

**MÉTIS  
NATIONAL  
COUNCIL**

**Building Capacity to  
Deliver for our Citizens**

Federal Budget Submission  
for 2023



Métis National Council  
Ralliement National des Métis



**MÉTIS NATION**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA



*Métis Nation*  
Saskatchewan

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 its 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.

Métis Nation  
of Ontario 

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This document provides a comprehensive list of recommendations made by the Métis National Council (MNC) to parliamentarians in advance of the 2023 federal budget. These recommendations are presented as a direct response to challenges and funding gaps identified by Governing Members and the MNC. By implementing these recommendations, the Government of Canada will be taking meaningful steps to protect and promote the strength and wellbeing of the Métis Nation.



## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Recommendation 1:** That the Government of Canada provide funding in the amount of \$158 million to create a Métis Community Economic Development Fund to be administered by MNC Governing Members.

**Recommendation 2:** That the Government of Canada provide funding in the amount of \$12 million in Budget 2023 over five years, with \$4 million in 2023-24, for MNC Governing Members to develop and maintain directories of Métis citizen-owned businesses.

**Recommendation 3:** That the Government of Canada provide funding in the amount of \$97 million per year over five years in Budget 2023 for Métis Capital Corporations.

### **ADDRESSING GAPS IN MÉTIS INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Recommendation 4:** That the Government of Canada provide \$166.21 million over six years to invest in infrastructure to support healthy Métis communities.

**Recommendation 5:** That the Government of Canada provide \$962.9 million over six years to build community infrastructure to protect and strengthen Métis culture and community.

**Recommendation 6:** That the Government of Canada provide \$1.316 billion over six years to build housing for Métis citizens

**Recommendation 7:** That the Government of Canada provide \$421.5 million over six years for costs related to governance and property management.

### **THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Recommendation 8:** That the Government of Canada provide funding in the amount of \$3.5 million per year to support capacity and emergency management programming tailored to the specific emergency management needs of Governing Members and the MNC.

**Recommendation 9:** That the Government of Canada provide \$13.168 million over five years to support the Métis Nation's engagement with Natural Resources Canada on programs, policies, and regulations.

### **JUSTICE**

**Recommendation 10:** That the Government of Canada provide \$24.9 million to support Governing Members, the MNC, and Les Femmes Michif Otipemsiwak (LFMO) to ensure the laws of Canada are consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as required under section 5 of the UNDRIP Act.

## HEALTHCARE

**Recommendation 11:** That the Government of Canada provide funding in the amount of \$893 million to establish and deliver Métis Extended Health Benefits.

**Recommendation 12:** That the Government of Canada provide funding in the amount of \$720 million over five years to support holistic supportive care and strengthen the internal capacity of the Governing Members and the MNC to address Métis Social Determinants of Health.

**Recommendation 13:** That the government provide funding in the amount of \$320 million over five years to support Métis Mental Wellness & Harm Reduction initiatives and infrastructure.

**Recommendation 14:** That the government provide funding in the amount of \$210 million over five years to support the adaptation and expansion of culturally safe healthcare systems for Métis citizens.

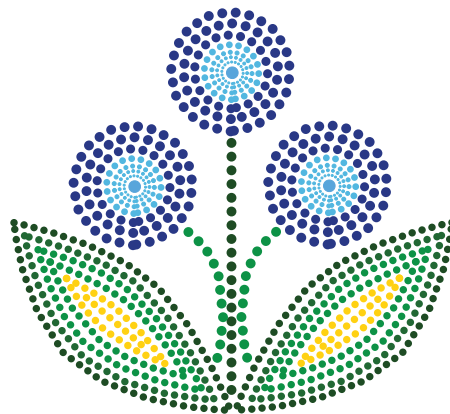
## EDUCATION

**Recommendation 15:** That the Government of Canada invest \$1.17 billion over 2 years to support the development of a Métis K-12 education program.

## SELF-DETERMINATION

**Recommendation 16:** That the Government of Canada \$2.875 million to build the Métis Nation's capacity to engage in international decision-making and activities.

## ANNEX A: 2022 UNMET PRIORITIES



## **MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL FEDERAL BUDGET 2023 STATEMENT**

The Métis National Council (MNC) is pleased to present this document to parliamentarians, Métis Nation citizens, and all Canadians, in advance of Budget 2023. The MNC is the national and international representative of the Métis Nation. It receives its mandate and direction from its Governing Members: the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO), the Métis Nation—Saskatchewan (MN-S), the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA), and the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC).

Consistently throughout history, the Métis people have acted collectively to protect and fight for our rights, lands and ongoing existence as a distinct Indigenous people and nation within the Canadian federation. This dedication continues as citizens and communities throughout the Métis Nation homeland keep the nation's distinct culture, traditions, language, and lifestyle alive and pursue their own political, social, and economic development.

