



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Métis Nation–Saskatchewan holds its Fall 2022 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

November 20, 2022 – This weekend, leadership of the Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) gathered for the Fall 2022 meeting of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA). Made up of the Presidents of Métis Locals from across the province and the Provincial Métis Council, the MNLA serves as the supreme governing body of the MN–S.

The official meeting portion of the MNLA was underway following the Grand Entry on Saturday. Special guest, Métis National Council (MNC) President Cassidy Caron, brought greetings on behalf of the Métis Nation on Sunday.

MN–S Vice President Michelle LeClair delivered the State of our Métis Nation address in which she highlighted the important work underway, and the significant gains made by the MN–S. “We have made tremendous strides as a nation over the past year, building on the progress we have made as a Nation over the past decade. We are seeing a new level of respect from our counterparts in Ottawa. Something unimaginable in the past, we are now working in collaboration and partnership to better the lives of Métis in Saskatchewan. And self-government, which has for so long been the dream of our Nation, is now nearing reality. We expect legislation at the federal level in the coming months. But the hard work does not end there, your government will continue to fight to ensure that we see a treaty signed between MN–S and Canada, which will ensure that our inherent rights as a Nation are enshrined and protected.”

Delegates to the MNLA unanimously endorsed the stand taken by the MN–S executive and [rejected the provincial government's *Saskatchewan First Act*](#). Introduced in the Provincial Legislature earlier this month. MN–S says the Act clearly ignores the inherent rights of Métis citizens to be consulted on constitutional change that impacts our communities. The MNLA directs the executive to call for the immediate withdrawal of the proposed legislation and for the Saskatchewan government to start again, honouring the nation-to-nation relationship with Métis people.



MN–S Vice President Michelle LeClair said, “This is a first step, sending a strong message to the province that this document is unconstitutional in every way.”

Other important issues and motions brought to the floor included:

- Report from the Commissioner for the Review of Locals
- Adoption of the Métis Vision of Health
- An update on Métis Self-Government and Harvesting
- Renewed commitment to the north-west land claim, UNDRIP engagements and Métis students

MNLA delegates also came together in their strong opposition to the disposition of Crown Land in Saskatchewan and directed the MN–S to demand the province immediately halt its unconstitutional disposition of land and engage in the development of a consultation protocol that will finally and rightfully respect Métis rights, interests and honour the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

The MNLA also heard the Métis Nation government in Saskatchewan is in a solid financial position to challenge the provincial government on its Duty to Consult and move forward on distinctions-based programs and services for Métis citizens in all regions of the province - north, central, and south. The MN–S government continues to seek appropriate partnerships to progress larger developments for the health and well-being of Métis families.

During the event, MN–S also signed an interim agreement with Parks Canada to establish a herd of 24 bison to initially be situated on the Batoche festival grounds and eventually relocated to the historic Batoche lands recently repatriated to the MN–S.

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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 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. Social Media Links: [@MNSask](#), [@metisnationsask](#)

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