



Métis Nation



November 2019

Métis Nation Second World War Hero honoured in BC



President Chartier presented a \$20,000 cheque to Métis veteran George Watson. The cheque is part of \$30 million contained in Budget 2019 by the Trudeau government to commemorate forgotten Métis soldiers.

On October 29, 2019, MNC President Chartier and MNBC President Clara Morin Dal Col and Vice-President and Minister of Veterans Lissa Smith honoured 95 year old WWII Métis veteran George Watson at his seniors home, Finnish Home, in Vancouver BC. His daughters Shirley Dery, Shawne Dery, and his grandchildren joined the Métis Nation leaders for the

ceremony. At the ceremony, President Chartier presented a \$20,000 cheque to Métis veteran Mr. Watson. The cheque is part of \$30 million contained in Budget 2019 by the Trudeau government to commemorate forgotten Métis soldiers.

Originally from Stavely, Alberta, Mr. Watson served in the Naval Forces of Canada from July 3,

1942 to October 9, 1945. He fought in the Battle of the Atlantic. After he returned to Canada, he served with the Royal Canadian Reserves from December 22, 1947 to March 8, 1957. He received the Defence Medal 1939-1945; the Service Medal/Good Conduct 1945; and the War Service Badge.

Shirley Dery says that she's very

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proud and happy that the Métis Nation leadership recognized and honoured her father.

President Morin Dal Col stated “that it was an honour to participate in awarding Mr. Watson the long awaited recognition for his many sacrifices in serving his country and the world in difficult times and wished him and the family all the best.”

President Chartier reaffirmed “the Métis Nation’s appreciation for the significant contributions made by Mr. Watson to the fight for a free world and serving his nation and country in times of great threat to world peace.”





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Métis Nation Second World War Heroes honoured in Saskatchewan

— Each was awarded with a cheque for \$20,000, making them among the first to receive these benefits under the recently concluded \$30 million Canada-Métis Nation Métis Veterans Recognition Payment Agreement.




Minister Chartrand Presenting a \$20,000 cheque to Métis Veteran Alice Samuel

On October 30, 2019, Saskatoon and Duck Lake, SK – MNC President Chartier and Minister of Veterans Affairs David Chartrand visited two Métis Nation veterans of the Second

World War on October 30, 2019, joining with the veterans, their families and communities in ceremonies honouring the contributions of these Métis Nation heroes. Each was

awarded a cheque for \$20,000, making them among the Métis Nation Veterans receive these benefits under the recently concluded \$30 million Canada-Métis Nation Métis Veterans

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Recognition Payment Agreement.

In the morning, Minister Chartrand presented a \$20,000 cheque to veteran Lucien (Jim) Boucher at the Central Haven Special Care Home in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Born just west of St. Louis, Saskatchewan on November 24, 1922, Jim Boucher joined the Canadian Army in Regina on January 5, 1943. He received training at Regina, Otter Point on Vancouver Island, Victoria and Nanaimo, followed by further training at the Aleutian Island of Alaska until December 1943. Following this, he received a 30-day disembarkation leave, returning home on January 9, 1944. When reporting back, he signed up to volunteer for active duty overseas. He joined the Seaforth Islanders, based out of Vancouver, BC. He fought in the northern part of Italy, on the front line at the Lamone river, as a Bren-gunner. After staying in Italy for 6 months (being 3 months on the front line) he went to Holland for one



Minister Chartrand presenting a \$20,000 cheque to Métis Veteran Lucien (Jim) Boucher

more month at which time the war ended.

His children Anita Grenier and Jesse Boucher participated in this ceremony. MNS leadership has also attended this Métis National event, including MNS President Glen McCallum, Minister of Veterans Affairs Ryan Carriere, Secretary Lisa McCallum and Regional Director Sherry McLennan.

In the afternoon, Minister Chartrand presented a \$20,000 cheque to Métis veteran "Alice" Marie Victoria Samuel (nee

Petit) at Goodwill Manor in Duck Lake, Saskatchewan.

Born in Duck Lake, SK on October 19, 1925, Samuel served in the Canadian Army from November 4, 1943 to November 7, 1945, as an Orderly Room Clerk. According to the family, her father served in both the First World War and the Second World War. Her brothers also served in the Second World War. She is the first female WWII Veteran to receive the \$20,000 compensation payment from the Métis Nation Veteran Legacy Fund.





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Above: President Chartier and Métis Veteran Alice Samuel



Top right corner: (l-r) Jesse Boucher (son of veteran), Minister Chartrand, Métis Veteran Jim Boucher, Anita Grenier (daughter of veteran), President Chartier





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Message from the President

As we approach November 11th, the annual day of remembering all the brave women and men who served in World Wars One and Two, as well as other conflicts around the world, for the Métis Nation this Remembrance Day will have more significance as at long last our WWII Métis Nation Veterans have finally received their long-awaited apology from Canada for the injustice of not having been dealt with fairly by Canada when they returned home from the war.

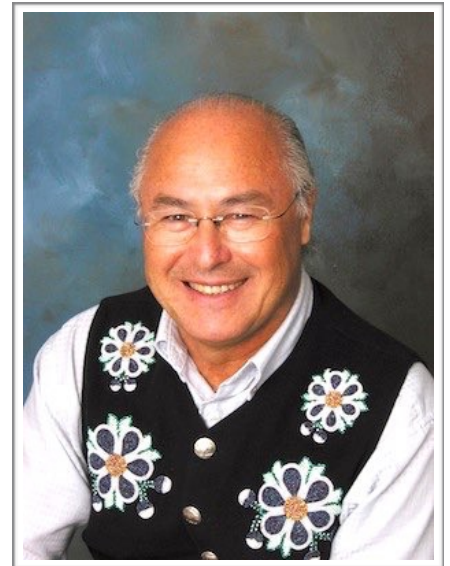
While it has taken almost 75 years for the recognition of their service to Canada and the world to take place, those remaining veterans who have heard the apology and received the compensation provided other Indigenous veterans over a decade ago can nevertheless now end their long service to country and nation with the knowledge that they have been recognized for their contributions.

For all Métis Nation citizens, we can also rejoice knowing that our WWII Veterans have finally been acknowledged for all the contributions they have made,

not just to the world, but more particularly to our nation and people. As I look back to my years as a youth in northwest Saskatchewan, I now more fully understand and appreciate the role that our veterans played when they returned home. While they did not receive the economic or educational benefits promised, they nevertheless moved forward and became role models for my generation.

Many WWII Métis Nation Veterans in the village of Ile a la Crosse where I spent 10 years at the residential school became our community leaders in politics, business and community life generally. They became our leaders and showed us the way forward.

This I am certain happened in all parts of our homeland. A testimonial to this is the fact that in the mid-1990s to the early 2000s the Senate of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan was composed primarily of WWII Métis Nation Veterans a strong testimonial to the pivotal role they played in our slow but steady move forward on the



road of self-determination and the re-establishment of rights.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to all of our former Métis Nation Veterans from the Battle of Batoche to the World Wars, the Korean Conflict and to today's on-going conflicts. For my generation, we especially owe a special thanks to the returning WWII Métis Nation veterans who sacrificed so much, and led us through their continued and dedicated service to where we are today: to you we say, MARSII, MERCI, THANK YOU.





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Veterans Recognition to Date

- Veteran Paul Delorme – Malden, Essex UK (June 9)
- Veteran Clifford Swain – Comox, BC (July 15)
- Veteran Louis Roy – Beauval, SK (July 16)
- Veteran George McKay – Tisdale, SK (July 17)
- Veteran Alex Boucher – Britt, ON (August 17)
- Veteran Wilfred Rochon – Windsor, ON (August 18)
- Veteran Robert Campbell – The Pas, MB (weekend of August 23)
- Veteran Norman Goodon – Regina, SK (September 10)
- Veteran George Watson – Vancouver BC (October 29)
- Veteran Lucien (Jim) Boucher – Saskatoon, SK (October 30)
- Veteran “Alice” Marie Victoria Samuel – Duck Lake, SK (October 30)





November 2019

Unveiling of Louis Riel Coin




On October 22nd, to mark the 175th anniversary of the birth of President Louis Riel, the Royal Canadian Mint working with the Métis National Council and the Manitoba Metis Federation joined Presidents Chartier and Chartrand in unveiling a pure silver dollar Louis Riel commemoration coin.

The coin features President Riel in his beaded jacket, with a sash forming part of the infinity sign and engraved in Michif, French and English the words: Métis Nation Leader. The coin also features the signature of President Riel which appeared on the register of elected Members of Parliament on the

night that he entered the Parliament Building, signed in and then departed for safer space.

In attendance at the unveiling were the MMF Cabinet headed by President Chartrand, as well as President Clément Chartier and President Clara Morin Dal

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Col of the Métis Nation British Columbia. Elected Regional and Local Métis leaders from MNBC, MNA, MNS and MNO were also present.

This unveiling was just one of the events that marked the 175th birthday celebration, with hundreds of school students hosted in the afternoon by the

MMF, with a gala dinner featuring a performance of the life of Louis Riel. It was an event truly appreciated by all those who participated.





November 2019

Prince Albert Gathering for Missing and Murdered Métis Women and Girls

— *Honouring the lives and legacies of Missing and Murdered Métis Women and Girls*



The Métis gathering, titled “Coming Home” took place at the Prince Albert Exhibition Grounds from October 25-27, 2019. Sessions include building

trust relationships with law enforcement, honouring the lives and legacies of Missing and Murdered Métis Women and girls, sharing circles and

workshops. It is intended to promote awareness of Missing and Murdered Métis Women and Girls and to offer support to families and communities

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who have been impacted by the loss of loved ones.

Following an opening ceremony, several speakers addressed to the participants, including Tammy Mah, President of the Les Filles de Madelaine, Jason Stonechild, Deputy Chief, PA City Police, Victoria Pruden, Vice-President of LFMO, Clément Chartier, President of the Métis National Council, Gerald Morin(MNS), Lisa McCallum (MNS).

Deputy Chief Stonechild referring to an RCMP report stated that “while Indigenous women make up only 4% of Canada’s female population, 16% of all women murdered in Canada between 1980 and 2012 were indigenous.”

“It is important that we support each other not only in this week’s proceedings but in our daily lives.” said President Mah at her opening remarks, “This is the beginning of a very long process and we look forward to the recommendations that conference participants will offer from this gathering.”

Many families of victims were interviewed during the three-day gathering, which will be produced as a documentary according to President Mah. President Mah said they would take information from this gathering and move forward, bringing it to another region and continue gathering information, seeking solutions and action planning.

On the first day of the gathering, eleven Missing and Murdered Métis women and girls’ lives and legacies were honoured and commemorated. Among these eleven victims’ families, President Chartier shared his story of his mother, Rosa Chartier, who was murdered when he was 15 years

old. After 58 years of her death, her children and grandchildren and their families are still waiting for justice.

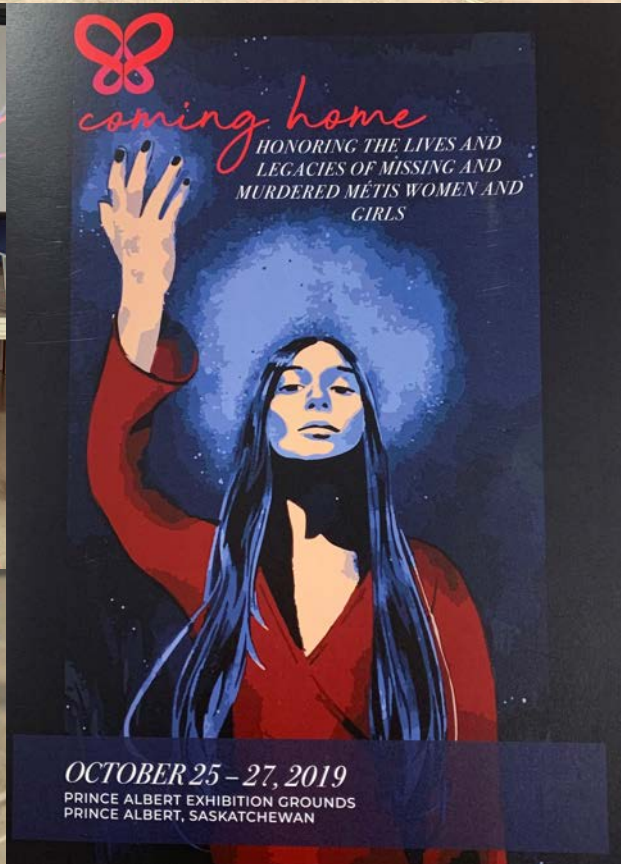
President Chartier welcomed the opportunity for sharing his story, and thanked Les Filles de Madelaine President Tammy Mah for organizing the event. “Commemoration is a powerful way to honour truths, support healing, create awareness, and advance reconciliation” said President Chartier.

