been silent on his war experiences but his involvement with the Métis

Nation veterans and the Juno Beach Memorial had made him more receptive to sharing his experiences and accepting the gratitude of his country. In his absence, she brought his medals to Normandy.

For Métis Nation President Clément Chartier and Veterans Affairs Minister David Chartrand, the return to Juno Beach for the 75th Anniversary of D-Day is an integral part of the everlasting commitment of the Métis Nation to never forget the contributions of its heroes.

"This year we negotiated a \$30 million settlement with the Trudeau Government that enables us to provide some compensation to our veterans in recognition of their invaluable wartime service and the hardships they encountered upon their return to Canada," said Minister Chartrand. "With the remaining funds, we will establish a trust fund that will ensure that their legacy will inspire future generations."

"The love and respect shown here by the Métis Nation delegates for our veterans speaks to the importance of what they did for our people and all mankind," said President



Monkman interviewed by CBC News

Chartier. "We will remember

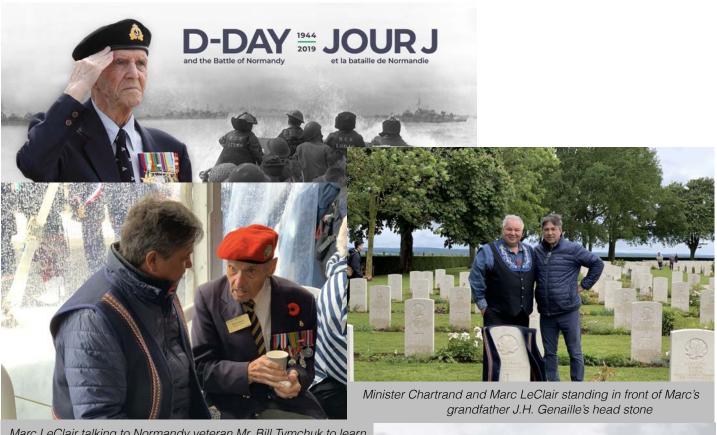


Métis WWII veteran Ronald Monkman

them, today, tomorrow, forever."

The events in Normandy mark the first stage of a journey that will now take Minister Chartrand to London, England, to visit Mr. Paul DeLorme, a Métis veteran from Saskatchewan who participated in the the ill-fated Canadian assault on Dieppe on August 19th, 1942 where he was taken prisoner of war. Minister Chartrand will present Mr. DeLorme with a cheque for \$20,000, making him the first recipient of benefits from the \$30 million settlement with the Trudeau Government.





Marc LeClair talking to Normandy veteran Mr. Bill Tymchuk to learn about his grandfather who he never met



Commemorative Ceremony at the Canadian War Cemetery Bretteville-l'Orgueilleuse-sur-Laize on June 7



Paul DeLorme, hero of the Dieppe raid, August 19, 1942, honored by Métis Nation

— First recipient of compensation from \$30 million fund to commemorate Metis Nation Veterans of Second World War and address past wrongs.



Métis Nation Minister of Veterans Affairs David Chartrand, Paul DeLorme, Marc LeClair (MNC)

June 10, 2019 London, England: The Métis Nation's Veterans Minister David Chartrand visited Paul DeLorme, a 98 year old Métis Nation hero of the Second World War at his residence near London, England today to thank him for his service and present him with the compensation he so richly deserves as a Métis Veteran.



DeLorme, who served with the South Saskatchewan Regiment, participate in the failed raid on Dieppe France on August 19, 1942. It was a battle that paved the way for the D-Day landings in 1944 but at an enormous cost, with nearly 3,000 Canadians either killed or taken prisoner on the beach.

DeLorme was one of the more than 1,900 Canadians captured at Dieppe — the largest group taken in Canadian war history. Wounded by a grenade, he was taken by rail to a POW camp in Germany where he was put to work in a salt mine and later a stone quarry. He tried to escape twice. Two other Canadians who tried to escape the camp were shot dead.

