



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Métis Nation–Saskatchewan steps up to keep Battleford Lighthouse emergency shelter open during COVID-19 pandemic

March 5, 2021 – Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN-S) has stepped in to provide funding to the North Battleford Lighthouse Supported Living emergency shelter. This will ensure it can remain open and that vulnerable homeless populations have the support of the shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.

MN-S Housing Minister, Ryan Carriere, said, “The homeless are the most susceptible when it comes to COVID-19, and with no other apparent homeless shelters in the Battleford region, MN–S will take up the challenge and fund the 37-bed facility. Discussions are also underway to determine a path toward more substantial, community funding partners that could see a shelter operate indefinitely.”

“MN-S recognizes the need for housing often becomes entangled in bureaucracy at the expense of those most at risk. MN–S sees the urgent need for these citizens within the Battleford region and will utilize emergency COVID money to ensure they don’t fall through the cracks especially at a time like this,” said MN–S Housing Director, Christena Konrad.

While the funding to North Battleford Lighthouse Supported Living will ensure that homeless populations have a shelter they can access, MN-S has also entered into broader discussions with the Battleford Agency Tribal Council (BATC) to look at ways to address homelessness. These discussions focus on establishing strong and sustainable partnerships within the community to create holistic homelessness responses and supports to serve the Battleford region.

–30–

About Métis Nation–Saskatchewan:

Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) is the Government for Métis citizens in the province of Saskatchewan. MN–S represents the political, socioeconomic, cultural and educational interests of some 80,000 Métis through an elected representative



system consisting of an Executive, 12 Regions and approximately 132 Locals.
Social Media Link: [@MNSask](#), [@metisnationsask](#)

For media inquiries:

Rena Montgomerie, MN-S Senior Communications Officer
306-250-1092 or r.montgomerie@mns.work

