

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Métis Nation-Saskatchewan acknowledges Métis Early Childhood Educators

**May 25, 2022 –** May is Early Childhood Education Month in Saskatchewan. To acknowledge the designation and celebrate Métis early learning in the province, the Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) government is running a Métis Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Recognition Program.

The recognition program was announced during the second MN–S Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) conference in Saskatoon 'Guiding Our Children – Elders Sharing Their Voice' on April 28 – 30, 2022. More than 400 Elders, educators and childcare professionals gathered to engage in discussions about best practices and regional needs of children from birth to the age of eight.

Early childhood learning sets a positive foundation for life. Children learn essential developmental, emotional, and social skills constantly. Key interactions occur in homes, daycare homes, HeadStarts, preschool programs and early learning centres. Family and child care providers give children a strong sense of attachment through their guidance and direction.

MN–S President Glen McCallum said, "Our Métis families and young children are eager to learn at a young age. Introducing Métis children to our identity, culture, values and language in their early years is so important. With our educational partners, MN–S is focused on introducing programs and supporting childcare professionals as leaders who set children on a path for success and opportunity. Kwayes Meosin."

MN–S recognizes Métis Early Child Care Professionals who excel at incorporating Métis culture, language and traditions into their programs.

Education and Early Learning and Child Care Minister Tim Roussin said, "Early childhood educators are key to strengthening opportunities for our Métis children. A strong early start in life, contributes to greater success for our Métis children and communities. Our MN-S government is pleased to recognize and celebrate the excellent work of our Métis early childhood educators as they care for our most precious resource-our children."



Nominations are open to MN–S citizens working as early learning professionals in Saskatchewan who use Métis cultural content in their teachings.

This recognition is specifically intended for our Métis Early Childhood Educators who have official certification as an Early Childhood Educator (ECE), are working toward official ECE certification, or are interested in pursuing ECE certification in the province.

Nomination forms are available <u>here</u> and are accepted until Friday, June 17, 2022.

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## About Métis Nation–Saskatchewan:

Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) is built on a foundation of Métis identity, culture, values and language. Empowered by the Métis citizens of Saskatchewan, MN–S works to advance Métis rights and strengthen community capacity. 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.

## For media inquiries -

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