



OFFICE of the PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT

July 27th, 2020

OPEN LETTER TO CITIZENS FROM PRESIDENT MCCALLUM ON TODAY'S CABINET SHUFFLE

Tanisi citizens, friends and partners of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan:

Our people have fought for over a century for recognition, respect and our rightful place as a self-determining people. Over the past three years, we have made substantial progress towards realizing the visions of Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont. From signing the Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement with Canada, investing in housing, education and economic development, making real progress on the negotiation of the North-West land claim, and strengthening our internal governance, we have made momentous strides in a relatively short period of time. This year, our communities have faced a significant challenge to our health and safety: COVID-19. We came together to support citizens, deliver PPE and provide critical supports including housing, childcare, and businesses. It was because of our Nation's collective strength, innovation, and spirit of collaboration that we were able to control the outbreak in the North West and protect Elders, children and community members. While we must remain vigilant to ensure everyone's safety, we should all be proud of how we have supported each other during such unprecedented times.

While we need to acknowledge our progress, we know there is much more work to do. Speaking with citizens, leaders, youth and Elders from across the province, I have heard first-hand the aspirations of our people for a strong Métis Nation. They have told me we must be ready to face challenges and seize opportunities grounded in our identity, the Michif language, culture, and values, while building a positive future for our children and grandchildren. We must keep these aspirations at the forefront of everything we do and everything we are working towards.

Today, I am announcing a shuffle to our cabinet to ensure that our government stays focused on delivering on the priorities that matter to our citizens. As we look to the election next year, the reorganization of portfolios will enable processes and decision-making to be streamlined and make our government more efficient and responsive. We need a cabinet and government structure that is sustainable and can address long-term challenges, while tackling the real needs of our citizens and communities today.

With my commitment to accountable and transparent government, I will be releasing a mandate letter for each Minister in the next two weeks. These letters will be posted on our MN-S government website <https://metisnationask.com/>, and will focus on progress to date under each portfolio, expectations and long-term priorities. This is a historic move as our government has never before released mandate letters in a public manner. The priorities outlined in these letters are based on feedback, engagement and discussion with our citizens, communities, and leaders. Citizens have a right to know where our government is going, what we are working on, and to hold us accountable for meeting our commitments.

The Ministers and their portfolios are listed below.

Child and Family Services	Minister Penny Hurton
Economic Development and Tourism	Minister Leonard Montgrand
Education and Early Learning	Minister Earl Cook
Environment	Minister Tex Bouvier
Finance	Minister Earl Cook
Health	Minister Marg Friesen
Housing and Infrastructure	Minister Ryan Carriere
Inter-Nation Relations	Minister Loretta King
Justice	Minister Gerald Morin
Language, Culture and Heritage	Minister Sherry McLennan
Sports and Recreation	Minister Billy Kennedy
Veterans	Minister Loretta King
Women and Gender Equality	Minister Tammy Mah
Youth	Minister Jaycee Bell

I look forward to working with our team of Ministers to deliver real progress and tangible results for our citizens. We have come a long way in a short time, but there remains much to be done to realize our dreams for a brighter future. This future is in reach, and our government will continue to carry the torch of those great leaders who came before us. We can, and we will, succeed in fully realizing the vision of a strong, self-determining, accountable government for all of us as Métis people in this province.

I wish you and your families good health and please stay safe

Sincerely,



Glen McCallum
President, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan