

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARON

Tansi everyone, and Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a restful and wonderful holiday.

What an exciting year we are entering in 2023. There is so much planned, and I cannot wait to visit you all throughout the year.

It feels like January has rushed by us already, but we hit the ground running as soon as we returned from holiday celebrations with family and friends.

One of the big announcements we have made in January is about the Indigenous Justice Strategy.

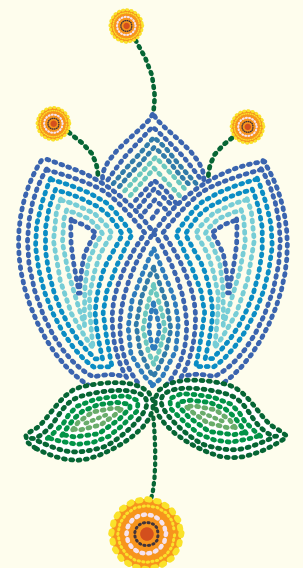
Addressing the overrepresentation of Métis people in the criminal justice system is just one of the priorities for Governing Members and the Métis National Council. The Indigenous Justice Strategy will provide a mechanism for the Métis Nation to work towards transformational reform of the criminal justice system ensuring that our unique Métis experiences, perspectives, and systems will inform effective legislative and policy measures to address systemic racism in the criminal justice system and combat Métis overrepresentation.

There are some very exciting things happening at the Métis National Council this year, and I cannot wait to share some of these things with you in the future. I can speak for our entire team here at the MNC when I say that we are ready and so excited to continue to serve the Métis Nation this year.

Be kind, be safe, and always be proud to be Métis.

LATEST NEWS IN THIS ISSUE:

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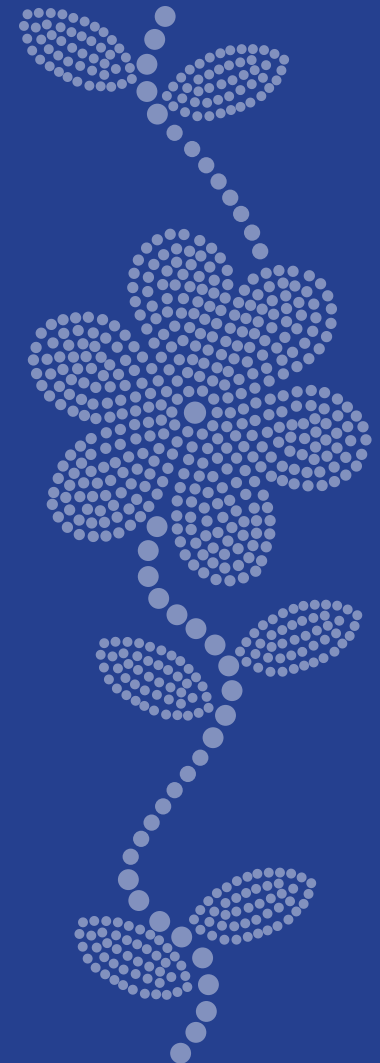




MOMENTS IN HISTORY

Did you know that on January 3, 1957, William Albert Boucher became the first 20th-century Métis appointed to the Canadian Senate? Boucher was appointed to the senate on the advice of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent and represented the Senate division of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan until his death.

During his tenure in the Senate, he was a member of numerous Senate committees including the Standing Committees on Rules and Orders, External Relations, Immigration and Labour, Natural Resources, and on Public Health and Welfare, as well as the Special Committee on Criminal Code (Hate Propaganda).



Avery Steed, Senior Policy Advisor Intergovernmental Strategy



Avery joins the Métis National Council as Senior Policy Advisor, Intergovernmental Strategy. Born in Tiohtiá:ke (Montréal, Kanien'kehá:ka territory), Avery currently resides on the traditional, unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation in Ottawa. Prior to joining the MNC (Métis National Council), Avery worked for Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada as a Senior Policy Analyst supporting the negotiation of modern treaties and self-government agreements across Central Canada and the Prairies. Avery also worked for the Indigenous Affairs Branch at Parks Canada Agency for four years, where she conducted research and advised on policy review related to working with

Indigenous knowledge holders and weaving Indigenous knowledge systems into program development, management planning, and strategic decision-making.

