

Metis Red River Cart Convoy circa 1860's to 1870's



## Through a Métis Lens: Culturally specific FASD prevention and intervention

Métis Nation of Alberta

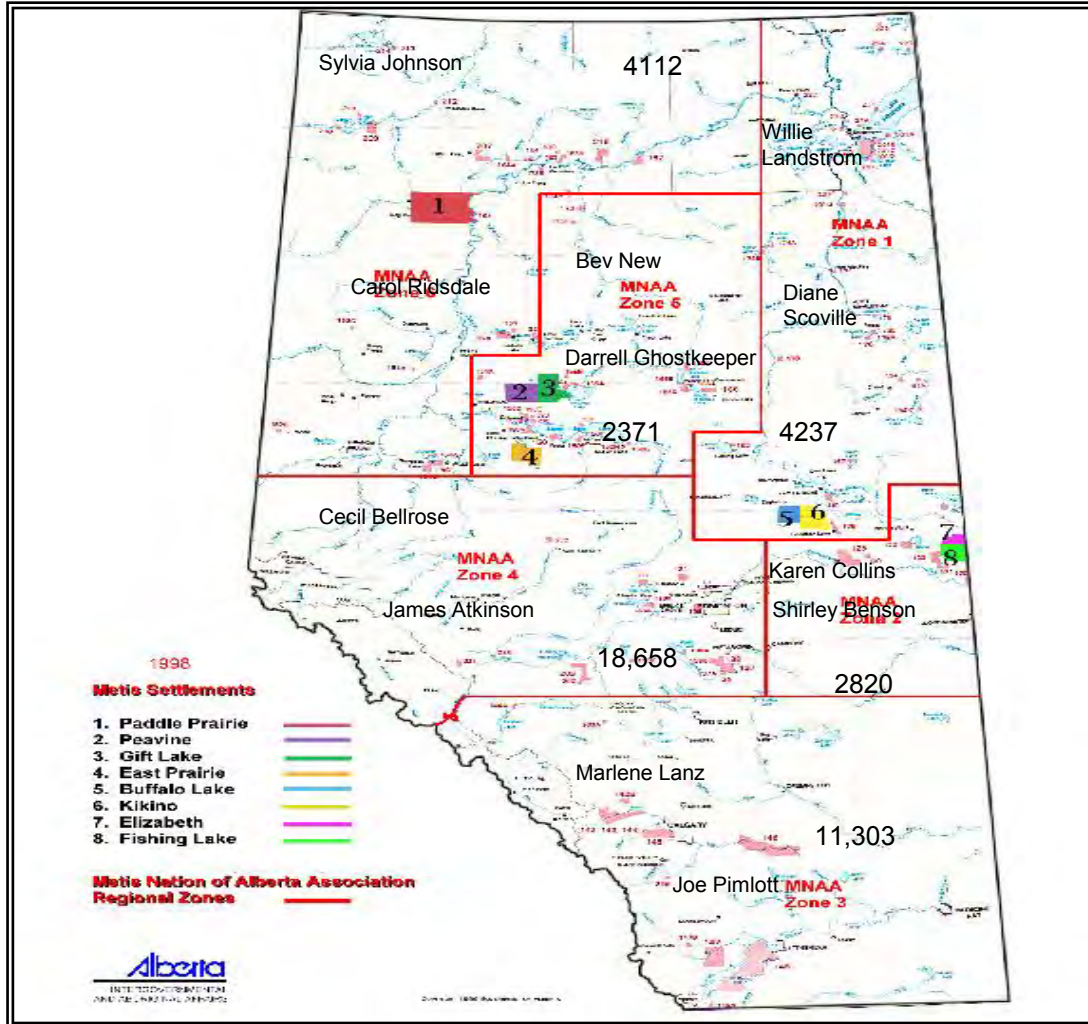




# Métis Nation of Alberta

Provincial President  
Audrey Poitras

Provincial  
Vice President Toby  
Racette



- The Métis Nation of Alberta uses the same geographical boundary as the province of Alberta
- It is divided into six Regions with a Regional Offices that houses the political and administrative personnel
- The Métis Nation of Alberta represents all Métis within the province of Alberta
- The Métis Nation of Alberta utilizes a Métis Registry to registers it's Métis citizens



# Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA)

## **MANDATE:**

- Be a representative voice on behalf of Métis people in Alberta;
- Provide Métis people an opportunity to participate in government's policy and decision making process and, most importantly;
- Promote and facilitate the advancement of Métis people through the pursuit of self-reliance, self-determination and self-management.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

- Strategic priority of the MNA is to pursue the advancement and socio-economic well-being of the Métis children and families in Alberta.

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

- 45,000 Métis Albertans registered with the MNA.