Despite the recognition that the MNC is one of Canada's National Indigenous Organizations, Governing Members and the MNC have faced challenges developing the internal capacity we need to effectively advocate on behalf of the Métis Nation. The MNC has faced decades of underfunding and was weakened by recent efforts to undermine our democratic governance. The new MNC is ready to rebuild – we are on the verge of realizing aspirations that for so long have seemed out of reach. However, sufficient, long-term investments from the Government of Canada are necessary to effectively bolster the internal capacity of the MNC and our Governing Members; allowing us to fulfill our mandate to Métis citizens across Canada.

MNC Governing Members remain committed to supporting the socio-economic development of the Métis Nation while delivering the critical services our citizens rely on each day. Governing Members and the MNC have been and will continue to be a partner to the Government of Canada as it works to realize its commitments to reconciliation with the Métis Nation and all Indigenous peoples. In the last few years, federal funding for programs and services has included significant distinctions-based investments for the Métis Nation. Through the Canada-Métis Nation Accord and as a result of the work of the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism (PBM), federal budgets are finally addressing the needs and aspirations of the Métis Nation.

The recommendations detailed in this submission will build on this recent progress, ensuring adequate funding to support immediate priorities in the areas of economic development, Métis infrastructure, the environment and

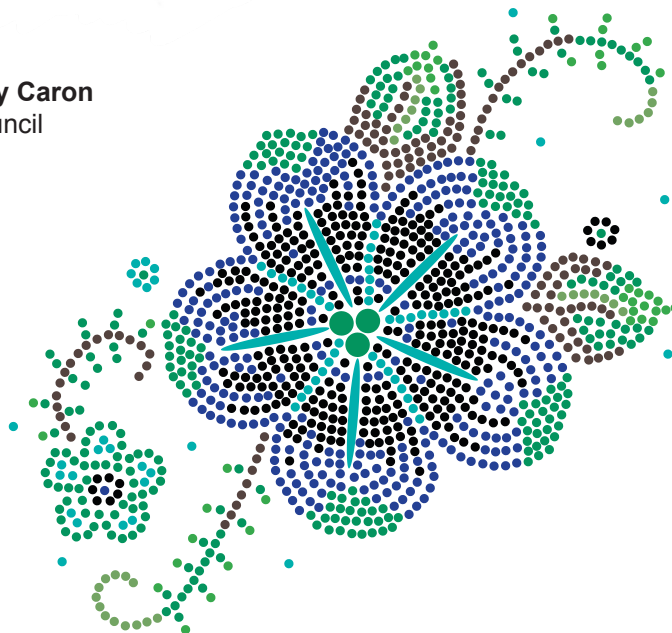
emergency preparedness, justice, healthcare, education, and self-determination. While these recommendations are only the beginning, they represent meaningful steps that must be taken to rectify long-standing imbalances in the resources available to Governing Members and the MNC. These investments are critical to protect the health and safety of our citizens; they will allow our Métis business communities to continue to flourish; they will address longstanding gaps in Métis infrastructure; they will revitalize Métis education systems; and they will ensure the Métis Nation's needs, interests and rights are reflected in Canada's legal system and international decision-making.

What the Métis Nation and Canada have been able to accomplish together is impressive. We have created measurable benefits for our citizens and their families and communities. The signing of the *Canada-Métis Nation Accord* remains a pivotal moment in the relationship between our two nations, recognizing the inherent right to Métis self-government and self-determination. Today, we continue to build on this legacy, working together to advance the rights of the Métis Nation and its citizens.

While there is always more work to be done, we recognize the steps that this government has taken, in collaboration with parliamentarians of all stripes, to support the health and vitality of the Métis Nation. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the needs of our governments and provide detail to the recommendations outlined in this submission.



**President Cassidy Caron**  
Métis National Council





## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Recommendation 1: Métis Community Economic Development Fund**

The MNC recognizes the steps taken by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to support economic development in Indigenous communities through programs such as the Lands and Economic Development Services Program (LEDSP), the Community Opportunity Readiness Program (CORP) and the First Nation Infrastructure Fund (FNIF). Unfortunately, Governing Members and Métis communities are not eligible for funding through these programs. ISC has failed to provide a program to improve the capacity of Governing Members and communities to plan, pursue and participate in economic opportunities.

Governing Members and the MNC understand the needs of the Métis business community and are well positioned to provide the support that they need - however, funding is required to ensure adequate resources and organizational capacity to deliver economic development programming. Through an investment of \$158 million, Governing Members will have the resources and capacity to design, implement and operate a Métis Community Economic Development Fund – an essential program that ensures Métis business owners have a comparable level of support to Indigenous communities eligible for funding through programs administered by ISC.

### **Recommendation 2: Building Métis Business Directories**

Publicly accessible directories of Métis-owned businesses are an important step in promoting Métis business relations. These directories will also be critical for Canada to achieve its Indigenous procurement targets. Métis business lists would also enhance service delivery to these businesses by Governing Members and the MNC, as well as Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments.

An investment of \$12 million in Budget 2023 over five years with \$4 million in 2023-24 will support MNC's Governing Members in developing the components of a Métis business directory. These include the creation and implementation of a business certification process and public trademark; an up-to-date business list; and the maintenance of a publicly accessible database.

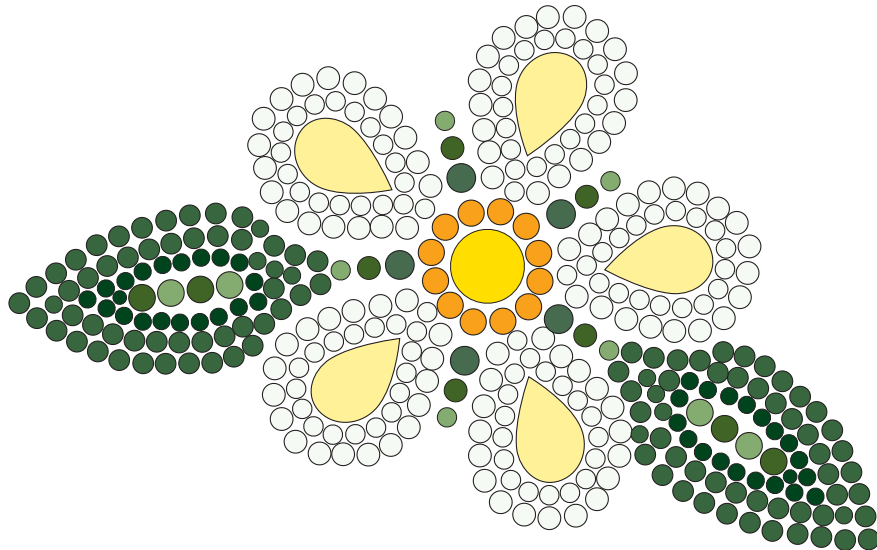
The development of a business certification process and public trademark will position the MNC's Governing Members as world leaders in the recognition and protection of Indigenous intellectual property, helping to set international standards for an Indigenous business certification.

### **Recommendation 3: Capitalize Métis Capital Corporations**

Métis Capital Corporations (MCC) have played an important role in supporting the growth of the Métis business community. MCCs can provide up to \$1.5 million in financing to Métis businesses or a group of related businesses, offering significantly more financing towards a project than a bank would consider, at a much lower borrowing cost than a bank can offer.

As demand for financing from Métis entrepreneurs continues to grow, MCCs are concerned that they will not have sufficient capital to assist Métis businesses beyond fiscal year 2022-23. A lack of financial support through MCCs is projected to have a devastating recessionary impact on the Métis economy. This will undermine Canada's ability to meet its five percent Indigenous procurement targets as Métis businesses would not be able to achieve the necessary scale to successfully deliver on Federal procurement opportunities.

Effectively capitalizing MCCs through an investment of \$97 million per year over five years in Budget 2023 will ensure that MCCs can continue to provide vital financing to Métis businesses and citizens.



## **ADDRESSING GAPS IN MÉTIS INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Recommendation 4: Investing in infrastructure to support healthy Métis communities**

The challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated how Governing Members and the MNC are best placed to address the specific needs identified by Métis communities and citizens during a public health crisis. This response was made possible by flexible funding from the Government of Canada through the Indigenous Community Support Fund. However, a significant hurdle in providing health services remains the lack of Métis health facilities to serve Métis communities. Investment is necessary not only to tackle COVID-19, but to support public health at large for Métis communities.

Connection to culture is an essential component of healing and mental wellbeing. The impacts on the Métis of Residential Schools and child welfare programs such as the Sixties Scoop are often forgotten. Yet, the effects of the intergenerational trauma from these colonial policies continue to reverberate across Métis communities. Anxiety, depression, and helplessness has affected many Métis, leading to further issues such as substance abuse. Mental health is a paramount concern for Governing Members and the MNC, and we have been working to build a system which provides Survivors culturally safe, trauma-informed supports. For example, the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan is seeking funding for a land-based Healing Lodge which will combine traditional connections with specialized clinical intervention.

A total of \$166.21 million over six years would be required to effectively support the health infrastructure needs of the following Governing Members:

#### **Métis Nation Saskatchewan**

- ∞ Métis Mental Health and Addictions Infrastructure - \$11.21 million

#### **Métis Nation Alberta**

- ∞ Health Infrastructure - \$50 million

#### **Métis Nation British Columbia**

- ∞ 7 Health Centres - \$105 million

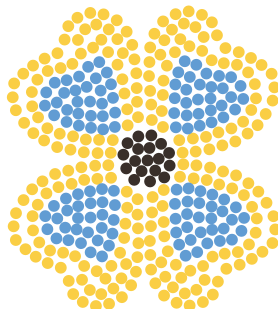
### **Recommendation 5: Building community infrastructure to protect and strengthen Métis culture and community**

Colonization sought to disconnect Métis from their culture, traditions and way of life. However, through the resiliency of our citizens, communities and Governing Members, Métis customs, culture, and traditions have persevered. Investing in community infrastructure to help sustain, promote, and revitalize the Métis culture and education is critical at this time. Not only will investments help stimulate economic development, but they will also lay the foundation for connecting all Canadians to the Métis Nation by enhancing understanding, compassion, and connection towards Métis history and culture.

