

# Métis Nation—Saskatchewan Applying for Citizenship

Applying is free. There are no application, processing, or maintenance fees. Please note that there may be some costs associated with the process if you need to order certificates or documents from other organisations.

If you were born in Alberta or Saskatchewan, we can request copies of your birth or marriage record information at no cost to you. Please ensure you have signed the "eHealth Authorization Form" of our application if you were born, married, or legally changed your name in Saskatchewan.

# Use this CHECK LIST to ensure you have completed each step of the application process:

application. Applications for youth (under 16) are completed by a parent or legal guardian.
A <u>signed application</u> . If completing the fillable PDF form, please do not type your name using a cursive font, as your actual signature is required for the application. (You may need to "Configure a Digital ID" when prompted. You can sign using your mouse or finger depending on the device.)  *Note: Applicants ages 16 and older must sign their own forms except for the "Indian Registry Screening Consent Form," which must be signed by the parent/legal guardian of those applicants under the age of 18.
A <u>completed family tree</u> <b>OR</b> <u>information to connect you to a family member</u> with shared ancestry that has applied and submitted a family tree to the MN-S Citizenship Registry after 2009, when the Registry began operations. The Registry does not have access to Local membership records/applications, or to MN-S membership records/applications submitted prior to 2009.
A copy of your valid government-issued photo ID.
A copy of your valid <u>Saskatchewan health card</u> .
A <u>passport-quality photo.</u> This photo will appear on your card. (Please see the photo ID guidelines for tips.)
A copy of your <u>Long Form Birth Certificate</u> (your Métis parent's name needs to be on the document)
<b>OR</b> a copy of your <u>Short Form Birth Certificate</u> AND your <u>Baptismal Certificate</u> with your Métis parent's name listed.
<b>OR</b> if you were born in Alberta or Saskatchewan, we can request copies of your birth or marriage records at no cost to you. Please ensure you have a <u>signed "eHealth Authorization Form</u> " of our application if you were born or married in Saskatchewan.
A copy of a <u>change of name document (if applicable)</u> . If your name has changed at any point, for any reason, please provide copies of documents to show each name change. (Examples: marriage certificate, name change certificate, adoption papers, or a newspaper announcement.)

Saskatchewan.
Copies of <u>other genealogical information and documents</u> to prove a connection to a Métis Ancestor. We often require a copy of your <b>Métis parent's and Métis grandparent's</b> <u>Long Form Birth Certificate</u> <b>OR</b> <u>Baptismal Certificate</u> with their Métis parent's name(s) listed. We will first check our internal records and, if necessary, we will let you know what you need and how you can obtain it.
Submit the items listed above. You can EMAIL your application to <a href="mailto:info@mnsregistry.ca">info@mnsregistry.ca</a> (You will first have to save it to your device and then attach to an email). Please do not email links to storage clouds, GoogleDocs, DropBox, etc. All documents and images sent via email should be sent in their original size. Please do not shrink digital copies of documents, they are often difficult to read and require a different copy sent.

You can also MAIL the application ATTN: MN-S Registry 310 20<sup>th</sup> Street East, Saskatoon SK S7K 0A7

Once we have ALL the requested documents, it can take to 2-6 months on average for you to receive your citizenship. Processing is, in general, much quicker than the 2-month initial estimate, but we cannot guarantee processing times, as fluctuations occur due to various factors. Reasons for longer processing may include a sudden influx of applications for various funding opportunities, postage strikes, technology changes, maintenance, upgrades, etc.

\*Note: Please let us know if your application is time sensitive, and if you require your card for school seating, funding, etc. We will do our best to assist you. Please indicate your reason for your application being time sensitive under the heading "Are you applying for funding? If so, for what?" located on the first page of the application.

