



Thursday, December 03, 2009

Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC)
Métis Community Governance Chartered Associations
Métis Citizens

RE: Presidential Monthly Update ending November 2009

Taanshi kiya'wow / Bonjour
Ta'wow / Bienvenue

Dear MNBC Leadership and Métis Citizens:

Please accept the following Presidential Monthly Update ending the month of November 2009 submitted to Métis community leaders, Métis citizens, and various Federal, Provincial, and Industry Government partners.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MNBC is pleased to announce Henry Hall is the newly appointed Minister responsible for Education as per the November 21st, 2009 Press Release. Minister Hall has been an advocate for education and believes that learning begins with families and communities.

Métis Nation British Columbia co-hosted the 15th annual Provincial Aboriginal Education Conference on November 5th to 7th in Vancouver BC. The conference was attended by over five hundred (500) people including teachers, aboriginal support workers, superintendents and many advocates of aboriginal education. MNBC Minister of Education, Dave Hodgson spoke on behalf of the Métis Nation and shared the challenges and success of integrating Métis culture and history into the kindergarten to Grade 12 curriculum.

Director of Education, Colleen Hodgson delivered a workshop on the "Grade 4 Métis Cross Curricular Resource Unit" that is being developed. The workshop was filled to maximum with a waiting list so an additional workshop was held. The teachers attending provided valuable input and feedback that is necessary in creating the final draft of the unit.

MNBC is implementing an education project throughout school districts in British Columbia. In November a survey was sent out requesting teachers and school district staff to comment on materials and resources that they currently have in their schools that reflect

Métis culture and history; teachers from all regions have responded to the survey and a database has been created that records results. MNBC has begun sending materials and resources to all school districts in response to survey results. Schools will be receiving additional resources over the next few months that will include citizenship information, posters and other information that focuses on Métis culture and history and the contemporary community.



MINISTRY OF HOUSING

MNBC has been completing the “Housing Resource Guides” for the Métis chartered communities. The Ministry of Housing introduced the resource guide at the 2009 AGM and provided the Regional Directors with copies of the guidebook. Presidents will be receiving copies of the “Métis Nation British Columbia Housing Resource Guidebook” at the upcoming MNGA in January.

MNBC has been working with key provincial partners on an “Off-Reserve Aboriginal Information Tool”. The information tool will include an information sharing page that will allow individuals and organizations to forward links for job opportunities, RFP’s, upcoming conferences, workshops, training etc. to Aboriginal Housing Team staff.

MINISTRY OF VETERANS

On behalf of the Métis Nation British Columbia’s Métis Veterans Standing Committee, and Minister Responsible for Veterans, Lissa Smith, we wish to extend our sincere thanks to all of the Métis Citizens, Members, Friends and Family who so generously supported the Métis Veterans Journey to Juno Beach. The participation of our honored Métis Veterans at Juno Beach, France, in November 2009 was a historical event. Video of the ceremony, photographs and press released describing the dedication of the Métis monument at Juno Beach can be viewed at: <http://www.Métisnation.ca/veterans/juno-2009.html>.

MINISTRY OF WOMEN

The Provincial Métis Women of British Columbia Provincial Chair, Rose Bortolon, participated in meetings held in conjunction with the Métis National Council General Assembly and the Women of the Métis Nation in preparation for the re-establishment of a National Métis Women’s representative body to be re-implemented in partnership with the MNC. Minister Bortolon participated as one of five Women’s Leadership representatives from each of the Governing Member Organizations; the National Assembly showed strong support for the re-establishment of the Women of the Métis Nation, and the revival of a National presence for our Métis Women in Canada.

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Métis Nation British Columbia has been a partner in the creation of a Provincial resource kit in collaboration with the United Way’s “Success by 6” project. A celebration to launch the resource kits took place November 9, 2009 at the Sty-Wet-Tan (Great Hall) UBC First Nations Longhouse. President Bruce Dumont, Regional Director Henry Hall,



Fraser Valley Métis Association President John Lepine and wife Maxine, FVMA Vice-President Lisa Shepherd, Director of Women, Elders, and Veterans, Victoria Pruden, and several Elders from the Lower Mainland were present at the Honoring Event. The Métis Nation British Columbia will be planning for distribution of these resource kits to communities, families, and child and family service agencies in February 2010. Indications of interest can be forwarded to Victoria Pruden, at vpruden@mnbca.ca or 250-208-4937.

AD HOC ADOPTIONS COMMITTEE

The Métis Nation British Columbia Ad Hoc Adoptions Committee will be participating in a retreat in Kelowna December 13-16 2009 to review and finalize recommendations regarding Adoption, as previously presented and discussed at the MNGA in January 2009. **Métis Citizens and Community Members are encouraged to share their perspectives and thoughts on Adoption with the committee for consideration at their December retreat. Please contact Sid Peltier to submit your perspective for review by the Committee, he may be reached by telephone at: 1 250 638 8589 or by email at: peltiers@telus.net.**

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MNBC Harvesting Card applications continue to come in to the MNBC Registry for processing. Citizens are reminded that at this time the Harvesting Card is only authorized for use in replacing the Canadian Migratory Bird license. At present, government requires Métis to have all other licenses to hunt, fish, and trap or cut wood. Government enforcement officers will charge Métis who do not have government licenses.