Educational facilities and cultural centres would act as centres for sharing, reinforcing, and connecting to Métis culture. In addition to providing physical spaces to Métis citizens to connect, educational facilities and cultural centres would deliver language, dance, crafting, art, food, and other aspects of unique Métis culture to citizens, while also offering opportunities for non-Métis to learn about and connect to Métis culture and history. Centres would also serve as gathering places for Métis community when community events are being held or be offered to citizens for private gatherings such as weddings or reunions.

Communities lost their languages through decades of residential schools and a lack of spaces for speakers. The Michif language in all its forms, as well as Dene and Cree, are vital components of Métis culture. When we speak these languages, we honour our elders and ancestors. Language provides more than just a connection to the past. It is a way to the future. Revitalizing language is essential to ensuring the survival of a vibrant Métis culture and communities for generations to come.

Moreover, the investments into tourism related spaces will allow for the promotion, preservation and continuity of Métis cultural activities, practices, knowledge, and self-determination, while also driving economic stimulus for our communities. Investments in infrastructure in our historic sites such as Batoche in Saskatchewan, and Métis Crossing in Alberta will drive economic growth and development for our Governing Members and for Métis communities at large.



A total investment of \$962.9 million over six years will be required to effectively address the educational and cultural community infrastructure needs of our Governing Members. This funding would be divided among the Governing Members as follows:

### **Métis Nation Saskatchewan**

- ∞ **Métis Citizen-Focused Infrastructure: \$145 million**
- ∞ **Métis Self-Government and Tourism Infrastructure: \$120 million**

### **Métis Nation Alberta**

- ∞ **Métis Crossing Cultural Centre - \$25.4 million**
- ∞ **6 Cultural Gathering Centres – \$120 million**

### **Métis Nation of Ontario**

- ∞ **31 Community Spaces – \$93 million**
  - Operational costs over 6 years: 30 million
- ∞ **Cultural Gathering Space (acreage) - \$37 million**
  - Operational costs over 6 years: \$12 million
- ∞ **Language Cultural Camps - \$14 million**
  - Operation costs over 6 years: \$24 million
- ∞ **Total over 6 years: \$210 million**

### **Métis Nation British Columbia**

- ∞ **Post-Secondary Institute - \$50 million**
- ∞ **Language Institute - \$12.5 million**
- ∞ **7 Community Cultural Centres - \$70 million**

### **Recommendation 6: Investing in housing for Métis citizens**

The federal government has long cited that every Canadian, regardless of where they live or their background, deserves a safe and affordable place to call home. For the Métis Nation, addressing the systemic gaps in housing, linked to other critical social determinants of health, for our people is critical at this time. Poverty is a complex social issue that requires a multifaceted, policy-based strategy which includes a significant investment into housing.

Many of our citizens are living in a housing crisis and have been for decades. Many live in substandard housing which affects the safety and health of our families and community at large. One in twelve Métis households are overcrowded, which is unacceptable for a developed nation like Canada. A larger majority of homes owned by Métis citizens also require a greater number of major repairs compared to non-Indigenous households.

Developing affordable housing solutions for our Elders will also require critical investment. Many of our Governing Members are seeking to invest in assisted living facilities and residences to ensure that Métis Elders are given culturally appropriate and relevant care.

A total investment of \$1.316 billion over six years will be required to ensure safe, affordable, and accessible housing for Métis citizens. This funding would be divided among the Governing Members as follows:

### **Métis Nation-Saskatchewan**

- ∞ **Métis Housing Continuum - \$145 million**
- ∞ **Northern Housing Strategy - \$110 million**
- ∞ **Métis Housing Investment Fund - \$300 million**
- ∞ **Métis Modular Housing Manufacturing & Training Facility - \$20 million**

### **Métis Nation Alberta**

- ∞ **Blatchford Housing Development - \$50 million**
- ∞ **Other Housing Needs - \$120 million**

### **Métis Nation of Ontario**

- ∞ **Elder Assisted Living Home - \$75 million**
  - **Operational costs over 6 years: \$90 million**
- ∞ **Mixed Housing Unit Homes for low income within Community - \$75 million**
  - **Operational costs over 6 years - \$30 million**

### **Métis Nation British Columbia**

- ∞ **Housing needs: \$321 million**

## **Recommendation 7: Supporting costs related to governance and property management.**

Democratic, transparent, and accountable institutions are key for Métis Nation self-determination and the participation of Métis citizens in the decision-making of their governments. Investments in infrastructure that supports Métis governance, such as government houses and Governing Members headquarters, gives physical spaces for the exercise of rights and self-determination. These spaces will further support Métis citizens and Governing Members to advocate for their rights and identify their specific needs to close the socio-economic gap.