"We buried these two men next day, rolled in black tar paper at the bottom of the stone quarry," Delorme later wrote in a book about his experience, A Métis Man Goes to War.

On August 19, 2017, DeLorme returned to the scene of his capture as part of a Canadian government delegation to mark the 75th anniversary of the Dieppe raid. In an interview with CBC, he said: "I remember pretty well everything: how some people got killed. I



remember all that. Where are all my friends? Most of them buried in Dieppe. So I pay my respects."

For the Métis Nation's Veterans Minister, the visit to Mr. DeLorme and presenting him with a \$20,000 cheque, the first from the recently established \$30 million fund, is of special significance.

"I have been lobbying for proper recognition and compensation

for Métis Veterans and their families for the better part of 20 years," stated Minister Chartrand. "Now, thanks to the reconciliatory path of the Trudeau government, that work is about to pay off. It was a great honor to meet Mr. DeLorme. While the cheque I gave him cannot erase the horrific memories of war, it will hopefully reassure Mr. DeLorme that the country he risked his life for is truly grateful for his courage."



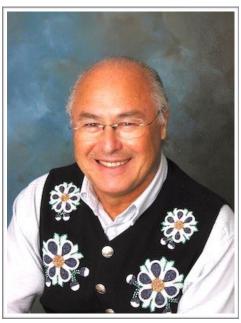
Message from the President

One cannot stress enough the need for all Métis Nation citizens who believe in the importance of our existence as a distinct Indigenous people in our traditional homeland in Western Canada to continue strenuously defending our right to exist and to hold sacred the integrity of our national institutions which are meant to safeguard our continued survival as a people.

As stressed in previous messages there is a critical need for our nation to safeguard our General Assembly's decisions, and in particular the right of our nation and government to determine who are the citizens of the Métis Nation. After several years of extensive consultation, our General Assembly in 2002 adopted criteria which forms the definition of who qualifies to be registered as a citizen of the Métis Nation. While we have not yet arrived at a decision to setup a national registry to house the Governing Member registries, our Governing Members have for the past 15 years been registering our citizens based on the 2002 definition.

Further, each of our Governing Members has adopted in their respective Constitutions or Bylaws that 2002 national definition. Four of the five have also. beginning in 2004, required all Métis Nation citizens within their jurisdictions to register based on the new criteria. The exception is the Métis Nation of Ontario which opted to grandfatherin all of their previous members, many of whom applied when MNO used their own definition of Métis, which included anyone who had at least one grandparent who was Aboriginal, meaning Indian (First Nations), Inuit or Métis.

In 2016, the MNO and the Ontario government declared 6 new Métis communities in Ontario outside of the Métis Nation homeland, which led the General Assembly to take



action with the suspension and one year probation of the MNO until such time that they abide by the 2002 definition and only represent citizens of the Métis Nation.

It goes without saying that if the Métis Nation governments, national and provincial, reverse their decision on MNO and allow any person of mixedancestry in Eastern Canada to be registered as a Métis Nation

Message from the President

citizen, then this is basically a declaration that the Métis Nation as a distinct Indigenous people ceases to exist. This is basically an abandonment of 400 years of history, struggle, sacrifice and existence as, and by, a people.

On June 27th, Minister Bennett signed governance agreements with three of the five Governing Members: Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, Métis Nation of Alberta and the Metis Nation of Ontario. It is my understanding that each of these agreements sets out negotiation processes which may lead to federal legislation recognizing their governments and core governance powers. It is also my understanding that the agreements allow for each Governing Member to adopt their own definition of Métis, and if this is a correct understanding, and each of the three adopt a definition different than the 2002 national definition, this opens the potential for the creation of modern-day fabrication of who

is a citizen of the historic Métis Nation.

Certainly, the MNO will take that approach, as the vast majority of their current members are not citizens of the historic Métis Nation, and will never meet the 2002 definition. Along with the creation of the 6 new Métis communities in 2016, the MNO has left open the door to declaring more Metis communities and/or community councils in eastern Ontario.