Avery holds a Master of Arts in Indigenous and Canadian Studies (Carleton University, 2020). Her academic research pertains to decolonizing protected area conservation and the braiding of Indigenous and Western knowledge systems in environmental governance. She is also interested in discussions on a Métis Claims process to support the resolution of historic and ongoing wrongs endured by the Métis Nation.

Avery looks forward to leveraging her knowledge and experience working within the federal system to support intergovernmental relations between the Métis Nation and Canada. She is honoured to join the team and to listen to—and learn from—Métis citizens to help advance Métis rights, priorities, and interests.

Kate Gillis, Policy Advisor

Kate Gillis is a Métis woman from Calgary, Alberta with family roots in the Red River Settlement. She joins the team upon finishing her Master of Arts in Indigenous Studies at the University of Saskatchewan. Her thesis project utilized the worldviews of wahkohtowin and otipemisiwak to highlight the role of women within the Métis ethnogenesis.

Prior to joining MNC, Kate was the first ever Indigenous Intern at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations. She is passionate about international Indigenous solidarity, and enhanced participation within the international systems.



CITIZEN HIGHLIGHT

Reta Gordon, Grandmother's Council (ON Rep)



Senator Reta Gordon is a founding member of the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) and has been actively sharing Métis culture since 1993. She became the Senator for the MNO Ottawa Métis Council in 1999 and was elected PCMNO (Provisional Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario) Executive Senator in 2002. In addition to her work as a liaison for MNO Senators, Senator Gordon has, over the past 30+ years, represented the MNO at hundreds of gatherings from small intimate workshops to large conferences and similar events. Senator Gordon stepped down officially in 2015 to care for her loving husband until he passed to the spirit world. In September 2022, the Metis Nation Council honored Senator Reta Gordon in naming her the Metis Nation of Ontario official Elder.

To this date, Elder Gordon remains interested in all matters of the Métis peoples and is one of their most highly respected advocates.



ONE NATION. MANY STORIES.

UPDATE FROM THE GOVERNING MEMBERS

MNBC

Métis Nation British Columbia

Métis Nation British Columbia Cabinet Approves Wave 5 Funding for Métis Chartered Communities and Citizens

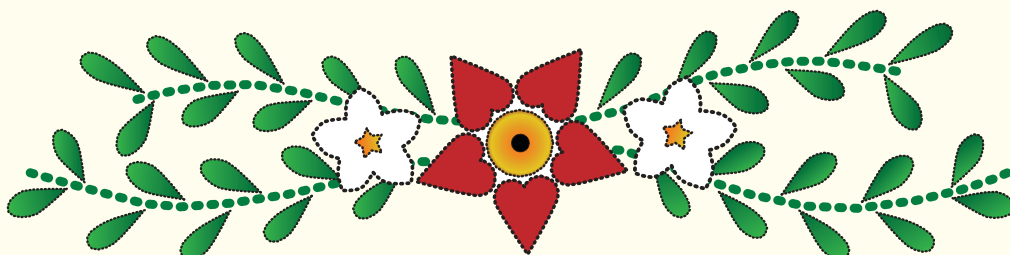
Métis Nation British Columbia's (MNBC) Cabinet has approved over \$2,000,000 million in additional COVID funding to further assist Métis Chartered Communities and Citizens in need. This wave of funding provided through the Indigenous Community Support Fund (ISCF) will continue to support MNBC's ongoing initiatives, while introducing new programs and initiatives.

Chartered Communities have continued to play a crucial role in delivering front-line assistance to Métis Citizens.

\$1,000,000 in funding will go directly to Communities to help them rebuild from the impacts of COVID-19, which include supporting initiatives around mental health, connection to culture, gathering, food security and PPE.

\$100,000 in funding will be directed to Skills Training, Employment, and Post-Secondary (STEPS) to provide one-time scholarships each to post-secondary students currently on a funding waitlist. If you are one of the waitlisted students STEPS will reach out to you shortly. The Ministry of Education: Early Learning | K-12 will receive \$100,000 in funding to continue to provide direct funding to families who require access to necessary assessments and tutoring services through the K-12 Learning Recovery Program.