A total investment of \$421.5 million over six years will be required to construct Métis governance institutions. This funding would be divided among the Governing Members as follows:

### **Métis Nation Alberta**

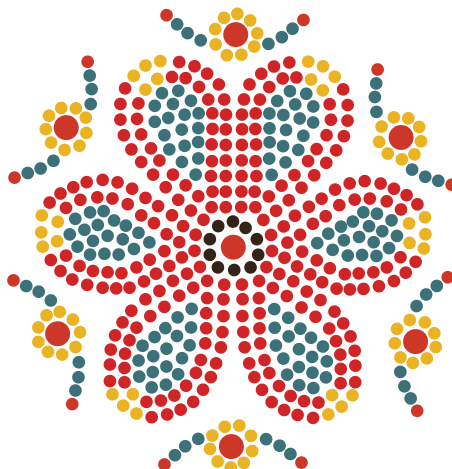
- ∞ **MNA Governance Infrastructure (Blatchford) - \$250 million**
- ∞ **Regional and Territory Infrastructure - \$24 million**
- ∞ **Maintenance and operations over 6 years - \$12 million**

### **Métis Nation Ontario**

- **Operational costs over 6 years: \$18 million**
- ∞ **Property Management for all structure - \$27 million over 6 years**
- ∞ **Government House - \$20 million**

### **Métis Nation British Columbia**

- ∞ **Headquarters - \$62.5 million**
- ∞ **7 Regional offices - \$8 million**



## **THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **Recommendation 8: Supporting Emergency Management Programming and Capacity**

Natural disasters and the risks associated with climate change are becoming increasingly common and devastating for all Canadians. Métis communities are arguably at greater risk of being negatively impacted by climate-driven environmental changes such as flooding, forest fires, and extreme weather events which cause evacuations and displacement. However, The Métis Nation has never received funding to support emergency management and/or disaster risk mitigation work. Federal investments will strengthen the capacity of the Métis Nation to participate in emergency management initiatives and will ultimately save lives.

Given the inherent Métis right to self-determination and the federal government's nation-to-nation, government-to-government relationship between the Métis Nation and the Crown, the Métis Nation cannot be expected to function solely under existing provincial and local government emergency management funding. Beyond this, it is not sustainable for Governing Members and the MNC to continuously apply for ad hoc funding streams which are often time and labor intensive, and often exclude the Métis from accessing them entirely.

Like other Indigenous nations, governments and organizations, Governing Members and the MNC are repeatedly called upon to provide input into strategies, policies, and research by external parties. An ongoing investment of \$3.5 million per year will ensure Governing Members and the MNC have the necessary resources to conduct their own research and assessments, grow capacity internally, and interpret data to develop their own pathways towards greater environmental and climate resilience.

### **Recommendation 9: Supporting MNC's Capacity and Engagement with Natural Resources Canada**

The Métis Nation is committed to working collaboratively with the Government of Canada to advance resource development across the Métis homeland. However, sufficient capacity, technical expertise, and resources must reside within the Governing Members and the MNC for the Métis Nation to meaningfully participate in the natural resource sector.

Governing Members require increased capacity to effectively engage with Natural Resources Canada on programs at the regional level while supporting the advancement of the natural resources sector more broadly. Within the last year, MNC is being asked to engage on 23 separate programs from Natural Resources Canada alone. While each of these programs, policies or regulations comes with a well-staffed team from the Government of Canada, Governing



Members and the MNC lack adequate numbers of staff to effectively respond to engagement requests.

MNC is requesting \$1.29 million per year over five years to be divided amongst Governing Members and the MNC. This investment will adequately support the internal capacity of the Governing Members and the MNC on engagement with Natural Resources Canada. The MNC is also seeking dedicated and flexible multi-year funding of \$1 million per year over five years to support engagement with Métis citizens, communities, and businesses on Natural Resources Canada programming. This funding should be provided upfront at the start of each fiscal year and would include a list of agreed-upon areas for use over each year. This funding would represent a combined investment of \$13,167,500 over five years.


## **JUSTICE**

### **Recommendation 10: Ensuring the consistency of Canada’s laws with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)**

The federal government’s United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) Act represents a critical step in Canada’s efforts to establish a framework of standards for the survival, dignity and wellbeing of Métis Nation citizens and all Indigenous peoples. The Act has multiple ongoing features: the action plan (which must be co-developed by June 21, 2023), annual reporting requirements, co-development and operation of accountability mechanisms, and a broad legislative obligation to ensure all laws of Canada are consistent with UNDRIP. This last obligation is expansive and encompasses the development of new laws, review of existing laws, and operation of current federal laws.

The duties required to be performed by Governing Members and the MNC to support the implementation of UNDRIP will continue to grow as the Act is understood and implemented across the federal government; however, there is currently very little internal capacity and resources available to the MNC, Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO) and Governing Members to conduct this work. The funding announced in Budget 2022 for the implementation of the UNDRIP Act has been acknowledged by Justice Canada officials as inadequate to support Indigenous peoples, with many describing the \$11 million allocated in the last federal budget as a “down payment”.