What a precedent or example these three Presidents are setting. With this approach, what is to stop the designation of Métis communities in Quebec and the Maritime provinces where hundreds of thousands of individuals over the past few years have now declared they are Metis simply on having some Indigenous ancestors, however remote.

It is interesting to note that the Manitoba Metis Federation has not signed any such agreement which they could have, if they so chose. Is it because those three agreements have now put the Métis Nation in harm's way by potentially creating mini-Metis Nations dictated by provincial boundaries? Is it because those agreements open the potential for enabling each provincial Governing Member to adopt their own definitions of who is Métis within their provincial boundaries? Is it because the Métis in Manitoba have always been staunch defenders of the Métis Nation, both historically and today?

Canada Signs Historic Post-Secondary Education Agreement with Métis Nation



On June 10, 2019, Ottawa, ON: The Minister of Indigenous Services, Seamus O'Regan, and the President of the Métis National Council, Clément Chartier, signed a historic agreement that signals the Government of Canada's commitment to providing post-secondary education supports

for Métis Nation students across Canada.

The Canada-Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Sub-Accord comes on the heels of unprecedented federal investments in Métis Nation post-secondary education and is also a result of the post-

secondary education review announced in Budget 2017. It fulfills commitments outlined in the 2017 Canada-Métis Nation Accord and is a historic step in closing the post-secondary education attainment gap between Métis Nation citizens and non-Indigenous Canadians.



The Government of Canada's Budget 2019 provides for an investment of \$362-million over 10 years and \$40-million ongoing to support Métis Nation post-secondary education, with the goal of supporting over 7,000 Métis Nation post-secondary students.

This Sub-Accord will establish new approaches aimed at improving the education outcomes of Métis Nation students and programs and support three activity streams including student support, community-based programs and services, and governance capacity.

This groundwork has been laid through an intensive process of policy co-development, and is a testament to the relationships that have been strengthened over the past two years. The Government of Canada is committed to achieving reconciliation with the Métis Nation through a renewed nation-to-nation, government-to-government relationship based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership as the foundation for transformative change.

"This historic achievement marks a significant step in Canada's relationship with the Métis Nation," said The Honourable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Indigenous Services. "Through this agreement, Métis Nation students will have long overdue equal opportunities to pursue post-secondary education. I commend our partner, the Métis National Council, for providing a brighter future for Métis

Nation youth through education, as Canada continues its journey of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in Canada."

President Chartier stated:

"The most glaring gap between the educational attainment of our people and the broader population is at the postsecondary level, particularly in the number of university graduates. This significant, long term federal financial support for our post-secondary students marks a giant first step in enabling the Métis Nation to reduce that gap and opens new opportunities for population to participate fully in the new economy. Again, this is reconciliation in action."





Canada

Parliament passes Indigenous Languages Act and An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families



Historic legislation on Indigenous languages and on family and child services came into force on June 21, 2019.

The Indigenous Languages Act is a concrete response to the urgent need for action to prevent the erosion and even extinction of some of the 90 living Indigenous languages in

Canada, including Michif, the national language of the Métis Nation. Of these, three out of four are considered "endangered" by UNESCO, which declared 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages.

The legislation recognizes and supports all Indigenous

languages in Canada and contains mechanisms which will, among other things:

- recognize Indigenous language rights;
- support the efforts of Indigenous Peoples to reclaim, revitalize, strengthen and maintain Indigenous languages;
- establish measures for



the provision of long-term, sustainable funding of Indigenous languages;

- support and promote the use of Indigenous languages;
- advance the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples with regard to Indigenous languages; and
- establish an Office of the Commissioner of Indigenous Languages.

To support the implementation of the Indigenous Languages Act, Budget 2019 includes an investment of \$333.7 million over five years, and \$115.7 million annually thereafter.

"Bill C-91 marks an important step forward for the Métis Nation in consolidating its continued existence as a distinct Indigenous nation and culture in Western Canada. This legislation, co-developed with Canada, will enable the Métis Nation to revitalize, promote and practice its national language, Michif, while also enabling those of its citizens who speak other Indigenous languages such as Saulteaux, Dene and Cree to continue using those languages as well", stated President Chartier.