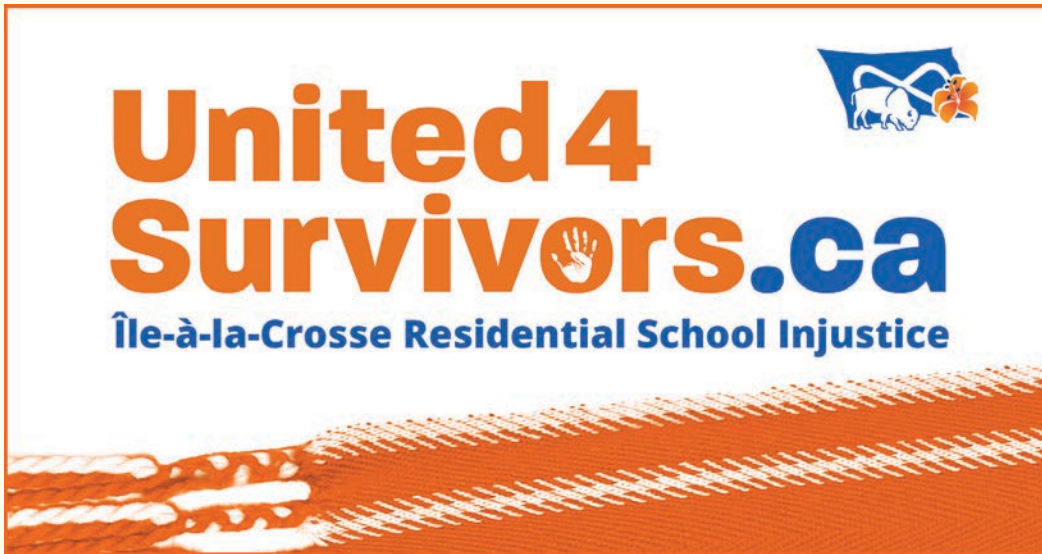
Details on the programs and initiatives, and how to apply, will be released in the coming weeks. For more information, visit <https://www.mnbc.ca/news/metis-nation-british-columbia-cabinet-approves-additional-wave-covid-funding-metis-chartered>





MN-S

Métis Nation – Saskatchewan



Métis National Council

Indigenous Justice Strategy Announcement, January 12, 2023

On January 12th at the new Indigenous Peoples Space on Parliament Hill, the Métis National Council and the Government of Canada announced federal funding over three years to help Métis Nation Governments develop a Métis Indigenous Justice Strategy. The announcement supports the federal government’s plan to introduce Indigenous-led justice systems and will allow the Métis Nation to take steps toward addressing overrepresentation and inequities within the current justice system. Crafting the strategy remains a priority of the Métis Nation and the announcement brings optimism for the future!

Indigenous Business Delegation Mission to Japan, January 17-19, 2023

As a part of the Indigenous Business Delegation Mission, the MNC was able to send 2 delegates from the Métis Nation to participate. Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Vice President Michelle Leclair and MNC Director of Economic Development Patrick Watson travelled to Tokyo to begin developing relationships and look toward international investment into the Métis Nation. The MNC is pleased at these efforts at growing partnerships and exploring opportunities for the Métis Nation!



KOKUM'S KITCHEN RECIPES

Tourtière

Yields 1 x 9” pie

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 lb. ground pork
- 1 C. chopped onions
- 1 tsp dried sage
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/8 tsp clove
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/3 C. white wine
- 1 C. mashed potato
- 1 Tbsp canola oil

Directions:

1. In a large saucepan, soften the onions with oil.
2. Add the meat and continue cooking until meat is done, making sure to stir frequently to crumble the meat.
3. Add the white wine, the spices and cook for another five minutes stirring frequently.
4. Lastly add the mashed potatoes and mix until combined. Adjust the seasoning and allow to cool. Cover and refrigerate for four hours or until completely chilled.





Gathering for our Land and Water, Vancouver BC, January 24-26, 2023

Under the Stanley Park Pavilion the Métis National Council Environment and Climate Change team held a gathering to discuss species at risk, fish, fish habitat and Métis Guardians priorities with Governing Members and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak.

