



# FALL 2025 PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE



*Prepared by the Métis National Council*

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS



### POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

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- Advance Métis Self-Government and Fiscal Relationships through Predictable, Co-Developed Investments
- Ensure Distinctions-Based Budget Investments through a Dedicated Métis Nation Section in the Federal Budget
- Launch the Housing Sub-Accord Joint Committee to Close Infrastructure Gaps in Métis Housing



### BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

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#### **Building a Stronger Canada Through Métis Economic Innovation**

- Invest in Métis Economic Infrastructure through Strategic Investments in Métis Governments: **\$17.6 million over 10 years**
- Renew and Expand Investment in the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy: **\$181 million over five years**, and **increase ongoing annual funding from \$40 million to \$60 million, indexed by 4%**
- Invest in Métis Economic Prosperity through the Métis Nation Climate Leadership Agenda (MNCLA): **\$201.05 million over 10 years**

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#### **Health and Wellness**

- Invest in Self-Determined Métis Healthcare Infrastructure through the Canada-Métis Nation Health & Wellness Sub-Accord: **\$6.71 billion over 10 years**

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#### **Emergency Management**

- Invest in Métis-led Emergency Management, Mitigation, Preparedness, and Response through the MNCLA: **\$229.4 million over 10 years**



## FALL 2025 PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

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The Métis National Council's fall 2025 pre-budget submission presents targeted investments to advance the priorities of Métis Governments while contributing to national objectives related to inclusive economic growth, productivity, reconciliation, and community well-being. This year's recommendations focus on five key areas aligned with the Government of Canada's commitment to remove barriers to economic participation, invest in sustainable development, and work in meaningful partnership with Indigenous governments:

- Implementation of Métis self-government agreements and modern treaties;
- Métis economic development and entrepreneurship;
- Urgent housing and homelessness challenges;
- Health and well-being through distinctions-based programs and services; and
- Emergency management and climate readiness.

## ABOUT THE MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL (MNC)

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The MNC was established in 1983 to advocate on behalf of the Métis Nation both nationally and internationally, advancing issues of collective importance. The MNC receives its mandate and direction from its Governing Members (GMs): the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta (OMG) and the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO). Together, these Métis Governments represent over 100,000 registered Métis citizens from Section 35 rights-bearing communities—58% of Métis citizens registered with Métis Governments that have entered into self-government agreements with Canada.

The *Canada-Métis Nation Accord*, signed in 2017 by the prime minister, MNC, and its GMs, continues to guide collaborative work between the Métis Nation and the Government of Canada and serves as the foundation for more than 50 distinctions-based agreements and initiatives developed through the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism (PBM).





## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Recommendation: Advance Métis Self-Government and Fiscal Relationships through Predictable, Co-Developed Investments**

The Government of Canada has made legally binding commitments to advance reconciliation through self-government agreements with Métis Governments across the Homeland. The fall 2025 budget must uphold these commitments by supporting Métis self-government and co-developing long-term fiscal arrangements that respect the inherent right to self-determination by:

- Providing sufficient, predictable, and sustained funding to support the exercise of jurisdiction by Métis Governments under their self-government agreements;
- Advancing co-development of long-term fiscal arrangements that reflect the true expenditure needs of self-governing Métis Governments and ensuring equitable access to federal resources;
- Supporting the timely negotiation and implementation of Métis Self-Government Treaties and related implementation legislation;
- Investing in the capacity of Métis Governments to fully participate in consultation, accommodation, and shared policy development processes related to federal legislation, programs, and regulatory initiatives.

The fall 2025 budget must move beyond transitional and project-based funding and enable long-term governance program delivery by Métis Governments. This approach aligns with Canada's legal obligations under self-government agreements and supports the implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (UNDA).

