



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JULY 20, 2018

## Partners Sign MOU on “Strengthening Our Commitment”

BATOCHÉ FESTIVAL GROUNDS– The Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN-S) and the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on “strengthening our commitment for success of Saskatchewan Métis Students”.

The MOU recognizes that the advancement of Métis culture, traditions and ways of knowing can be the vehicle to overcome obstacles that affect Métis student success and their educational aspirations. A positive Métis identity is the foundation of student success and integrating Métis cultural content and perspectives into the classroom assists Métis students to form positive identities and educates non-Métis students about the history and contributions of the Métis peoples.

Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Minister responsible for Education Dr. Earl Cook stated “Part of our role as the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan is to build positive relationships with all residents of Saskatchewan, and share our stories and experiences in our own voice. Signing this MOU means to do just that.”

Effective relationships between Métis and school boards in the province are vital in advancing the reconciliation of Métis rights, interests and aspirations and embody the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action. Through the MOU, in the spirit of collaboration and renewed partnership, the MN-S and SSBA commit to working together, where the Métis participate fully in all aspects of the education system as students, teachers, elders, board members and decision makers.

“Partnerships like this are crucial in addressing shared responsibilities and interests in our education systems,” said Dr. Shawn Davidson, president of the SSBA. “Coming together to sign this MOU is about our commitment to work together in support of all Saskatchewan students.”

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Bonnie Leask  
Creative Fire  
306.202.7572  
Email: [bleask@creative-fire.com](mailto:bleask@creative-fire.com)

Joe Couture  
Communications  
Saskatchewan School Boards Association  
Cell: 306-502-3546  
Email: [jcouture@saskschoolboards.ca](mailto:jcouture@saskschoolboards.ca)