# Steps to complete an application:

- 1. Go to our website to access the application form <a href="https://www.metisnationsk.com/library-registry/">https://www.metisnationsk.com/library-registry/</a>, then click on the "Individual Citizenship Application." The application is PDF fillable, so you can fill it in without printing a paper copy. Please remember to save it onto your computer, or digital device, before you begin filling it in (Example file name: <a href="https://example.com/Application-Sample">Application-Sample</a>, Sally). If you fill in the application on the website before saving, the information you fill out online will not be saved.
- 2. Fill out the saved copy of the application. Ensure the signature on the first page for adult applicants is an actual signature, not a name typed in cursive font. We need an actual signature as this signature will appear on your citizenship card. If you want to complete an application by hand, you can simply print the application, fill it out (then scan or take a photo of the application pages to submit it digitally.)
- 3. Fill out the family tree on page 5 of the application form. Family trees can be filled out and submitted later if necessary. Fill out as much information as you can back to at least 1901, if possible. We recommend talking to family, as many times someone in the family has already created a family tree you could use. Please let us know if you connect to a family member that has already applied with the Métis Nation Saskatchewan Registry after 2009 and has a family tree on file. If connecting to a family member that has applied with us, you only need to fill out the first few generations of the family tree and explain how you are related to the person you wish to connect to.
  - Note: You only need to complete the portion of your family tree for your Métis parent(s)' side.
- 4. Photocopy or take pictures of your valid Government-Issued Photo ID and valid Saskatchewan Health Card. The copies of both IDs can be on one page, or in the same picture together. Please



ensure the information on the cards is legible. Information on health cards tends to be more difficult to read, so please check that it is legible before submitting.

#### a. Health Card

If your health card is expired, missing its renewal sticker, or requires replacement please go to https://www.ehealthsask.ca/ to order what is needed.

- b. Government-Issued Photo ID (not required for youth applicants under 16) Types of Government-Issued Photo ID: SGI Driver's License, SGI Photo ID, Passport, Possession and Acquisition License (PAL), Corrections ID. Let us know if you are having difficulties acquiring a valid Government-Issued Photo ID.
- 5. Submit a passport-quality photo (not required for youth applicants under 16). See our website for information on how to take a good ID photo.
- 6. Submit a copy of your Long Form Birth Certificate (your Métis parent's name needs to be on the document). **OR** you could provide a copy of your Short Form Birth Certificate and Baptismal Certificate with your Métis parent's name listed. **OR** a signed eHealth Authorization Form if you were married or legally changed your name in Saskatchewan.

# a. Long Form Birth Certificate

Can be ordered from the Vital Statistics department in the province you were born in. Beware there are a lot of imitation websites that over charge for certificates. If you order your Long Form Birth Certificate from eHealth Saskatchewan it costs \$40. Otherwise, we can request a copy of the record for our purposes at no cost to you if you sign the 'eHealth Authorization Form'.

## b. Baptismal Certificates

Can be requested from the church the person was baptised at, or the church diocese. If a church no longer exists, contact the church diocese that is closest to where the church used to be located.

- 7. If your name has changed from what you were named a birth, please provide copies of documents to show the name change. Proof is required for <u>each name change</u>, unless you changed your name back to your name at birth. Then proof would only be needed to show the name change from your maiden name to your current name. Example of documents to show the name change(s) are marriage certificate(s), name change certificate(s), adoption papers, or a published newspaper announcement of the name change made for the public.
  - a. Marriage and Name Change Certificates
    Can be ordered from the provincial Vital Statistics where the name change/marriage was registered.

# b. Adoption Papers

Are requested from the province you were adopted in, not the province you were adopted from. When asking for your adoption information request your <u>Long Form Birth Certificate</u> and <u>Adoption Papers</u>. Google 'Post Adoptions Services' and the name of the province you were adopted in. This is the link for services if you were adopted in Saskatchewan: <a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/births-and-adoptions/adoption/post-adoption-services">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/births-and-adoptions/adoption/post-adoption-services</a>

8. Other genealogical information and documents to prove a connection to a Métis Ancestor. We often need a copy of your **Métis parent's and Métis grandparent's** Long Form Birth Certificate **OR** Baptismal Certificate with their Métis parent's name(s) listed. We will first check our internal



records, then we will let you know what you need, and how to get it. If you have these documents already, please attach copies of them when submitting your application.