On the second day, participants attended various workshops, including traditional medicine, beading, finger weaving. The families and communities also welcomed LGBTQ and Two-spirited sisters.





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Our Mother the Land Conference held in Winnipeg



On October 23-24th, a 1 1/2 day conference was held following the 175th anniversary celebration of President Riel's birth. The focus of the conference was our lands and resources and the livelihoods obtained from those lands, waters and resources.

The conference was well attended by both political and community representatives

from BC, northeast Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, northwest Ontario and the NWT. A number of panels were held to deal with traditional land users, commercial fisheries, different land base models and consultation and accommodation.

President David Chartrand was a featured speaker, with Jean

Teillet, Dr. Frank Tough and Jason Madden providing keynote addresses.

On the evening of October 23rd, a banquet was held with a featured 20th anniversary of the Métis Archive Project of the University of Alberta as a major component of the evening, followed by the Order of the Métis Nation award presented

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to prominent recipients, including: Dr. Frank Tough, Elder George Fleury, President Clara Morin Dal Col, CUMFI Local President Shirley Isbister,

Elder Muriel Stanley Venne, Métis Beadwork Artist Jennine Krauchi, PA Local President Darlene McKay, Former MNS President Jim Durocher and

Métis disabilities advocate, Gary Tinker of Pinehouse, Saskatchewan.



Order of the Métis Nation presented to President Clara Morin Dal Col for her dedication in the promotion of Métis Nation



Order of the Métis Nation presented to Dr. Frank Tough for his dedicated work and volunteerism in the protection and promotion of Métis Nation





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Order of the Métis Nation presented to Elder George Fleury for his lifetime service to the Métis Nation.



Order of the Métis Nation presented to Jennine Krauchi for her excellence in traditional Métis beadwork which has attained international renown.



Order of the Métis Nation presented to Former MNS President Jim Durocher for his lifetime service to the Métis Nation.



Order of the Métis Nation presented to Métis disabilities advocate, Gary Tinker for his lifetime service to the Métis Nation.





November 2019

Métis Nation finds a place in the Nelson Mandela Museum

On September 29, 2019 Celeste McKay of Winnipeg, Manitoba visited the Nelson Mandela Museum which was his former home in Soweto, South Africa. As part of her visit, Celeste delivered on behalf of President Chartier, photos of President Nelson Mandela being sashed/honoured by Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Senator John Boucher of St. Louis, Saskatchewan.

This honour was bestowed on former South Africa President, Nelson Mandela who served from May 10, 1994 to June 14, 1999, at the unveiling of a commemorative plaque on September 24, 1998 dedicated to John Peter Humphrey, a Canadian jurist who wrote the first draft of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the

Canadian Tribute to Human Rights monument in Ottawa, Ontario. President Mandela ended up wearing the sash during his speech in the House of Commons.

President Chartier who had visited the museum in Soweto when he attended the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development on 2002, had since he returned, wondered how he could get these famous photographs to them. Upon finding out that Celeste was going there for an international meeting, President Chartier asked if she could deliver them along with a

message, which she was glad to do.

Now the Métis Nation has a place among the other remembrances of President Mandela's extraordinary life.





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Title: Boucher, John and Nelson Mandela (01)

Subject: Boucher, John, Mandela, Nelson

This is an image of John Boucher putting a Métis Sash around Nelson Mandela's waist. On September 24, 1998 in Ottawa, Senator John Boucher (1938-2010), on behalf of the Métis Nation, wrapped a Métis sash around Nelson Mandela's waist during the then President of South Africa's state visit to Canada. When Mandela addressed Parliament later that day, he wore the sash. According to Boucher's daughter, Dori Halcro, the late Métis senator was told not to touch the South African leader but he nixed that idea and tied the sash around Mandela's waist and gave him the Métis name, "Diamant" ('Diamond' in French) because Mandela was a luminous diamond who shone light on his people, and arguably on the entire world. Mandela was one of Boucher's personal heroes; so this was a great thrill for him. This moment also drew the international spotlight of the world's media on Canada's relationship with the Métis.

