



Media Release

MN–S EASTERN REGION 3 ENGAGES COMMUNITY IN STORY MAPPING HISTORICAL MÉTIS LAND USE

December 10, 2021 — Saskatchewan – Métis Elders and community members from Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) Eastern Region 3 (ER3) have created a historical tour of their regional area through interactive story mapping. The community, Elders and stakeholders gathered today to launch the project at the Motherwell Homestead National Historic Site, south of Abernethy, Saskatchewan. A combination of maps, text, images, video, audio and other multimedia share the traditions and history of the region in this original online narrative and new stand-alone resource. These efforts serve as evidence of historical Métis land use in this area and will assist with claims to Métis rights.

Says ER3 Regional Representative Minister Marg Friesen, “Traditionally, our Elders and Knowledge Keepers use storytelling as a way of keeping history alive by sharing auditorily. Today, people are engaging digitally through a variety of media. Story mapping appeals to a larger number of people using images, sounds, text and video. It is an innovative way to document our region’s land use in the digital age while proving our Métis contributions to this province's growth, our resilience and our strong kinship ties to communities and the land.”

In February 2020, President Glen McCallum announced \$750,000 in funding to advance the mapping process in outstanding, historical Métis land claims in the north, south and central sectors of the province.

“This project is the result of many years of recording our story. Our Métis footprint is impressive in Eastern Region 3,” said President McCallum. “The mapping proudly tells the history of our people living in this region and it also provides evidence of historical Métis land use that will guide us moving forward with our Métis Rights.”

The ER3 mapping project is the initial implementation of the February 2020 commitment to mapping our Métis imprint in Saskatchewan. Métis Nation–Saskatchewan intends to expand this initiative and gather evidence of historical Métis land use province-wide.

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The ER3 mapping project started last spring and is the culmination of effort between MN–S Eastern Region 3, MN–S Lands and Environment Department, Indigenous-owned X-Terra, Parks Canada and community members in the region.

ER3 story map link: www.metisnationsk.com/ER3map

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Background

February 2020 MN–S land mapping announcement: <https://metisnationsk.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/land-mapping-Feb.-29-2020.pdf>

Map of ER3 location: <https://metisnationsk.com/governance/#executive>

About Métis Nation–Saskatchewan

Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) is the recognized government of the Métis Nation in Saskatchewan. MN–S is built on a foundation of Métis identity, culture, values and language. MN–S works to advance Métis rights and recognition. MN–S represents the political, socioeconomic, cultural and educational interests of more than 80,000 Métis in the province through an elected representative system at local, regional and provincial levels.

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