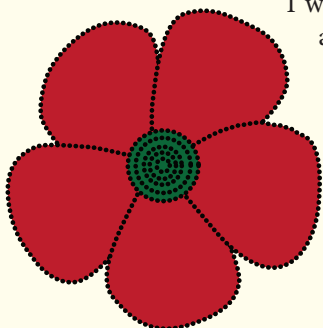


MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARON

Tansi!

What an incredibly busy month it has been. While we may be moving towards the holiday season, the Métis National Council has been working incredibly hard to support Métis governments, communities, and citizens.



I want to take a moment to recognize and honour Métis Veterans and those currently serving Canada around the world. This past week we paused to remember and pay tribute to Indigenous Veterans on November 8th, National Indigenous Veterans Day, and again on November 11th, Remembrance Day. These heroes, including many from the Métis Nation, have made profound sacrifices to protect our freedom. Their commitment to duty and resilience on and off the battlefield inspires us all. Let's remember their sacrifices, their courage and the vital role they played in shaping our nation.

The Métis National Council serves as the advocacy body for the Métis Nation here in Ottawa, working to enhance and promote the cultural, social, economic, and political interests of the Métis Nation. This past month, we have been busy in Ottawa continuing to implement this important Mandate. We do this in a number of ways including through the relationships we build with the Federal Government in Ottawa. While we spend time building relationships with all parliamentarians all throughout the year to ensure decision makers are informed about the Métis Nation's priorities, this past month we held a dedicated advocacy week. During advocacy week, we met with numerous MP's from across different parties to share Métis Nation budget priorities for 2024, all in an effort to continue to support our Métis Governments in closing socio-economic gaps for Métis.

LATEST NEWS IN THIS ISSUE:

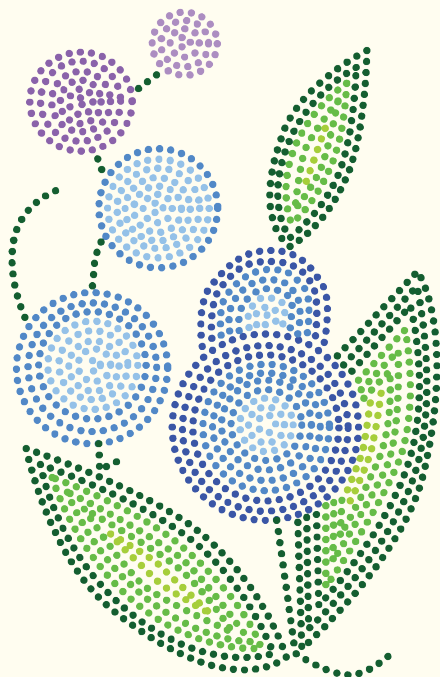
- ∞ MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
- ∞ ONE NATION. MANY STORIES.
- ∞ KIDS CORNER



One such gap that continues to persist is in the over representation of Indigenous peoples in Canada's correctional facilities. Earlier this month, Canada's Correctional Investigator tabled his annual report in parliament. The report confirms what Métis people have known for a long time: that the colonial correctional system does not work for us. The investigators report findings overwhelmingly support the conclusion that the status quo is insufficient to address the needs and realities of Métis people in federal correctional institutions. The Métis National Council and our Governing Members will continue to advocate for solutions to bring an end to the overrepresentation of Métis in this system.

For the past 40 years, the MNC has served as a collective voice, advocating for the recognition of Métis rights. This month was no different. At an appearance at the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, I was able to deliver support from the Métis Nation for Bill S-13 which seeks to amend the Interpretation Act, and other legislation, to ensure that Canada's laws are construed as upholding the Aboriginal and treaty rights of Indigenous peoples recognized and affirmed by Section 35 of the Constitution Act, and not as abrogating or derogating from them. The MNC and our Governing Members have long advocated for these amendments and I was pleased to bring this supportive message to the Senate.

Finally, on October 26th, the Presidents of the Métis Nation of Alberta, Métis Nation of Ontario, and the Vice President of Métis Nation – Saskatchewan sat down in front of the Parliamentary Standing Committee Indigenous and Northern Affairs for the beginning of their study on Bill C-53, *An Act respecting the recognition of certain Métis Governments*. The passing of Bill C-53 is the next positive step forward in our fight for rights recognition for all of our Métis Governments. The passing of Bill C-53 will provide for Métis self-determination over internal matters of Métis governance, such as Métis citizenship, Métis elections, Métis government structures and Métis child and family services. I look forward to appearing before the INAN committee later this month to talk about why this Bill is the culmination of generations of advocacy and the next step forward in our collective path to fulfilling the dreams of our ancestors.



MOMENTS IN HISTORY

November 16, 1885: Louis Riel is executed. Riel's trial and execution causes great conflict within the new country. Ontarians demand his execution and French Canadians in Québec argue for clemency. For French Canadians, Riel's execution was an attack on the French fact in Canada. For English Canadians in Ontario and elsewhere, Riel's execution was a message that Western Canada would be run by, and for, Anglo-Protestants.



CITIZEN HIGHLIGHT

Marina Best, a Métis citizen who calls traditional Snuneymuxw territory on Vancouver Island her chosen home, was a keynote speaker at the 10th World Conference for Ecological Restoration from September 26-30 on traditional Larrakia lands and waters in Darwin, Australia. Over 1000 participants from more than 80 countries gathered as a global community to focus on the conference's theme of Nature and People as One: Celebrating and Restoring Connection through the exploration of ecological restoration as a mechanism to

establish a healthy, balanced connection, emphasizing the urgent need to scale up effective, standards-based restoration programs worldwide.