The MNC is seeking \$24.9 million to allow the Governing Members, the MNC and LFMO to conduct the legislative review as obligated by the UNDRIP Act. This would represent an increase of ten times the original allocation of \$415,000 to Governing Members, MNC and LFMO. This additional funding will be essential



in ensuring Indigenous partners, like Governing Members, MNC and LFMO, can effectively work alongside the federal government to review and update legislation in accordance with the UNDRIP Act. Without these investments, the government of Canada will struggle to implement the Act in a way that truly respects and upholds the rights of all Indigenous peoples.

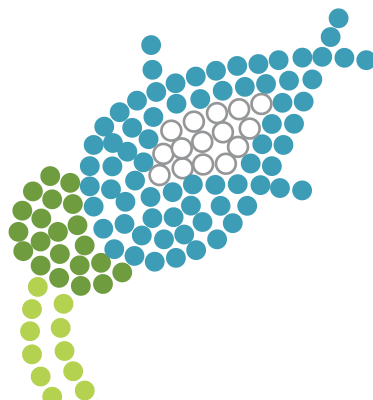
## **HEALTHCARE**

### **Recommendation 11: Support for Métis Extended Health Benefits.**

Past and ongoing legacies of colonization including oppressive systemic policies, such as the loss of land, residential schools, sixties scoop, federal and provincial jurisdictional battles, and systemic racism have taken a significant toll on the lives of Métis people. The root cause of poorer health outcomes suffered by the Métis lies in inter-generational family and individual experiences of trauma caused by these colonial policies and adversity in their childhood. To effectively respond to the negative health outcomes resulting from historic and ongoing colonialism, Canada must recognize and uphold the substantive rights held by the Métis Nation.

Métis citizens have highlighted individual, family, and community health needs as a primary concern to be addressed by Governing Members and the MNC. Many Métis people have expressed significant challenges accessing health services, supports, and supplemental health needs (vision/dental) due to the financial burden associated with these services. The top priority for Métis citizens across all Governing Members is ensuring that Métis people can access the health services and supports they need without financial or jurisdictional barriers.

However, the Governing Members are not asking to be added to the existing Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) program provided to First Nations and Inuit; rather, adhering to the principles of self-determination, sustainability, and equity, Governing Members are looking for funding to develop, implement, and evaluate their own respective benefits programming that is responsive to regional needs. Canada and the Métis Nation must jointly commit to funding extended health benefits programs that cover the costs of essential medications and treatments for all Métis citizens through the development of tailored programs in each jurisdiction that are designed to complement existing provincial level benefits plans and close these service gaps.



To adequately support the creation of Métis Extended Health Benefits, an investment of **\$893 million will be required over five years** as follows:

2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	Total
\$136 million	\$169 million	\$193 million	\$154 million	\$241 million	\$893 million

Funding will support research, development, and improved data collection to inform programming, and will enable as internal capacity building for Governing Members to deliver Métis Extended Health Benefits. These investments will also help foster meaningful and collaborative relationships with partners, ultimately delivering barrier free access to support health services, including medical transportation and accommodations.

### **Recommendation 12: Strengthening the internal capacity of the Governing Members and the MNC to Address Métis Social Determinants of Health**

Métis people experience significant challenges optimizing their health and wellbeing. Many community members suffer disproportionately from a wide range of conditions and have less access to the supports needed, resulting in worse health outcomes. A “Métis social determinants of health” approach seeks to acknowledge and understand the root causes of a variety of historical, economic, social, and political inequities. Addressing Métis social determinants of health will be key to closing the health gaps between Métis and other Canadians.

All Métis in need of home or community care should have the ability to access health services whenever and however they need. Governing Members and the MNC are best positioned to consult with community members on their specific healthcare needs; however, resources are required to build capacity, infrastructure and human resources that support improved health outcomes for Métis people in their respective jurisdictions. This requires distinctions-based, longer term, sustainable funding of \$720 million over five years. Funding will be divided between the Governing Members as follows:

	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028
MNA	\$60 million	\$40 million	\$50 million	\$40 million	\$50 million
MNBC	\$30 million	\$20 million	\$25 million	\$20 million	\$25 million
MNO	\$30 million	\$20 million	\$25 million	\$20 million	\$25 million
MNS	\$60 million	\$40 million	\$50 million	\$40 million	\$50 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$180 million</b>	<b>\$120 million</b>	<b>\$150 million</b>	<b>\$120 million</b>	<b>\$150 million</b>

This combined investment to be shared among Governing Members would result in improved research and data collection into the Métis social determinants of health, and improved capacity to address these determinants. This funding would also support barrier-free access to primary health and specialist care – including

but not limited to medical transportation and accommodation when accessing centralized services. Other benefits include strengthened community-based long-term and palliative care, expanded virtual care opportunities, and culturally relevant and inclusive maternal care, sexual health, and reproductive care.