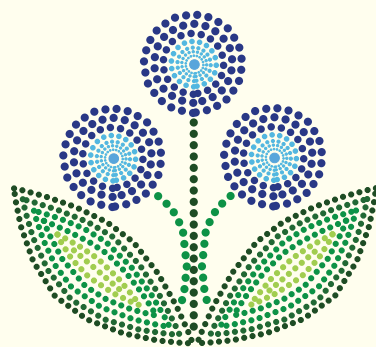


The event included workshops and participation sessions along with expert guest speakers to create an informative and engaging environment to explore the Métis Nation Nature priorities.

Minister's Round Table on Parks Canada

Every two years the Minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency holds a roundtable with Canadians interested in Parks Canada to discuss the work of the Agency and to look to the future of national historic sites, national parks, and marine conservation areas. For 2023, the Minister's Round Table on Parks Canada will focus on multiple themes, one of which being Indigenous Stewardship of Protected Heritage Places.

The roundtable discussion on this topic intends to advance Indigenous leadership in natural and cultural heritage conservation. The MNC will be participating in this conservation and working to advance Métis knowledge systems within Parks conservation efforts, but the Minister's Round Table presents an opportunity for the public to participate in these discussions. To register for the virtual Round Table, click the following link: <https://www.letstalkparkscanada.ca/>

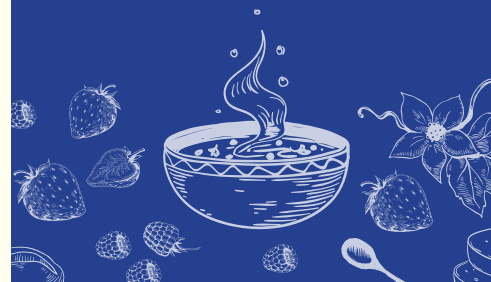


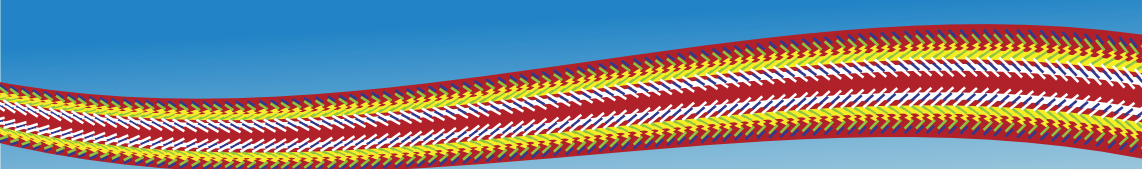
Pie Dough ingredients:

- 2 C. All-purpose Flour
- 1 C. Butter (cold cubes)
- 4 egg yolks
- 80-100 ml water (cold)
- 2 pinches salt

Pie Dough directions:

1. In a food processor, combine the flour and salt. Add the butter and pulse for a few seconds at a time until the butter is the size of peas. Add some of the water and pulse again until the dough just begins to form. Add remaining water as needed. Remove the dough from the food processor and form two discs.
2. Cover in plastic wrap and refrigerate the dough for at least 30 minutes.
3. Preheat the oven to 375 F with the rack in the lowest position.
4. Roll out the dough on a floured work surface to 12 inches round (about 1/8 inch thick). Line a nine-inch pie plate with pie dough. Fill with the cooled meat mixture, then cover with the second crust. Brush with egg wash. Make an incision in the center. Press the edge to seal with a fork or your fingers.
5. Bake for 50 minutes to one hour or until the crust is golden brown.





TRADITIONAL PLANTS CORNER



Chaga

Chaga is a fungus that grows mainly on the bark of birch trees. It is best to harvest Chaga during the fall season as this is when it reaches its peak in nutrients. However many prefer to harvest Chaga during the winter months since it's much easier to spot it on the trees with the lack of leaves.

The harvested Chaga is dried, and then broken into smaller pieces or ground into a fine powder for use in Chaga tea, tinctures and decoctions. Chaga can be used for stomach issues, tuberculosis, and certain cancer pains. Other medicinal uses include using Chaga as an anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant, and to lower blood sugar levels.



Send newsletter enquiries to:
newsletter@metisnation.ca

