

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARON

Tansi everyone!

The last two months have been incredibly busy and fulfilling as we continue to advocate for the priorities of the Métis Nation and support our Métis Governments in delivering positive change across the Métis Nation Homeland.

A key function of the Métis National Council is to convene meetings and facilitate progress on priorities of the Métis Nation through the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism established through the Canada-Métis Nation Accord.

Earlier this month, we convened our annual Crown - Métis Nation Summit with the Prime Minister, Métis Government leadership and Cabinet Ministers working on priority files such as health, economic development, education, and languages. As catastrophic wildfires have been devastating our communities, emergency preparedness, management, and recovery has been top of mind and was added as a new shared priority to explore opportunities for government-to-government cooperation.

I was honoured to co-chair this meeting with the Prime Minister to discuss our shared priorities and how we can best support Métis citizens across the Homeland. During the Summit, the Prime Minister reaffirmed the Government of Canada's commitment to work in partnership with the Métis National Council to build a more prosperous future for all Métis Citizens.

This meeting demonstrated how far we have come in building this relationship and helped to shape how we continue to work together in the future. There is always

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more work to be done, but we were pleased to hear the commitment from the Prime Minister and his colleagues to keep moving forward together.

Now that we have moved into a new month, we must recognize that June is National Indigenous History Month, with June 21st being National Indigenous Peoples Day. It is not only a time for us to share our history with the rest of Canada but celebrate the beauty of Métis culture. We are one nation of many stories, and I am so happy and proud to see our stories shared not only in June, but year-round. I can't wait for everyone to see what our team at the MNC has planned for the rest of this month.

June is also Pride Month, which provides us with an opportunity to celebrate and uplift our 2SLGBTQQI+ community members.

With the summer coming, I look forward to joining you all out in community and look forward to seeing you all again soon.

As always, be kind, be safe, and always be proud to be Métis!



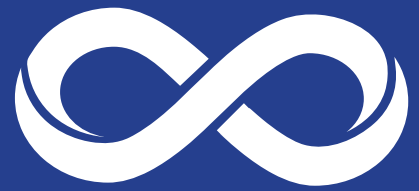
New Hires

Ginny Gonneau, Director of Health



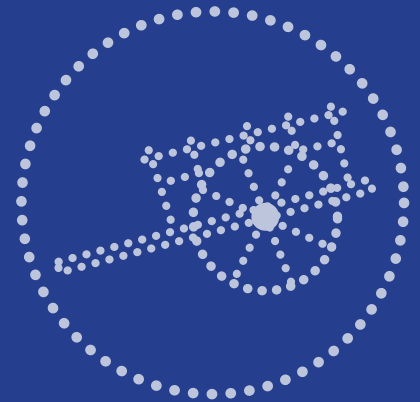
Ginny joins the Métis National Council as Director of Health on interchange from Indigenous Services Canada. Ginny has 20 years of experience in the Métis Nation, non-profit and health sector. Prior to joining the MNC, Ginny worked as a Senior Policy Analyst with the First Nations Inuit Health Branch at Indigenous Services Canada on the Reconciliation and Relationship team within the Strategic Policy, Planning and Information Directorate. Prior to joining the federal government, she worked as a Policy Analyst for the Métis Nation of Ontario, Director of Youth for Métis Nation British Columbia, Program Manager for the Society for Children and Youth of BC and a Researcher for the BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health.

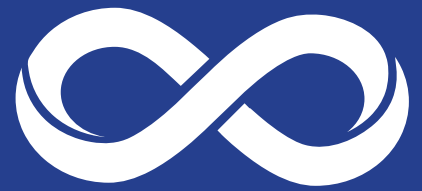
Born in Thunder Bay and raised in Barrie, Ginny now resides in Ottawa on the traditional, unceded territory of the Algonquin Nation and the chosen home of the Ottawa Regional Métis Council. Ginny has a Bachelor of Arts in Women and Gender Studies from Carleton University. Her most recent contract work before joining FNIHB was with Le Femme Michif Otipemisiwak – Women of the Métis Nation on developing a Métis-specific Gender Based Analysis (GBA+) Toolkit. At FNIHB, Ginny also worked on the GBA+ file and supported health policy work with Indigenous partners, including the branch's relationship with Métis partners. Ginny was a file lead on Métis partner engagement, relationships, and agreements. She also worked on the Anti-Indigenous Racism in Health Care Systems Team and was their lead on program engagement and funding amendments with Métis partners.



MOMENTS IN HISTORY

Did you know that from May 9 to 12, 1885 the Métis fought the Canadian Army at Batoche? On May 12, the Métis, tired and out of ammunition, valiantly succumbed to a hasty charge by the Canadian Army. Many Métis homes were pillaged and burned, and many Métis women and children hid in caves along the riverbank to avoid capture. Gabriel Dumont escaped to the United States and Louis Riel surrendered three days after the battle.