### **Recommendation 13: Mental Wellness and Harm Reduction**

Mental wellbeing is a priority for all Governing Members. Supporting citizens to achieve their goals and optimize their wellbeing requires a strength-based Métis Social Determinants of Health approach that acknowledges intergenerational trauma inflicted by colonialization. Adequate investments in mental health and harm reduction will support research and data collection to guide improvements to service delivery. Ultimately, funding will support life promotion programming including cultural supports; the availability of trauma informed care; improved access to supports for targeted population including Elders, 2SLGBTQQIA+ women, men, youth, and gender diverse people; and the development of infrastructure such as community based residential care, and land-based healing facilities.

A total investment of \$320 million will be required to effectively address the mental wellness and harm reduction needs of all Governing Members. This funding will be divided between the Governing Members as follows:

	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>	<b>2025/2026</b>	<b>2026/2027</b>	<b>2027/2028</b>
MNA	\$15 million	\$20 million	\$20 million	\$25 million	\$30 million
MNBC	\$7.5 million	\$10 million	\$10 million	\$12.5 million	\$10 million
MNO	\$7.5 million	\$10 million	\$10 million	\$12.5 million	\$10 million
MNS	\$15 million	\$20 million	\$20 million	\$25 million	\$30 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$45 million</b>	<b>\$60 million</b>	<b>\$60 million</b>	<b>\$75 million</b>	<b>\$80 million</b>

### **Recommendation 14: Adapting Culturally Safe Healthcare Spaces**

Structural and interpersonal racism continues to contribute to the health inequities experienced by Métis people across Canada. The Métis Nation applauds the federal commitment to anti-Indigenous racism. Our request for support is framed within the context of this commitment and will use these investments to continue to examine ways in which the Métis Nation can address local and system level challenges while contributing to the transformation of existing policies (e.g., distinctions-based health legislation) and systems.

A total investment of \$210 million over five years will be required to ensure access to culturally safe healthcare spaces that are free from discrimination against Métis citizens. This funding will be divided between the Governing Members as follows:

	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028
MNA	\$10 million	\$10 million	\$15 million	\$15 million	\$20 million
MNBC	\$5 million	\$5 million	\$7.5 million	\$7.5 million	\$10 million
MNO	\$5 million	\$5 million	\$7.5 million	\$7.5 million	\$10 million
MNS	\$10 million	\$10 million	\$15 million	\$15 million	\$20 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30 million</b>	<b>\$30 million</b>	<b>\$45 million</b>	<b>\$45 million</b>	<b>\$60 million</b>

This funding will support research and data collection which will inform the creation and expansion of Métis cultural supports in healthcare settings and culturally competent health systems. Additionally, these investments will increase the number of Métis healthcare workers within the existing healthcare system and will support the development of infrastructure including Métis owned comprehensive wellness centers.

**EDUCATION**

**Recommendation 15: Investing in K-12 Education for the Métis Nation**

The development of a Métis-specific program for K-12 education lags far behind similar programs for other Indigenous peoples. Métis education infrastructure is almost non-existent in the major metropolitan areas within the homeland and Métis educational resources are often only made possible by diverting resources away from other program areas.

Jurisdictional challenges have resulted in a history of underfunding within Métis educational institutions – often channeling Métis students to pan-Indigenous structures. Creating a network of Métis learning centers across the Métis homeland will not only ensure that Métis learners see themselves reflected in their institutions, but also that non-Métis learners have access to quality publicly funded educational resources on the Métis - created by, with and for Métis communities.

The development of Métis K-12 education will require resources for Governing Members to build sufficient internal capacity to plan and implement the program. This will require long-term, predictable funding that includes an escalating formula for regional funding models for elementary and secondary education. Funding must be comparable to investments made by Indigenous Service Canada for First Nations students.

Total program expenditures for the Métis K-12 education program would be \$1.17 billion over 10 years, with initial investments of \$579,058,351 being provided in 2022-23 and \$591,193,804 in 2023-24. This investment will allow the

Métis Nation to implement a long-range K-12 education program for the Métis people, thereby respecting UNDRIP principles and demonstrating equity-driven considerations within Indigenous education.

## **SELF-DETERMINATION**

### **Recommendation 16: Investing in the Métis Nation's capacity to participate in international decision-making**

The self-determination of Indigenous Peoples is articulated in Article 3 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which states that “Indigenous Peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.”

The establishment of the Canada-Métis Nation Permanent Bilateral Mechanism in April 2017 is one example of Governing Members and the MNC working with the Government of Canada on a nation-to-nation and government-to-government basis to advance self-determination. Another important step to realizing self-determination was achieved with the signing of *Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreements* (MGRSAs) with three Governing Members in June 2019. This tremendous step forward—taken on behalf of our future generations—is what all governments within the Métis Nation have been and will continue to fight for.

Self-determination is not only exercised domestically within Canada. Decision-making processes at the international level have a clear impact on the rights and prosperity of Métis citizens. Recent examples include the decision to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) domestically in Canada, and the negotiations of the Indigenous Peoples Economic Trade and Co-operation Agreement (IPETCA) between Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Chinese Taipei, and the negotiation enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations.

