

# DNA/Legal Paternity Testing

## Definitions:

Paternal – Father

Maternal – Mother

## **Reasons to investigate Paternity Testing:**

- When your Metis Ancestry is through your paternal side, and you have no legal documents listing the father.
- Father is deceased and can no longer be added to documents to be listed as the father.
- Father is unavailable for testing, but their parents, other children, or sibling(s) are available to prove paternity through DNA Testing.

## **Documents to locate before Paternity Testing:**

\*\*It is more economical to use existing documents listing the father, when possible.

- Long Form Birth Certificate or Genealogical/Live Birth Certificate; Father can be added if both parents are living and willing to sign forms claiming the child
- Baptismal Certificate that lists the father; Roman Catholic, Anglican, and United Churches generally list both parents on baptismal certificates, though not guaranteed
- Court Records indicating he is recognized as the father
- Will and Testament where the father listed applicant as their child
- Genealogical Marriage Certificate that lists him as the father. This is a copy of the original marriage paperwork.

If/when choosing paternity testing, ensure you get the **Legal Paternity Test** instead of the Private Paternity Test. Though most aspects of both tests are the same, the Legal Paternity Test is the only one that will be legally recognized. We want all documentation linking generations able to hold up in court and to any possible scrutiny in the future. Private Paternity Tests done in the past might be considered but will be up to the discretion of the MN-S Registry.

The test itself is a simple mouth swab. Results show the percentage likelihood the person is the father. To prove paternity, we require a high percentage likelihood. If the result is too low, we would suggest testing additional family members on father's side or testing the mother to boost testing accuracy. The more people tested, the higher the level of accuracy.

**Testing Other Family Members:** It is possible to test people related to the father to establish a paternal relationship. If testing the father is not possible, the next best option is to test relatives of the father, starting with his parents. The next most reliable option is other children, followed by full siblings (brothers/sisters) of the father. If the father has only half-siblings to test, testing more than one would be suggested.

## **Companies that offer Paternity Testing:**

**Genetrack** <http://www.genetrackcanada.com/>

Offers testing with locations across Canada including Northern Saskatchewan Communities.

**Canadian DNA Services** <https://www.canadiandnaservices.ca/paternity-testing/>

Testing location in Saskatoon.

**\*\*There is a cost to DNA/Paternity Testing; feel free to shop around for a reputable test facility that provides the option of a Legal Paternity Test\*\***