CITIZEN HIGHLIGHT

Do you know a Métis citizen or group doing good in their communities? Nominate them to be highlighted in future editions of the Pemmican Post! We want to take the opportunity to show all the good work that is being done by Métis citizens across the motherland. If you have a nomination, please send their name, contact information, and share why you are nominating them to newsletter@metisnation.ca

Ginny looks forward to leveraging her knowledge and experience of working within federal system to support Governing Members and the health file. Outside of work, Ginny and her husband Doug have three amazing kiddos, two daughters who are eight and six and a two-year-old son. In her spare time, Ginny enjoys spending time with family, dancing, trip planning, trail walks, family road trips, thrifting, and home design.



ONE NATION, MANY STORIES

Monthly updates from the Governing Members

MNBC

Métis Nation British Columbia

MFCBC Wins Indigenous Business of the Year

Congratulations to the Métis Financial Corporation of British Columbia (MFCBC) for winning The Business Examiner's, Business Excellence Award for Indigenous Business of the Year - Thompson-Okanagan! Beating out four other finalists, this award adds to the burgeoning resume MFCBC is building. For more information, visit mNBC.ca/news.

The Province of British Columbia Announces Anti-Racism Research Priorities for Indigenous Peoples and Racialized Communities

The province of British Columbia, in accordance with their Anti-Racism Data Act (ARDA) have released 12 priorities for anti-racism research. ARDA came into effect in June 2022 and enables data collection for the purposes of identifying and eliminating systemic racism and advancing racial equity in a safe and secure manner. It requires the province to establish and publish research priorities every two years and release statistics or other information related to systemic racism and racial equity. The implementation aims to increase trust, transparency and accountability with Indigenous peoples and racialized communities through collaboration and cooperation under the act. For more information regarding the newly published priorities, visit mNBC.ca/news.





KOKUM'S KITCHEN RECIPES

Lilac Jelly

Ingredients

- 4 cups of fresh lilac petals
- 4 cups of boiling water
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1 Tbsp butter
- 7.5 cups of sugar
- 2 packets of liquid pectin

Instructions

1. Harvest the Blossoms from a safe growing location
2. Prepare the petals by pulling them from the stems
3. Make the Lilac Tea by combining the petals with boiling water
4. Strain the Tea after steeping for 2 to 8 hours
5. Make the Jelly: On the stovetop add 4 cups of lilac tea to 7.5 cups of sugar. Add 2 Tbsp of lemon juice, and a spoonful of butter to reduce foaming. When you add the lemon juice don't be surprised if the liquid turns pink. Bring the ingredients to a Boil, and when in a rolling boil, time the boil for 1 minute. Remove from the heat and stir in the pectin. Stir for 5 minutes.
6. Pour into sterilized jars
7. Put into a hot bath canner for 10 minutes



MNA

Métis Nation of Alberta

SAVE THE DATE! Alberta Métis Fest is back!

Join us on June 23 and 24 as we return to the Cultural Gathering Centre at Métis Crossing for two action-packed days of Métis celebration including a homeland hour, Indigenous fashion show, jigging competition, artisan market, and more! For more information, visit albertametis.com/events.

MN-S

Métis Nation – Saskatchewan

Save time and buy your pass online! Day and full-festival passes are on sale now for the Back to Batoche Days festival, July 20 to 23. Purchase your pass today at <https://general-admission.metisgathering.ca/>.



TRADITIONAL PLANTS CORNER

Yarrow

Yarrow is an aromatic, perennial herb that grows 10 – 80 centimetres tall with fern-like leaves and white flower heads. The Yarrow leaves rubbed on the skin act as a natural insect repellent. The flowers and leaves of the Yarrow plant are burned and the smoke is inhaled to treat headaches. A tea made from the flowers is good for clearing mucous discharge from the bladder and will produce perspiration by opening the pores. Mixed with other plants it is rubbed on aching bones or swellings to relieve the pain. Yarrow is also used to treat wounds and stop bleeding.



MNO

Métis Nation of Ontario

World War II Métis Veteran Wallace McLeod recognized in Oakville

Métis veteran Wallace McLeod was recognized in a special ceremony in Oakville, ON for his contributions and sacrifices during World War II in the Royal Canadian Navy during the Battle of the Atlantic.

McLeod passed in 2011 at the age of 88, Sara McLeod his widow, received a \$20,000 Recognition Payment as reconciliatory compensation under the Métis Veterans Legacy Program. To read the full story visit: <https://bit.ly/43HlINz>

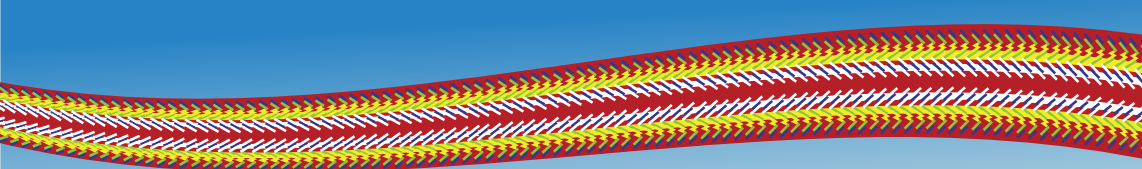


Late Métis Veteran Melvin Ronald Rivers honoured in Sudbury Ceremony

In the early afternoon on May 26, 2023 a ceremony was held in Sudbury to remember and honour the late World War II Métis Veteran, Melvin Ronald Rivers, his contributions, his sacrifices and his legacy.

While Melvin did not live to see Canada's efforts to reconcile with Métis Veterans, his wife Grace and their children who attended the ceremony expressed satisfaction with the long-awaited apology and recognition. To read the full story visit: <https://bit.ly/3OZ30g4>





MNC

Métis National Council

Canada-Métis Nation Permanent Bilateral Mechanism Senior Officials Meeting, Ottawa, ON, May 11, 2023

On May 11th, representatives from the Métis National Council and Métis Governments met with representatives from the Government of Canada to track progress within the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism. The meeting created an environment for the Métis Nation and Government of Canada to share their joint priorities and update on the work that has been done to advance them over the last several months. The meeting was held in advance of the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism Crown-Métis Nation Summit to be held on June 1st, 2023.

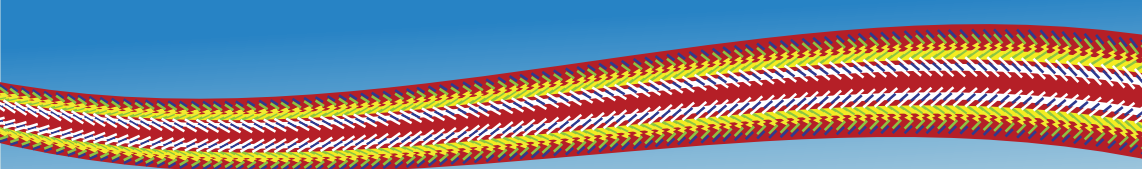
Métis Nation Mental Health and Cannabis Workshop, Vancouver, BC, May 16-17, 2023

In Vancouver, the Métis National Council and the Health Committee held a workshop on Mental Health and Cannabis. The workshop explored the Métis perspective about mental health and cannabis based on the Métis holistic approach rooted in culture and history. Attendees helped build upon the understanding of how cannabis and mental health and wellness are perceived within Métis communities and identified challenges, gaps, and opportunities for work with the Métis Nation. The workshop was both



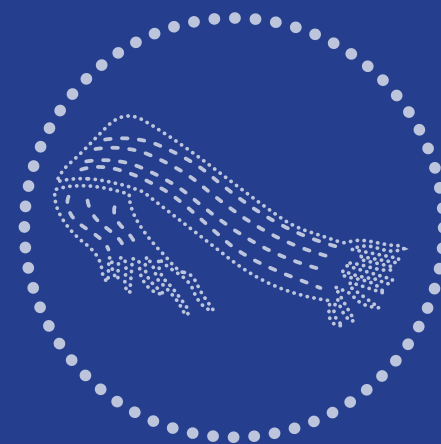
an opportunity for organizers and attendees to learn from one another and will be utilized to inform future work within this space!





Crown-Métis Nation Summit, Ottawa, ON, June 1, 2023

On June 1st, the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism (PBM) was culminated with a meeting between the Métis National Council, Métis Governments, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, and relevant Ministers and representatives from the Government of Canada. The meeting served as a marker to institutionalize and operationalize the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism. In updating on progress throughout the last year, the meeting was an indicator of both the Métis Nation and Government of Canada's commitment to the PBM process and advancing the priorities of the Métis Nation through it. We will continue to work toward a better future for Métis citizens through the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism and look forward to opportunities to do so through working collaboratively with our federal partners.



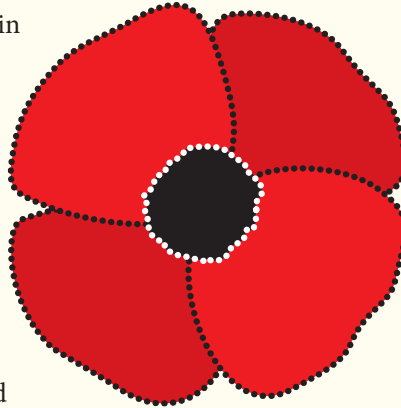


The Métis Veterans Legacy Program (MVLN)

For years Métis from across the Homeland enlisted in the Canadian military in large numbers and proudly served in the First and Second World War as well as the Korean War. Unfortunately, many of our Métis Veterans were systemically discriminated against upon their return. They did not receive the same supports, resources or benefits promised to them that were routinely given to other non-Métis Veterans, which included an economic foundation to re-build their lives upon returning home.

As the Veterans aged the Métis Nation launched the Métis Veterans Legacy Program to recognize their immense contributions and right this wrong. This program sees Métis veterans, or their surviving spouses, receive an apology from the government of Canada and a recognition payment of \$20,000.

While the Métis Veterans Legacy Program (MVLN) continues their efforts in locating all surviving Second World War (WWII) Métis Nation Veterans and their families, we are pleased to announce that two Recognition Payment Ceremonies have taken place in Ontario with more Ceremonies expected to be held this summer.



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MÉTIS
NATIONAL COUNCIL

Send newsletter enquiries to:
newsletter@metisnation.ca