



Métis Nation
Saskatchewan

**Métis Nation
of Ontario** 
25 YEARS

RESOLUTION ON MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL
Métis Nation of Alberta Provincial Council
Métis Nation–Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council
Provisional Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario

WHEREAS the Métis are a distinct Indigenous people (who have called ourselves the Michif, the ‘nouvelle nation’ and the Métis Nation over the generations) based on our shared history, collective consciousness, language, laws and self-government structures, unique culture and our emergence as a distinct people;

WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Alberta (“MNA”), Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (“MNS”) and Métis Nation of Ontario (“MNO”) (collectively, the “**Métis Governments**”) are the modern day manifestations of Métis self-government grounded on and recognized in:

- the will and determination of our ancestors and citizens who have painstakingly built and continue to mandate the Métis Governments over generations;
- our inherent right to self-government and self-determination as a distinct Indigenous people;
- our objectively verifiable registry systems that identify legitimate Métis rights-holders and citizens of the Métis Nation;
- our democratic elections that allow all of our citizens to vote for their leadership at the local, regional and provincial levels;
- the Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreements (“**MGRSA**”) that have been signed with each Métis Government and the federal Crown, as the level of the Canadian government that has jurisdiction to negotiate treaties with Indigenous peoples;

WHEREAS in 1983 the Métis National Council (“MNC”) was established to act as a national voice for the Métis governments that created it (i.e., the MNC’s Founding and Governing Members) based on the following principles:

- the MNC’s sole authority flows from the mandates provided to it by the democratically elected Métis government that are a part of it (i.e., the MNC Governing Members);
- the MNC’s Governing Members, as Métis governments, have sole authority to deliver programs and services to Métis citizens and the MNC cannot interfere with the jurisdictions of the Métis governments that mandate it;
- the MNC is not a Métis government, but a representative body that is mandated by democratically elected Métis governments;

WHEREAS since 1983, at various times, the MNC has played an important role in advancing Métis rights and self-governments related issues based on the mandate and direction provided to it by its Governing Members;

WHEREAS in recent years, the MNC has become increasingly dysfunctional and unaccountable to its Governing Members and the Métis citizens who elect these Métis governments, including failing to hold a Board of Governors meeting for at least 14 months, failing to effectively represent the interests of all of its Governing Members (not just a few) and ongoing questions in relation to the financial management and administration of the MNC;

WHEREAS more recently the President of the MNC (Clement Chartier) who claims to have “stepped back” from his role as President, but is still being paid significant monies from the MNC for his salary and travel, has acted as legal counsel in filing a statement of claim that is adverse in interest to the MNC’s 1994 Northwest Saskatchewan Land Claim and the MNA’s ongoing work related to Métis scrip, including representing unaccountable Métis Community Associations that are not a part of the governance structures of the MNC’s Governing Members;

WHEREAS the Métis Governments continue to recognize the need to come together at the national level to put forth common positions and advance national issues where required; however, based on various legal and political developments and successes, including successive court victories and the signings of the MGRSAs, the Métis Governments recognize that the MNC’s mandate and structure requires reform in order to protect the rights and interests of the citizens of the Métis Governments;

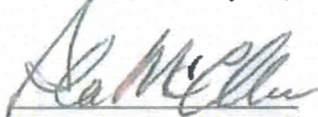
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Métis Governments continue to work through the MNC until after Federal Budget 2020 is released, but that they indicate to Canada that they will be seeking to reform, improve or change the structure of the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism in the future;
2. That the Métis Governments re-affirm that all self-government and rights related discussions and negotiations, including MGRSA implementation and the development of a Federal Métis Claims Policy, must occur between Canada and the respective Métis Governments, not through the MNC;
3. That the Métis Governments work to ensure that all program and service funding including coordination funding for Métis citizens come directly to the MNC Governing Members, without allocations for the MNC,;
4. That the MNC be fully accountable and transparent to the Métis Governments as MNC Governing Members on all matters, including of finance and governance, including the proper presentation of financial statements, transparency surrounding financial audits, limiting the amount of MNC funding being paid to consultants, and following MNC governance procedures as it relates to Board of Governors meetings, Assemblies and other business;

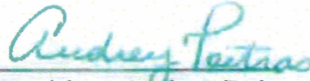
5. That the Métis Governments work to ensure that no funds from the MNC have been used to advance the litigation in *Durocher et al v. Canada* that is adverse in interest to the MNC's Governing Members;
6. That the Métis Governments establish a working group and invite other Métis governments to discuss potential reform of the MNC or the creation of a new national structure to better represent the interests of Métis governments at the national level;
7. That the Métis Governments jointly write to Canada making it aware of this resolution;

Carried by consensus

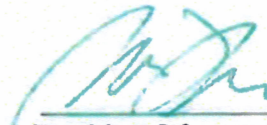
Edmonton, January 16, 2020



President Glen McCallum
Métis Nation – Saskatchewan



President Audrey Poitras
Métis Nation of Alberta



President Margaret Froh
Métis Nation of Ontario