



This Protocol is effective from the 1st day of August, 2019.

BETWEEN

Métis Nation-Saskatchewan ("MN-S")

AND

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Saskatchewan "F" Division ("RCMP")

WHEREAS the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Saskatchewan "F" Division and Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) desire to develop a framework that will include strategies for creating goodwill between the RCMP and Metis communities and for addressing community safety concerns in partnership with the Métis communities.

AND WHEREAS the Protocol shall not be construed so as to abrogate or derogate from any Indigenous Rights of the MN-S and Saskatchewan Métis Communities within the meaning of Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 and the Supreme Court of Canada decisions recognizing and affirming these rights; AND WHEREAS the freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly are among the fundamental freedoms enshrined in Section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;

AND WHEREAS the enhancement of public safety in Canada must include the participation of the MN-S and all Métis Citizens who strive towards healthy, safe and stable Communities in the present and for the future;

AND WHEREAS the history of relations between Métis peoples and the RCMP, though sometimes adversarial, reflects mutual assistance and respect;

AND FURTHER WHEREAS the future of our children, youth, women, men and elders requires safe, secure and stable communities.

NOW THEREFORE the Participants agree as follows:



1.0 PURPOSE OF THE PROTOCOL

The purpose of this Protocol is to establish trusting and reciprocal relationships among the Participants with the goal of resolving disputes at the Métis community level and preventing incidents that can potentially escalate into conflict situations. This will be achieved by subscribing to the following principles:

- 1.1** the enhancement of relations between Métis Citizens and Métis Communities and the RCMP;
- 1.2** the recognition of Métis Nation-Saskatchewan as a government for Métis Citizens;
- 1.3** the acknowledgment, and understanding of the roles and responsibilities of MN-S and those of the RCMP;
- 1.4** the enhancement of public, community, and police officer safety;
- 1.5** the need for ongoing communication and information exchange between the Participants so as to strengthen community policing partnerships; and
- 1.6** the sharing of timely and accurate information between the Participants.



2.0 THE ROLE OF METIS NATION - SASKATCHEWAN

2.1 The role of Métis Nation-Saskatchewan will be to strengthen the shared partnership, at the community, Regional and Executive Board level, of ongoing communication with the RCMP, in particular:

a. to identify, at a community, regional and Executive Board level, contact persons to liaise with the RCMP, where appropriate, in an effort to avert or help resolve conflict in Métis communities;

i. by identifying situations that could lead to crisis;

ii. by providing information and suggestions to the RCMP, where appropriate, on conflict prevention, crisis management and resolution; and

iii. by assisting in the identification of mutually beneficial solutions for consideration by all involved, where appropriate.

b. to establish an internal working group comprised of MN-S representatives and Métis community members to facilitate crisis management and communication in the event of conflict; and

c. where appropriate, and subject to applicable laws, regulations, policies and operational requirements, provide information and suggestions on how to prevent conflict from occurring in Métis communities.

2.2 The MN-S government and its institutions will contribute to the development of culturally appropriate training conducted by the RCMP to its members. The type of training and the training objectives will be worked out between the Participants. **2.3** In any particular situation, Métis Nation-Saskatchewan participation under this Protocol will be invoked only at the request of the Métis Nation Government.



3.0 THE ROLE OF THE RCMP

3.1 The role of the RCMP will be to strengthen the shared partnership at a regional, divisional, and local level of ongoing communication with the MN-S, in particular:

- a.** to identify at the relevant regional, divisional and local level, contact persons for the MN-S in relation to this Protocol; and
- b.** where the RCMP duties require involvement in a predominately Métis community, the RCMP will, where appropriate, and subject to applicable laws, regulations, policies and operational requirements, endeavor to liaise with the MN-S and its designate in order to seek their assistance in averting or resolving the conflict.

3.2 Where appropriate, the RCMP participation under this Protocol will be invoked only at the request of the affected police force of jurisdiction.

3.3 The RCMP will involve MN-S in the development of culturally appropriate training for its members and will undertake to make this Protocol known to all its members, encourage them to take the training and require members working in Métis communities to take the training.