# Who are the Métis

## Cuthbert Grant

“it is true that our savage origin is humble, but it is meet that we honor our mothers as well as our fathers. Why should we concern ourselves about what degree of mixture we possess of European or Indian blood? If we have ever so little of either gratitude or filial love, should we not be proud to say, “we are Métis!”?”

## Colin Robertson

The Métis , A new people, were the cultural and economic intermediaries in the “civilizing” of a continent. Without their help the process would have been much bloodier than it was. In 1812 Colin Robertson reported, “They think of themselves, [Métis], the happiest people in existence, and I believe they are not far mistaken.”

## Pierre Falcon

This was the nation of the Métis-or, as the song put it, the Bois-Brulés, the people whose skin was like scorched wood. "Sing the glory," the last line of “Falcons Song” commanded, “ of all the Bois-Brulés!” The song was born on June 19, 1816. On that day, too, the nation was born in the minds of the people, if not yet in political fact.





# The "Battle of Seven Oaks" marks the birth of the Métis Nation.

- **Date** June 19, 1816
- **Location** Seven Oaks (present day Winnipeg, MB)
- **Result** Decisive Métis victory
- **Métis Commander** Cuthbert Grant





# The "Battle of Seven Oaks"

## Pierre Falcon



The Battle of Seven Oaks-  
*Do you want to hear me sing a truthful song?  
On the 19<sup>th</sup> of June the Bois-Brules arrived  
Like brave warriors.  
Arriving at Frog Plain  
We took three prisoners,  
From Orkney! They came to rob our country.*

*While on the point of dismounting  
Two of our men cried out  
The English are coming to attack us!  
Right away we turned back  
To meet them.*

*We have surrounded the band of Grenadiers;  
They are immobile! They are horseless!  
We have acted honourably.  
We sent an ambassador.  
Governor, could you spare us a moment?  
We want to talk to you.*

*The Governor, enraged,  
Tell his soldiers- Fire!  
The English fire the first shot.  
Our ambassador was nearly killed.  
The Governor behaving like an Emperor,  
Act cruelly.  
The Governor behaving like an emperor,  
To his misfortune acts with too much cruelty.*

*Having seen the Bois-Brules go by,  
He tried to frighten us.  
Having tried to frighten us,  
He made a mistake; he got himself  
And many of his grenadiers killed.*



# Who are the Métis?

## Prominent Métis Leaders

Cuthbert Grant



1816

Louis Riel



1869/1870-1885

Jim Brady



1928-1932

President Audrey Poitras



1996- President



# Métis – Provincial & Federal

- 1928 – Métis Organizational meetings
- 1932 - L'Association des Métis des Nord-Ouest
- 1934 - The Ewing Commission by the Alberta government
- 1939 – (8)Métis Settlement lands were established
- 1982 – Constitution Act 1982 recognized 3 Aboriginal peoples – Indian, Inuit and Metis
- 1987 – Alberta and the Métis Nation of Alberta signed the first Framework Agreement
- 1989 – Alberta entered into the Métis Settlements Accord
- 2003 – Supreme Court decision in R. v. Powley
- 2010 – McIvor Case Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act (Bill C-3)
- 2011 – Supreme Court decision in Alberta v. Cunningham
- 2013- Federal Court of Appeal, Daniels v. Canada





# Métis Health and Wellness

- Métis Resource
- Provincial FASD demonstration project
- CCAY
- Métis Health Surveillance



# Ministry Overview

- The MNA Children and Youth sector delivers resources and supports to Métis children, youth and families involved with Child and Family Service Authorities (CFSA's) throughout the province.
- The MNA has partnerships with Human Services, Child and Family Service Authorities (Region 6, 7, and 3), and Edmonton Fetal Alcohol Network (EFAN).



# Programs

## **Provincial FASD and Edmonton Fetal Alcohol Network:**

- The Métis Child and Family Wellness Coordinator works collaboratively with the CFSA Region 6/MNA Region 4 by providing culturally respectful FASD supports and services to the CFSA and the Métis child and their support network.

4 priority service areas are exercised under this program that support the child, their family and the CFSA including:

- (1) FASD Support
- (2) Métis Culture
- (3) Métis Identification
- (4) Communication



## Success

1. Culturally relevant supports
2. Relationship building
  - Trust
3. Community Involvement
4. Communication



# 2013-2014 Provincial FASD

## The Provincial FASD Agreement is with

- Government of Alberta Human Services

## Purpose

- Enable communities to develop comprehensive, culturally appropriate programs to improve the health and development of Métis children living in conditions of risk, and their families.

## Objective

- improve prenatal; infant and child nutrition, improve parenting and care-giving skills, reduce incidence of children at risk and promote healthy lifestyles, Métis culture and community engagement.



# Contact Information

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# QUESTIONS