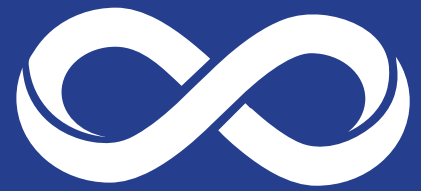
In her keynote speech, Marina presented on the broader interest of Métis citizens within the realm of the environment and climate change. She showcased the work that has taken place across the larger Métis community by the Métis National Council and the governing members to explore topics like Métis Guardians initiatives, Métis Protected and Conserved Areas, food sovereignty, and climate-related concerns. She linked this work with an international project that she has supported over the last 18 months titled "Scaling Indigenous-led Conservation." This project was part of a wider Learning Network called "Taking Conservation to Scale" and is connected to

the Conservation Coaches Network. The project explored the realities, opportunities, and barriers for scaling up Indigenous and local-community led conservation projects around the world. Her keynote speech emphasized that in order to achieve the ambitious goals of global commitments, it is necessary to recognize the important role Indigenous Peoples and local communities played and still play in conservation and restoration initiatives and the need to foster and make space for their leadership.

Throughout the conference, the "human" factor within ecological restoration was being better understood and discussed by the global restoration community. This human factor is already at the core of how Métis understand relationships between themselves and the lands and waters, as the recovery of ecological integrity and biodiversity are intrinsically tied to that of human health and wellbeing. This notion and the importance of Indigenous and local community leadership within the realm of ecological restoration was woven into the conference's Call to Action that was signed on the last day.

In advance of the conference, Marina also aided in the planning process for Yarning Circles (sharing circles) to take place throughout the event. These circles provided a place of grounding and sharing amongst Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants and used message sticks, crafted in Noongar Boodjar by Heidi Mippy, to flow the sharing from one person to another. Due to her focus on advocacy for Indigenous Peoples involvement and voice throughout the conference, Australian Indigenous participants gifted Marina, on behalf of the Métis Nation, with a message stick at the closing ceremony.

*Marina's Métis family originates from the Red River Settlement (specifically St. Boniface and St. François Xavier) and has roots in the historic Métis community of St. Louis, Saskatchewan. Her Métis family names include Lépine, Lavallée, McDougall, Lambert, and Fidler.



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 suggestion, please send their name, contact information and mention why we should highlight this citizen to newsletter@metisnation.ca.



KOKUM'S KITCHEN RECIPES

Presidents Pickles:

For the Brine -
1 C. Water
1/4 C. Apple Cider Vinegar
1/4 C. White Vinegar
1 Tbs. Salt

Per 1L Mason Jar -
1 Tbs. Peppercorn
3 stems of fresh dill
3 cloves of Garlic



Métis Nation
of Ontario



ONE NATION, MANY STORIES

Monthly updates from the Governing Members

MNA

Métis Nation of Alberta

ADVANCING INDIGENOUS CULTURAL SAFETY THROUGH ACCREDITATION

Survey Deadline November 30



The Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association (CINA) is pleased to announce the launch of the survey Advancing Indigenous Cultural Safety Through Accreditation. This survey aims to advance cultural safety and humility by scoping First Nations, Métis and Inuit needs and designs for a national standard that health and social services organizations can use across Canada.

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes of your time and will be open until November 10, 2023.

Survey data is anonymous and voluntary and will be collected and stored by the Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association 2023.

[Participate in Survey
\(English\)](#)

[Participate in Survey
\(French\)](#)

The Conservation Land Access Dashboard (CLAD)

Access CLAD to easily find sites that allow: camping, traditional plant gathering, hunting, fishing, ATV, and horseback riding.

Visit: albertametis.com/CLAD





TRADITIONAL PLANTS CORNER

Labrador Tea

Labrador tea also known as “Medicine Tea” by the Métis, is an aromatic shrub with evergreen leaves and white flowers. It is found in muskeg, bogs, and wet coniferous forests. The tea is used for the stomach flu, pneumonia, and urination difficulties. When it's leaves are mixed with lard it was used to treat burns, scalds, or eczema. Chewing the leaves created a paste to staunch deep cuts. During sweat lodge ceremonies, Labrador tea is splashed on rocks for its aromatic and healing properties when inhaled.



Métis National Council Events

Reviving Our Métis Languages by Listening and Learning, Calgary AB, October 24-25, 2023

The Métis National Council hosted a national conference in Tsuut'ina Nation, Alberta that created a space for Métis citizens and Governments to share best practices taught to us by fluent language speakers, community engagement, program delivery and language experts. The gathering focused on language as a foundational element of identity, culture, spirituality, and worldview. The MNC looks forward to continuing the important work to preserve and revitalize Métis languages across the Homeland!

Convention on Biodiversity Article 8J Working Group Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, November 12-17, 2023

From November 12-17th, the Métis National Council attended the Article 8J Working Group Meeting in Geneva Switzerland. The meeting will discuss critical issues for Indigenous Peoples as they related to the Convention on Biological Diversity and lay the groundwork for important decision expected to take place next year at the Convention's 16th Conference of the Parties (COP). The MNC looks forward to continuing to build a strong international presence for the Métis Nation and ensure that the voice of Métis citizens is heard!

United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland, November 27-30, 2023

The Métis National Council participated at the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights from November 27-30th. The forum is the largest annual gathering on business and human rights and through its participation, the MNC engaged in discussions relating to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in addition to current business-related human rights issues.

Métis National Council Upcoming Events

COP28, Dubai UAE, November 30-December 12, 2023



RALLIEMENT NATIONAL DES
MÉTIS
NATIONAL COUNCIL

Send newsletter
enquiries to:
newsletter@metisnation.ca

Kids Corner

November

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Thanksgiving Halloween jack o lantern scarecrow rake
squirrel gather fall autumn apples cider brown yellow
red leaves harvest pie pumpkin acorn