### **Recommendation: Ensure Distinctions-Based Budget Investments through a Dedicated Métis Nation Section in the Federal Budget**

The fall 2025 budget must include a dedicated Métis Nation section with clearly delineated investments that directly support the rights, priorities, and governance structures of Métis Governments. This includes:

- Ensuring federal investments related to Métis, First Nations, and Inuit are co-developed through a distinctions-based lens, not pan-Indigenous allocations;
- Co-developing Métis-related budget initiatives with Métis Governments and the MNC in accordance with the *Principles of Co-Development*;
- Structuring budget allocations to avoid lengthy and uncertain post-budget carve-out processes; and
- Clearly identifying Métis-specific investments across policy areas, including economic and workforce development, housing, health, and emergency management and climate resilience.

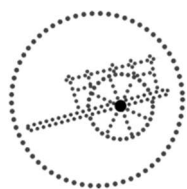


## **Recommendation: Launch the Housing Sub-Accord Joint Oversight Committee to Close Infrastructure Gaps in Métis Housing**

In 2018, the Métis Nation and Canada entered into the *Canada-Métis Nation Housing Sub-Accord* under the PBM, with a commitment to establish a joint oversight committee at the three-year mark to determine future funding allocations through a co-developed needs assessment. This commitment has not been met.

Without a rigorous distinctions-based analysis grounded in reliable data, the full scope of Métis Nation housing needs—across urban, rural, and remote communities—remains inadequately understood and chronically underfunded. It will demonstrate the scale of the housing crisis affecting Métis citizens and families and provide a clear, evidence-based path forward for targeted housing investments that, in turn, will alleviate the wider consequences of the affordability crisis: including constrained labour mobility, sustained economic hardship, and barriers to full participation in the Canadian economy.

This work is essential to guide renewed and equitable investments that align with the federal government’s commitment to inclusive growth, affordability, and fairness.



## **BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **BUILDING A STRONGER CANADA THROUGH MÉTIS ECONOMIC INNOVATION**

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#### **Recommendation: Invest in Métis Economic Infrastructure through Strategic Investments in Métis Governments**

Métis entrepreneurs and businesses are vital drivers of regional development, innovation, and national economic strength. To further unlock this potential and ensure Métis businesses are full participants in Canada’s economy, the fall 2025 budget should invest **\$10.2 million over 10 years** to build and maintain Métis Business Directories, and **\$7.4 million over 10 years** to support the economic development and reconciliation capacity of Métis Governments.

Strategic investments in Métis economic development will significantly increase the visibility and market access of Métis-owned businesses, enabling more effective economic participation and targeted regional, national, and international procurement and trade opportunities for Métis businesses. Managed by Métis Governments, Métis business directories will generate high-quality economic data to inform evidence-based policy and investment strategies, and increase the discoverability of Métis-certified, owned, and operated businesses.



These investments will expand the participation of Métis businesses in high-impact sectors such as infrastructure, clean energy, and advanced manufacturing. This directly supports the federal government's priorities of boosting productivity, reducing trade barriers, and building a unified, inclusive Canadian economy.

### **Recommendation: Renew and Expand Investment in the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy**

Métis students are succeeding at historic levels thanks to strategic investments in distinctions-based education. Since 2019, the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy has empowered thousands of learners to pursue higher education and achieve their aspirations, contributing to a stronger workforce and more inclusive economy. To continue this momentum, the fall 2025 budget must provide an additional **\$181 million over five years**, and **increase ongoing annual funding from \$40 million to \$60 million, indexed by 4%**.

With a young and growing population, Métis Governments are facing unprecedented demand for post-secondary supports. Continued investment will ensure Métis students are well-positioned to lead in key sectors central to Canada's productivity and economic prosperity: such as healthcare, clean energy, trades, and digital innovation.

### **Recommendation: Invest in Métis Economic Prosperity through the Métis Nation Climate Leadership Agenda (MNCLA)**

Co-developed with Métis Governments, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA) and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), the MNCLA presents a bold, distinctions-based strategy for advancing clean economic growth through Métis-led solutions grounded in cultural values and connection to the land. The MNC and its GMs call for **\$201,054,949 over 10 years** to implement the economic development and prosperity pillar of the MNCLA.

This investment will empower Métis Governments to lead in the clean economy by:

- Expanding access to affordable, climate-aligned capital;
- Supporting targeted training, workforce development, and scholarships for Métis citizens;
- Building institutional capacity in natural resource governance and regulatory engagement; and
- Advancing economic research, business directories, and participation in trade and procurement.