Despite being affected by the outcomes of negotiations of international initiatives such as the UNDRIP, IPETCA, and enhanced participation, the Métis Nation does not currently have predictable and flexible funding which provides it with sufficient capacity to undertake international activities to support the rights, prosperity and well-being of Métis citizens. As a result, it is not able to participate in activities such as the implementation of the IPETCA and other international decision-making processes which affect Métis rights and prosperity.

In order to be a strong, constructive and clear voice for the Métis Nation, and to protect and promote the rights and prosperity of Métis citizens, the MNC is asking the Government of Canada for funding to support Métis Nation to build capacity for its international engagements.

The Métis National Council is seeking \$2.875 million over 5 years fees to support the following proposed activities.

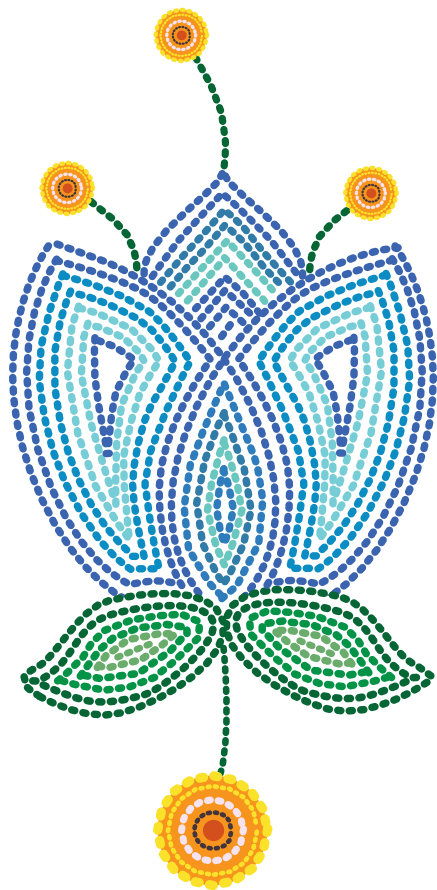
- ∞ **Consultations with Governing Members and Métis Citizens for the development of a Métis Nation International Strategy**
- ∞ **Research and engagement on international issues**
- ∞ **Métis Nation participation in international activities, including international conferences and negotiations**

**Annex A: 2022 Unmet Priorities**

**MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL FEDERAL BUDGET 2022 UNMET PRIORITIES**

		Budget 2022 ASK (millions)						
Priorities/Commitments	Liberal 2019 Platform (P), Fall Economic Update (FEU), 2020/2021 Throne Speech (TS)	Potential Impacted Departments	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2022-27 Total
<b>1.0 Unmet Priorities</b>								
<b>1.1 New Fiscal Relations</b>	Respect treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements.	CIRNAC	7	7	7	7	7	35.0
	Ensuring that the Act Respecting Métis Children, Youth and Families is fully implemented, with long-term, predictable, and sufficient funding to support the full implementation of the Act.	CIRNAC, DISC, province	44.0	51.0	89.0	119.0	175.0	478.0
<b>1.3 Child and Family Services</b>	1) Move forward with mandatory training on unconscious bias and cultural competency for all judges in Canada, expand successful diversion programs to keep at-risk youth out of the criminal justice system 2) Work with the provinces and territories to establish a Community Justice Centres program, which puts courts alongside other critical social services							
<b>2.1 Justice and Policing</b>	Direct support to Métis Government's tourism industry and Métis citizens employed in the industry most affected by COVID 19, and support for enhanced recovery from COVID 19.	CIRNAC, IUS	10.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	45.6
<b>2.2 Tourism Support and Growth</b>	Energy Efficient Homes, Clean Affordable Power, Net Zero Emissions, Carbon Pricing, Natural Climate Solutions, Disaster Response, Clean Energy Transition, Climate Change and Health Adaptation.	CIRNAC, TOFLF	32.0	32.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	112.0
<b>2.3 Environment</b>	More conservation (included things like Pathway, IPCAs, Species at Risk), Ban on Single Use Plastics, Fresh Water, Healthy Oceans	CIRNAC, ECCC						
<b>A. Environment and Climate Change Capacity Development</b>	Work to expand successful diversion programs to keep at-risk youth out of the criminal justice system and support Métis citizens in achieving sports goals.		14.06	14.06	14.06	14.06	14.06	70.3
<b>B. Emergency Management</b>			9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	45.0
<b>C. Conservation</b>			7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	39.4
<b>2.5 Youth &amp; Sports</b>			7.00	15.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	55.0
<b>2.7 Sixties Scoop</b>			2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	6.00
<b>2.8 Section 35 Rights</b>	Continued support in engaging with Canada in identification and protection of Métis Section 35 Rights.	CIRNAC	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.4	11.40
<b>2.9 MMIWG</b>	Implement the Calls for Justice/ MMIWG	CIRNAC, WAGE	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	350.0
<b>2.10 TRC</b>	Continue to implement TRC Calls to Action/National Council for Reconciliation	CIRNAC	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	70.0
<b>Total</b>			219.66	232.86	251.06	279.06	335.06	1317.70







Métis National Council  
Ralliement National des Métis



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