4.0 OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES FOR CRISIS SITUATION

Prevention for Personal Harm and Community Safety

4.1 Identify situations that could lead to crisis.

4.2 Exchange information and advice on how to prevent crisis from occurring.

4.3 Enhance understanding among the Participants of their respective roles and responsibilities in a crisis situation.

Management

4.4 Identify mutually beneficial solutions for consideration by the Participants and their constituents.

4.5 Provide advice and timely recommendations to Senior Officials and Political leaders that is based on the best information available.

4.6 Provide timely responses to the communities when developing options to address a crisis.

Intervention

4.7 Conduct a debriefing with affected Participants, during or after a crisis, to determine solutions and effective ways of addressing the situation or a similar situation in the future.

4.8 Develop a joint training initiative that enables the Participants to acquire skills and knowledge to address lessons learned from past incidents, as well as, to manage crisis more effectively.



5.0 OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 The Participants may appoint an internal working group to discuss community policing issues and best practices for implementation.

5.2 The Participants will establish and maintain a network of contact and resource people who are able to act promptly when a crisis arises.

5.3 To effectively address issues related to public and community safety, the Participants will:

- a.** develop collaborative working relationships;
- b.** develop training tools such as orientation manuals and design workshops to include Metis culture, practices and traditions;
- c.** share lessons learned and best practices of dispute resolution; and
- d.** integrate alternative justice protocols and processes.

5.4 The Participants will enhance communications between Métis, and the RCMP to strengthen shared partnerships.



6.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

6.1 The effectiveness of the Protocol is dependent on the intentions and best efforts of the Participants to prevent threats to community safety and security, to resolve crisis situations and to understand and respect each others roles and Métis culture, practices and traditions.

6.2 This Protocol shall not be used by a party in the interpretation of any other agreement.

6.3 The Participants agree to work together throughout the duration of this Protocol in a respectful, professional and cooperative manner.

6.4 The Participants subject to any applicable federal and provincial legislation, including access to information and privacy legislation may share information, observations and reports that relate to the maintenance of social order, personal safety and public security.

6.5 This Protocol is a statement of intent and does not create legally binding obligations on either Party. This Protocol does not define, create, recognize, deny or amend any of the rights or authorities of the Participants.

6.6 This Protocol is without prejudice to any legal positions which has been or may be taken by either Participant, and should not be construed as admissions of fact or liability in any proceeding or process.

6.7 Where a dispute arises between the Participants respecting the interpretation, application, implementation or operation of this Protocol, the Participants will attempt to resolve the dispute by consensus through representatives of the MN-S and RCMP.



7.0 DURATION

7.1 This Protocol shall take effect from the date that it is signed by the Participants and shall remain in effect for two years, unless terminated in accordance with section 7.3.

7.2 This Protocol may be amended by written agreement of the Participants.

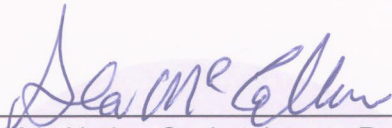
7.3 Either party may terminate their involvement in this Protocol by providing (10) days written notice to the other Participant.

7.4 One year from when the Protocol takes effect, the Participants will review the effectiveness of the Protocol and identify opportunities to improve the Protocol.

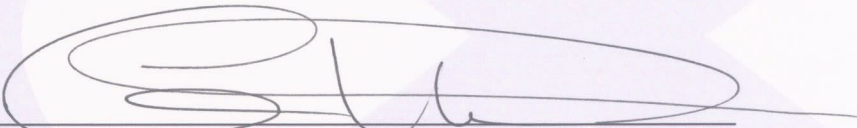


In Witness Whereof, the participants have signed the protocol this 19th day of July 2019 at the Back to Batoche festival site located in the province of Saskatchewan.

On behalf of the Métis Government of Saskatchewan


Métis Nation-Saskatchewan President, Glen McCallum

On behalf of the Métis Government of Saskatchewan


Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Vice President, Gerald Morin

On behalf of her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada


RCMP Assistant Commissioner Mark Fisher, Commanding Officer "F" Division