To advance the MNCLA and ensure its inclusion in the fall 2025 budget, the federal government must take the following critical steps:

1. With coordinated support from CIRNA and ECCC ministers, expedite Cabinet approval of the Memorandum to Cabinet (MC) on Indigenous Climate Leadership. This MC, specifically



linked to UNDA Action Plan Item 46, is foundational for implementing federal reconciliation commitments and recognizing Indigenous Peoples as partners in climate action.

2. Allocate dedicated, distinctions-based funding within the fall 2025 budget, enabling Métis Governments to operationalize the MNCLA's initiatives.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS

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### **Recommendation: Invest in Self-Determined Métis Healthcare Infrastructure through the Canada-Métis Nation Health & Wellness Sub-Accord**

The current government commits to working “in full partnership with provinces, territories, and Indigenous Peoples to advance the outcomes we all want to see: better access to care, where and when it’s needed”.<sup>1</sup>

For the Métis Nation, systemic health inequities persist, rooted in colonization and discriminatory federal policies that continue to exclude Métis from key programs, such as the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB). These gaps contribute to disproportionately high rates of chronic illness, unmet mental health needs, and ongoing barriers to essential services. Métis seniors, those nearing end-of-life, and individuals living in remote areas are especially impacted, often facing gaps in care and a lack of culturally relevant care grounded in Métis values and lived experiences. Investing in Métis-led health systems is not only a matter of equity but a necessary step toward securing a healthier, more prosperous future for all Canadians.

The Métis Nation calls for a federal investment of **\$6.71 billion over 10 years into the Métis Nation Health and Wellness Sub-Accord**. This investment aligns directly with the federal government’s priorities of improving affordability, expanding access, and strengthening healthcare infrastructure.

Key components of the sub-accord include:

- **\$2.3 billion over 10 years** for extended health benefits for Métis citizens
- **\$1.5 billion over 10 years** for outpatient and inpatient mental health services for Métis citizens
- **\$2.1 billion over 10 years** for long-term care, homecare, and palliative care programs for Métis citizens
- **\$330 million over 10 years** for Métis Community Health Centres for primary care delivery
- **\$410 million over 10 years** for reforms to existing provincial health care systems

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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### **Recommendation: Invest in Métis-led Emergency Management, Mitigation, Preparedness, and Response through the MNCLA**

Métis citizens are among those most disproportionately impacted by climate-related disasters, yet the lack of federal and provincial funding available to GMs to mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from emergencies exacerbates the risks Métis citizens face in emergent situations.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://liberal.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/292/2025/04/Canada-Strong.pdf>



The new federal government recognizes that natural infrastructure such as forests and wetlands must be protected, that effective disaster management is essential to safeguarding the communities and ecosystems that connect and sustain our country, and that Métis, First Nations, and Inuit knowledges and self-determined solutions must play a central role in how Canada safeguards nature, confronts the climate crisis, and upholds national security for a more resilient future. Moreover, investing in Métis-led emergency management and climate resilience is essential to protecting the natural and built infrastructure at the heart of Canada’s nation-building projects—ensuring these generational investments are safeguarded from the growing risks of climate-driven disasters.

The MNC and GMs call for a federal investment of **\$229,428,049 million over 10 years** to develop a self-determined, resilient, and whole-of-society emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery strategy aimed toward responding to emergencies and building long-term emergency management capacity for Métis Governments.

Funding for the emergency management pillar under the MNCLA aims to provide direct, sustainable, and long-term funding to:

- Increase coordination and capacity across the Métis Nation to prepare and respond to climate emergencies.
- Build relationships with regional and provincial partners to mitigate against climate hazards;
- Increase support for emergency mitigation and preparedness planning;
- Provide education and training for GMs, organizations, and citizens to increase Métis capacity to mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from climate emergencies.
- Develop reciprocal Emergency Management relationships with the federal, provincial, municipal, and Indigenous governments to bolster “whole of society” Emergency Management resiliency.