# a. Genealogical Research

Generally, the Registry can complete much of the needed research for applicants by using our internal research collections and other available resources. However, it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide their genealogical information and documents to verify their Métis Ancestry. We assist where we can, within reasonable limits. We can provide direction in researching vital statistic records, census records, as well as diocese and parish records.

All applicants must be able to clearly show that their ancestry is in accordance with the MNS definition of Métis and connects to the Historical Métis Homeland. The Métis Homeland encompasses all of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and extends into parts of northwestern Ontario, northeastern B.C. and southern N.W.T.

The MN-S Registry follows the definition of Métis as found in the MN-S Constitution. "Métis" means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry and who is accepted by the Métis Nation.

The documentation provided as proof must clearly show the connection from one generation to the next. The sources from which the document originated must be recorded. A connection to an ancestor who received Métis ("Half-breed") Scrip or who was recognized as Métis ("Half-breed") in census records is required. Please submit clear legible copies of required documents and research.

Examples of what our cards look like.

\*\*Anyone that applied pre 2009 and has an old laminated MNS or Local card we do not have records for and need to reapply with us.







## **Further Information for Research and Documentation**

### **Vital Statistics Records:**

Copies of birth, marriage, and name change certificates can be ordered through Vital Statistics agencies in the province where the event took place. Access to these documents may vary, but you can always request your own records. The MN–S Registry has agreements with eHealth Saskatchewan and Service Alberta to access information on vital events that took place in Saskatchewan and Alberta, for the purposes of assisting citizenship applicants.

#### Alberta:

Service Alberta 1.780.427.2711 (Toll free outside Alberta) www.alberta.ca/life-events.aspx

#### Manitoba:

Vital Statistics Agency 1.866.949.9296 http://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca



#### Ontario:

Office of the Registrar General 1.800.461.2156 (Toll free outside Toronto) https://www.ontario.ca/page/official-government-id-and-certificates

## **Provincial Directory**

https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/health/vital/2012001/con

#### **British Columbia:**

Vital Statistics Agency 1.250.952.2681 https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events

# Saskatchewan:

eHealth Saskatchewan 1.800.667.7551 www.ehealthsask.ca

Long Form Birth Certificates or Genealogical/Live Birth Registrations are the most common vital statistics documents. To be accepted by the Registry they must include parents' names.

## **Church Records:**

Baptismal and marriage certificates for yourself and your ancestors can be obtained from local churches, church diocese offices, or church archives. Be prepared to answer why you need the certificate(s) (Métis Citizenship Application) and have as much information as possible on the person whose certificate you need. Helpful information that will make the search easier: place and date baptized, place and date married, person's name, birthdate, and other possible name spellings. Church records may be restricted from public access, depending on the age and type of record. Since cost and record access varies, make sure to call to inquire first.

#### Roman Catholic Diocese in Saskatchewan

## Northern:

Archdiocese of Keewatin Le Pas Ph. 204.623.6121 www.dioceseofkeewatinlepas.ca

North Central: Diocese of Prince Albert Ph.306.922.4747 https://www.padiocese.ca



#### Central:

Saskatoon Diocesan Centre Ph. 306.242.1500 www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com

## Southern:

Archdiocese of Regina Ph. 306.352.1651 https://archregina.sk.ca/



#### United Church Diocese of Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Conference of the United Church of Canada Ph. 306.721.3311 <a href="http://www.sk.united-church.ca/">http://www.sk.united-church.ca/</a>

## Anglican Diocese in Saskatchewan

Qu'Appelle: Ph. 306.522.1608

http://quappelle.anglican.ca

## Saskatoon:

Ph. 1.306.244.5651

http://www.saskatoon.anglican.org