Date: 1998

Type: Image

Identifier: Boucher 265

Date of Copyright: May 13, 2016

Coverage: Ottawa, Ontario

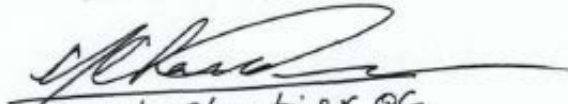
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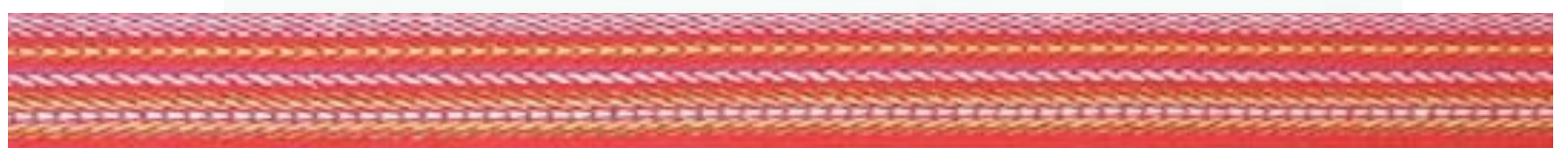
September 27, 2019

• Métis Nation

I attended the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 and had the honour of visiting the home of former President Nelson Mandela and the museum housed there.

It struck me as I was standing there that the Métis Nation located in Western Canada should share our joint moment in history when our Elder John Boucher gifted a traditional Métis sash to President Mandela.


Clément Chartier QC
President
Métis Nation





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Métis Nation Well Represented at the Canadian Parks Conference

— Prepared by Erin Myers, MNC Advisor, Environment and Climate Change



I want to acknowledge and thank Kathy Hodgson Smith who familiarized herself with the bus route from the Hotel to the Conference event so that we could commute (as much as possible) to and from the Hotel while keeping our ecological/ climate footprint minimal. We must always keep these things in mind as we all have a responsibility.

— Erin Myers

On October 7th, 15 representatives, which included a number of youth, from across the Métis Nation gathered in Québec City to take part in the 2nd Canadian Parks Conference. The event hosted a wide range of around 400 participants (federal and provincial governments, municipalities, Indigenous leaders, private companies, non-profit

organizations, students and so on) from the healthcare, education, tourism, conservation, and recreation sectors, will be hosted by Société des établissements de plein air du Québec (Sépaq).

The objectives of the event were to:

1. Foster collaboration across different networks while advancing pan-Canadian initiatives
2. Share success stories, expertise, and best practices throughout the park's community and with allied partners

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- 3. Celebrate and interweave different ways of knowing by working together with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

The Métis Nation is doing important work in advancing the inclusion of Métis Knowledge in environmental programming and policies. The Métis Nation is engaged in a number of activities from Guardians, Pathway Target 1, Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs), biodiversity and climate change which are interwoven with the dialogue around parks and protected areas in Canada. Many of the sessions had a strong focus around the inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge and it was important to ensure that the Métis voice was included.

There were a number of interesting sessions which included collaborative management in the North, respecting world views, climate change from different



Minister Goodon speaking at the Parks Canada conference

perspectives, parks as a classroom, Indigenous-led conservation, and integrating parks with local communities. Though the sessions were interesting and relevant to the work that the Métis Nation is doing, Sheila Watt-Cloutier's Keynote Address on Environmental Issues and Challenges of Indigenous People in the Arctic: An Enlightening Interconnection was impactful.

Mrs. Watt-Cloutier spoke a lot about "connectivity" and the importance of refocusing the

discussion around humanity. "The world has come to know more of the wildlife in the region (polar bear example) then the people of that region..." It is important to understand that we are all interconnected and that "human trauma and planet trauma are the same". Reconnecting youth to the land and land-based skills is just as important as protecting the land itself.

The focus of many plenary talks were centered around reconnecting; having the

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courage to dream and having others believe in that dream with their hearts; and the importance of strong leadership who understand the urgency. Most importantly, it was made clear of the need to listen to, include and support the leadership of Indigenous peoples.

This was clearly emphasized in the Indigenous led panel discussion "Demystifying IPCA's" when the Métis Nation was well represented by MMF's Minister Will Goodon. Minister Goodon did an excellent job conveying the need to include and support the Métis in the development of Indigenous Protected and Conserved areas.

"Land is as important to the Métis Nation as it is to any other Indigenous people. Maybe more so because we were robbed of this birthright even though we negotiated with our country in good faith. Métis protected areas is an

important tool for us but we must not be excluded because our land was stolen. That is even more reason for Canada to support us to manage and care for the land. We are on the land. Now we need Canada to be a partner with us."

This is especially important as Canada moves towards achieving its objective of 35% of its total land based as protected. Partnerships are key, and the need have those hard conversations on how to complement the needs of each jurisdiction is necessary. Historically, the development of national parks is rooted in colonial practice, but there is an opportunity to co-create new parks with a focus on reconciliation with people but also to reconcile with the land.

The participation at this 2nd Canadian Parks Conference was a good opportunity to increase knowledge, further

build networks, gain up to date information, and ensure that Métis Nation expertise is included in all aspects of the dialogue. When people become engaged and connected then they become advocates and leaders for change.





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Minister of Health, Clara Morin Dal Col met President of the Canadian Institute for Health Research, Dr. Michael Strong in Ottawa

— Prepared by Eduardo Vides, Senior Health Policy Advisor

On October 10th the Métis Nation Minister of Health, Clara Morin Dal Col met with the President of the Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR), Dr. Michael Strong at the National Office. Attending the meeting from CIHR were: Dr. Carrie Bourassa, Scientific Director, Indigenous People's Health Institute, Christian Sylvain, Acting Vice President, Governance and External Affairs, Kimberly Banks Hart, Acting Director General, Strategic Partnership and International Relations and Jessica Mankowski, Manager of Major Initiatives. Attendees from MNC were: Wenda Watteyne, Executive Director,



Dale Drown, Special Advisor,
Dr. Storm Russell, Senior Policy


Advisor, Dr. Eduardo Vides, Senior Health Policy Advisor.

This was the first high level meeting derived from conversations between CIHR and the Métis Nation at the New investigators and Métis Research workshop that was held in Victoria, BC in December 6 & 7, 2018. The general discussion at the meetings has been the future relationship between Métis Nation and CIHR as well as exploring mechanisms of collaboration to co-develop a Métis specific research agenda responsive with the Métis health needs.

The major points of discussion and messages by the Minister Morin Dal Col were:

- Distinct Métis Nation

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representation on the advisory board for Health and wellness for Indigenous Peoples;

- To work more closely and directly with CIHR and IIPH to co-develop and implement a distinctions-based Métis Nation - CIHR approach and research agenda that can be clearly demonstrated to be responsive to Métis Health priorities and needs over the longer term.
- At the moment the CIHR and IIPH approach is pan-Indigenous. This kind of approach has not worked well for the Métis Nation or for Métis health research.
- While we don't have access to all the data, a preliminary scan of previously funded projects listed on the IIPH website suggests that there have been very few that have been led by Métis researchers, or which have specifically addressed



Métis health concerns and priorities.

- As well, there is little Métis specific representation in the CIHR's and IIPH's key policy, planning and decision-making structures and mechanisms. e.g. the CIHR College of Reviewers, the Reference Group on Indigenous Health

Research, other key planning committees and policy development tables.

While nothing has been finalized, there is a good possibility that this could happen. Discussions will continue.





November 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|
| • Veterans Legacy Fund Roundtable | Nov 5 | Winnipeg, MB |
| • Canada Post - Unveiling of the Red River Resistance Stamp | Nov 6 | Winnipeg, MB |
| • Joint MN Health Committee & Environment Committee meeting | Nov 6 | Winnipeg, MB |
| • Métis Nation Health Committee meeting | Nov 7 | Winnipeg, MB |
| • Métis Nation Environment Committee meeting | Nov 7 | Winnipeg, MB |
| • National Aboriginal Veterans Day | Nov 8 | |
| • National Remembrance Day | Nov 11 | |
| • Louis Riel Commemoration | Nov 16 | |
| • Minorities Conference | Nov 18-20 | Ottawa, ON |
| • Métis Nation Health Forum | Feb 26-27 | Ottawa, ON |
| • Métis Economic Development Symposium (MEDS IV) | March 3-5 | Vancouver, BC |





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