An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families affirms and recognizes the jurisdiction of Indigenous peoples over child and family services with the goal of keeping Indigenous children and youth connected to their families, communities, and culture. According to Census 2016, Indigenous children represent 52.2% of children in foster care in private homes in Canada, despite accounting for only 7.7% of the overall population of children under 15.

Under Bill C-92, Indigenous peoples will be free to develop policies and laws based on their particular histories, cultures, and circumstances. Through the Act, national principles such as the best interests of the child. cultural continuity, and substantive equality have been established to help guide the provision of Indigenous child and family services. The Act also enables Indigenous peoples to transition toward exercising partial or full jurisdiction over child and family services at a pace that they choose. The Métis Nation will work with the federal government to ensure a smooth transition implementation of the Act

through the creation of distinctions-based transition governance structures.

"Forty years ago, in 1979 as President of the Canadian Indian Lawyers Association I organized the first National Indian Child Welfare Conference held in Regina, Saskatchewan. While it has taken four decades to arrive at this moment in time, Bill C-92 provides a solid foundation from which Inuit, First Nations and the Métis Nation will once again assume full and total control over their children, a very welcome development made possible by the Trudeau government's reconciliation commitments", stated President Chartier.

Earlier in the day, MNC President Chartier, National Chief Perry Bellegarde of the Assembly of First Nations, and Natan Obed, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, met with Prime Minister Trudeau and his Cabinet at a Cabinet Retreat at Meech Lake near Ottawa.



Community Visits

On June 6th, President Chartier joined President McCallum at the opening ceremony for the 2nd Annual South Bay Métis Cultural Days, near the village of Ile a la Crosse. President Chartier provided an update on recent developments at the national level and spoke about the importance of language and culture.



On June 8th President Chartier returned to South Bay and participated in a ceremony honour MNS Senator Jim Favel and his wife Marie Favel for their many years of dedicated service to the Métis Nation. Senator Favel served at the local, regional and provincial levels of Métis government over



the past 40 years. Marie has been active in the community assisting in numerous social events and activities, and providing counselling services to those in need.

Their son, Mayor Duane Favel, accepted the recognition award on their behalf.

Also honoured was former MNS Local President and Regional Director, Don Favel who worked tirelessly on many issues facing the Métis in northwest Saskatchewan

including the Ile a la Crosse boarding school and the Primrose Range Air Weapons Range. Accepting the honour on his behalf was his wife, Doreen and children.

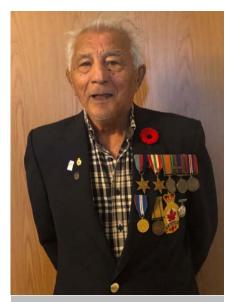


Later that day, President Chartier and Jim Durocher, Ile a la Crosse A la Baie Local President stopped in Beauval and visited World War II Veteran, Louis Roy. Louis who served in several theatres of war turns 98 on August 2nd and provided reflections on his experiences when serving overseas. He was happy to hear that the federal government has finally recognized the Métis Nation veterans' contributions to world peace as part of the WWII war effort to stop



Community Visits

fascism in Europe and other parts of the world.



WWII Métis Veteran Louis Roy

On June 15th, President Chartier also travelled to southern Saskatchewan to take part in the 2nd of four Morris and Maryanne Memorial Trail Rides put on by Leebert Poitras and family in honour of his mother and father. In 2002, President Chartier and Kathy Hodgson-

Smith had interviewed Morris for his service as a World War II Veteran, so it was only fitting that President Chartier participate in this year's event upon the invitation by Leebert. Although there was a heavy downpour of rain and the trail ride itself had to be called off for the safety of the horses, the ceremonial aspect of it and a delicious lunch of fried bread (bangs) and boulettes (bullets), along with fresh fried pickerel from Buffalo Narrows was had by all.





