



**Request for Expressions of Interest:
For CV's and Resumes for
Métis Expert Panel**

Issue Date: June 1, 2023

A. REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (NON-BINDING)

This Request for Expressions of Interest is an invitation for Expressions of Interest (“EOI”) only. This is not a request for binding offers or a call for tenders. For clarity, the issuance of this request for EOI shall not create any legal obligations on MNC. Nor does the submission of any EOI in response to this request give rise to any agreement of any kind or impose any legal obligation on the part of MNC. MNC may re-issue a new request for EOI or cancel this request for EOI process at any time, at its sole discretion – with or without notice.

B. INTRODUCTION

The MNC represents the Métis Nation nationally and internationally. It receives its mandate and direction from the democratically elected leadership of Métis governments in Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, also known as the MNC Governing Members. Specifically, the MNC reflects and moves forward on the desires and aspirations of these Métis governments at the national and international levels.

Essential to MNC’s mandate is the National Definition of “Métis” which was adopted in 2002 by the MNC General Assembly and formally added to MNC’s bylaws in 2013 (the “National Definition”). In May of 2014, the MNC General Assembly passed a resolution which required, among other things, that Governing Members apply the National Definition to all of their respective citizenship registries. The National Definition provides as follows:

“ ‘Metis’ means a person who self-identifies as Metis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Metis Nation Ancestry and who is accepted by the Metis Nation”

In 2021, the MNC General Assembly expressed a desire to come together in the best interests of the Métis Nation in order to establish a process to protect the territorial integrity of the historic and modern day Métis Nation as well as ensure each Governing Member is able to investigate, research, promote, advance, negotiate on and secure the recognition of the rights, interests and claims of their respective citizens as well as the Métis communities and collectivities they represent in their respective province. The Governing Members also expressed desire to create a fair, thorough, unbiased, inclusive, and transparent process in order to better understand the relationship between inherent Métis Nation rights, UNDRIP, the National Definition, Section 35 Métis Rights, etc. by historians, lawyers and experts that are relied upon, trusted and respected by all Governing Members.

The MNC has been directed to establish an expert panel (the “Panel”) with a mandate to review the history of six additional Ontario Métis communities recognized by the Metis Nation of Ontario in 2017 (“Seven Communities”) through the lens of the National Definition and contemporary Métis governance.

As directed by section 2(b) of the General Assembly resolution (attached) MNC is seeking interested independent experts (lawyers, academics, historians or jurists) in the area of Métis rights, history and laws. Interested experts will be presented to the Governing Members’ representatives on the Panel who will appoint two members by way of a majority vote.

B. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please submit all requirements to Madison Tipler, Director of Administration at madisont@metisnation.ca.

Please submit a 3-to-5-page (maximum) submission which sets out:

- A description of why the project is of interest
- A professional CV



Appendix

WHEREAS in 2002, the Métis National Council Secretariat Inc. (“**MNC**”) General Assembly unanimously adopted a definition for citizenship within the Métis Nation (the “**National Definition**”) that was then adopted and implemented by each MNC Governing Member.

WHEREAS in recent years, the MNC General Assembly has passed resolutions further clarifying the National Definition, including the geographic scope of the Métis Homeland (the “**Homeland**”).

WHEREAS the Governing Members desire to come together in the best interests of the Métis Nation in order to establish a process to protect the territorial integrity of the historic and modern day Métis Nation as well as ensure each Governing Member is able to investigate, research, promote, advance, negotiate on and secure the recognition of the rights, interests and claims of their respective citizens as well as the Métis communities and collectivities they represent in their respective provinces;

AND WHEREAS the Governing Members also desire to create a fair, thorough, unbiased, inclusive, and transparent process in order to better understand the relationship between inherent Métis Nation rights, UNDRIP, the National Definition, Section 35 Métis Rights, etc. by historians, lawyers and experts that are relied upon, trusted and respected by all Governing Members;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1) MNC immediately establish an expert panel (the “**Panel**”) with a mandate to review the history of the seven Ontario communities (“**Seven Communities**”) through the lens of the National Definition and contemporary Métis governance.
- 2) The Panel will be made up of the following:
 - a) one representative appointed by each Governing Member with knowledge of Métis rights, laws and history, a Chair will be elected amongst the Governing Member representatives; and
 - b) two additional individuals, appointed by the Governing Members’ representatives on the Panel who are independent experts (lawyers, academics, historians or jurists) in the area of Métis rights, history and laws. MNC shall ask for nominations for the independent experts and their CV’s shall be submitted and recommendations shall be made to the Panel who will appoint these additional two members by way of a majority vote.
- 3) MNO will be provided an opportunity to present to the Panel on the history and results of the process it engaged in with the Government of Ontario to identify the Seven Communities in question, its ongoing registry review process, as well as other research and work it has undertaken in relation to advancing and securing the recognition of Métis rights, interest and claims in Ontario.
- 4) All Governing Members shall be provided the opportunity to appear before the Panel and present any relevant information and make any recommendations they see fit.
- 5) The Panel shall ensure a process that is fair, rigorous, impartial, unbiased, thorough and shall provide a respectful place for discussion.



- 6) The Panel shall set a schedule a minimum of two meetings of hearings plus a minimum of two additional meetings over the course of 12 months, after the passing of this resolution, to review written and/or verbal materials and briefs from the Governing Members and other relevant sources. The Panel may ask anyone they deem necessary to present a written brief, respond to any information presented to the Panel, or appear as a volunteer witness before the Panel.
- 7) The Panel will prepare quarterly reports, which will be submitted to the MNC Board of Governors and members of the MNC General Assembly.
- 8) The Panel shall prepare a Discussion Paper to be presented to the MNC Board of Governors no later than 12 months from the date of the first meeting of the Panel at a mutually agreeable date set by the MNC Board of Governors. Said Discussion Paper shall review all information presented to the Panel and any initial conclusions reached with respect to the 2018 probation resolution and may recommend an Action Plan. The Discussion Paper and recommendations shall be reviewed and discussed at the said meeting with a view to being adopted, in whole or in part, by the MNC Board of Governors and the MNC General Assembly.
- 9) The Panel shall be provided the resources necessary to undertake the activities outlined in this resolution by the MNC.
- 10) The 2018 MNC General Assembly 2018 probation resolution against MNO is in abeyance pending the conclusion of the above detailed process.