WWII Métis Veteran Morris Poitras



Leebert Poitras and President Chartier

President Chartier Attends 49th OAS GA in Medellin, Colombia



On June 25, 2019 President Chartier along with other members of the Indigenous peoples and organizations coalition met with Assistant Secretary General Nestor Mendez of the Organization of American States (OAS). The main discussions revolved around the planning for the 2nd Inter-American Week for Indigenous Peoples to be held in Washington DC, August 5-8 to coincide with the UN's

International Day of Indigenous Peoples held yearly on August 9th.

Like last year, this year's theme will be "Indigenous Languages" to reflect the UN's designation of 2019 as "International Year of Indigenous Languages". In this regard, delegates called upon Mendez to support the Indigenous peoples' call for the UN to designate next year as the beginning of the

"International Decade of Languages". Indigenous Participants also called on Mendez to convene a two-day meeting during the week of August 5th for Indigenous nations, peoples and organizations to meet and discuss the 2017 OAS GA adoption of the four-year Plan of Action for the implementation of the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Tuly 2010

July 2019

(ADRIP) adopted by them in 2016. In particular to deal with the commitment in the Plan of Action for States to consult Indigenous peoples in the creation of a mechanism to monitor the implementation of the Declaration. No immediate response was made to this recommendation.

Later in the day, President Chartier met with the Canadian Ambassador to Colombia, Marcel Lebleu and they had a good discussion about developments in Canada between the federal government and the Métis Nation. They also discussed issues with respect to Indigenous peoples in Colombia and Latin America generally. The Ambassador was supportive of the potential developments that could be fostered by the newly created Council American Indigenous Peoples and committed to reporting the results of the meeting to Ottawa.

On June 26th President Chartier and the other members of the Coalition attended the fourhour session between the States governments, the Secretary General and Civil Society and



I-r: Hugo Tacuri (Peru), Ambassador Marcel Lebleu, President Clément Chartier

Social Actors. Each delegation was limited to 3 minutes, and the Coalition's intervention was made by President Luis Fernando Arias of the National Indigenous Organization of



Robert Oliphant, Parliamentary Secretary and President Chartier

Colombia, as Colombia was the host country. The basic message of the intervention was to provide a greater space and access for Indigenous peoples and nations within the OAS system in our own right, and not as part of Civil Society or Social Actors.

For the remaining two days, Indigenous peoples and other delegations were only present as observers while

government representatives met to discuss pressing issues present throughout the Americas.

Nevertheless, President Chartier was able to have a meeting with Parliamentary Secretary, Robert Oliphant who was representing Minister Freeland who was attending the G-20 meeting in Japan with the Prime Minister. The Parliamentary Secretary and President Chartier agreed to meet in the near future in follow up to their discussion.

On the evening of June 27th President Chartier attended a reception hosted by Ambassador Lebleau in an early celebration of Canada Day (July 1st).



| UPCOMING EVENTS | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| • Canada Day | July 1 | |
| Métis Nation Environment Committee Meeting | July 9 | Ottawa, ON |
| Canada-Métis Nation Joint Table on Climate Change | July 10-11 | Ottawa, ON |
| Energy and Mines Ministers Conference (EMMC) | July 15-17 | Cranbrook, BC |
| Back to Batoche Days | July 19-22 | Batoche, SK |
| Ste. Madeleine Métis Days 80th Anniversary | July 19-21 | Ste. Madeleine, MB |
| International Indigenous Day | Aug 9 | |
| Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Annual Meeting | Aug 12-14 | Elk Ridge, SK |
| • MNA AGA | Aug 17-18 | St. Paul, AB |
| • MNO AGA | Aug 22-25 | Sault Ste. Marie, ON |
| • Rv. Poitras, Rv. Boyer, QB Appeal | Aug 22 | Battleford, SK |
| • MNBC AGM | Sept 13-15 | Prince George, BC |
| • MMF AGA | Sept 20-22 | Winnipeg, MB |
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