COO Dean Trumbley and Director of Natural Resources Ducommun presented to the Pacific Federal Aboriginal Consultation Network (PFCAN) conference in Vancouver on November 5, 2009. The presentation included: MNBC self governance structure, MNBC Consultation Guidelines, Traditional Knowledge Policy and the MTK Research Agreement process. PFCAN has representatives from many federal departments, including: Transport Canada, Indian Affairs, the Department of Justice, Environment Canada, Public Works, Parks Canada, Fisheries and Oceans, Western Economic Diversification, and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

The MNBC Ministry of Natural Resources has advertised a part time position for a Natural Resource Consultation Coordinator. This person will work under the supervision of the Director to address consultation activities. The deadline for applications is December 15, 2009. All those interested can find the job posting on the MNBC website www.mnbca.ca

The Enbridge Métis Consultation Project Team agreed on the terms of a Métis Traditional Knowledge project last month. This project will include hiring five community interviewers to collect Métis Traditional Knowledge (MTK), support for BCMANR to identify MTK related to



Harvesting, technical support of MNBC Biologists and community meetings; the MTK project is expected to commence in early December with hiring and training of community interviewers. The next Enbridge MCP Team meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 2010. The next priority is to develop a workplan for Community communications and engagement.

A funding agreement to participate in the environmental review for the Mount Milligan Mine project in north central BC; the project which includes: forming a Métis Consultation Project Team (MCP Team), review of the project proposal for a Mine, Power line and road, collection of Traditional knowledge and community meetings. The project has been delayed a few weeks by late arrival of funding, however, will now likely start in early December with the selection of the Mount Milligan MCP Team. The MCP Team will then be tasked with setting a schedule for the project. This project will include Fort St. James and Prince George communities.

The MNBC / Denali Canada project to undertake activities around the proposed Denali pipeline project in northeastern BC has provided resources to assist MNBC to hire a consultation/resource person. This project will be part of the responsibilities of the new Natural Resource Consultation Coordinator to be hired at MNBC.

MNBC, BCMANR and UBC-Okanagan will start an exciting new research project in November/December that will assess the impact of Métis harvesting on individuals and families through an intensive survey of harvest activities and the impacts on fitness, social, and mental health of harvesters and their families. This project is expected to support the MNBC assertion that government restrictions on Métis harvesting have a negative effect on our health and wellbeing. Dr. Mike Evans, Dr. Peter Hutchinson, Ministry Staff and BCMANR are participants in the project.

The BCMANR policy committee met in late November to review the MNBC *Natural Resource Act*. This review is part of the process to insure the *Act* is working as intended and to assess whether resolutions of amendment are required for submission to the MNGA.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, HERITAGE & LANGUAGE

MNBC coordinated the cultural entertainment for the Métis National Council Annual General Assembly held in Vancouver on November 21 and 22. Entertainers included: Rene Therrien & Keith Hill, the Lamoreaux's and Summer Sage. The MC for the evening event was Henry Hall.

The Culture, Heritage and Language Ministry continue to assist the Métis Youth of BC to implement their plan to bring the LearnMichif.com project under their control and management.

The Ministry will be developing proposals for submission to Canadian Heritage funding programs for 1) local festivals, 2) anniversaries [for 1810/11, 1835/36, 1860/61, 1885/86, 1910/11 and 3) a

Legacy project to commemorate a significant Métis person; the next application deadline is still a ways off (April 2010); however, the Director is looking for community input so that we can be sure



to have winning proposals prepared on time. Proposals will be for activities that are planned for September 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.

Send your ideas to: gducommun@mNBC.ca

The Ministry is looking to develop a Métis Culture resource kit(s) for loan to schools who are undertaking Métis Cultural and History projects or programs. We are looking for articles to build the kits. If anyone has HBC blankets, old traps, furs, stretcher boards, beadwork, buckskin or other items of Métis memorabilia and would consider sharing it with children and youth around the province please contact the Director. MNBC currently has a request from a Métis high school teacher in the Northern British Columbia and is developing a kit to assist with the project being developed there.

The Significant Métis Sites map on the BC Métis Mapping Project will soon be under the direction of the Ministry of CH&L. This site has not been well developed since it was constructed. It is the intent to update the site by identifying Métis Heritage Sites; Métis homestead sites, sites of significant events and areas of cultural importance. The Ministry is actively searching for funding sources to support cultural events, language initiatives and Métis heritage site development.

MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

The **Métis Skills and Employment Centre (MSEC) in Abbotsford** has completed an intake of Carpentry Level 1 that started September and ended in October 2009. Currently there is an intake of Carpentry Level taking place until Dec 11th. Carpentry 2 class will commence in January 2010. Designation has been officially received from ITA for level 2. To date there has been 80 students supported this fiscal year in MSEC programming. We congratulate all our students on your achievements this year.

The Beyond the Barriers – Returning to Employment is a 12-14 week program of all inclusive skills building targeting clients with barriers. This includes essential skills support, a scaled version of CORE including all the safety certifications, an intro to culinary and hospitality including all certifications, and finally placement and practicum with Job Coach support. MNBC marketed the program to the Nation, and service providers. The first intake started November 23rd with 25 eager students and will end in March 2010

The response has been very positive and requests for seats have been high. The first class will be comprised mostly from participants located in the Lower Mainland, however we have received a very high response from the rest of the province and will be working on the second intake as a “provincial” intake for clients. One difficulty for this intake for out of town clients would have been the Olympics and housing, this will not be an issue in the next on in March/ April.

BladeRunners

The province Ministry of Advanced education is taking over the BladeRunners program for interior BC from ACCESS and we have a contribution agreement for 35 clients for November 09 to November 2010 for our Prince George program. It was recently announced by the Ministry of



Advanced Education that BladeRunners program would be supported for the next 5 years for 15 million dollars

MNBC will soon launch a Bladerunners program in Abbotsford/ Mission. This has been long requested by ACCESS and with our expanded facilities we now can provide a learning space for a program. Indications are there is a great need for youth at risk in the Mission - Abbotsford area.

MHRDA post 2010 / Aboriginal Skills Employment Training Strategy (ASETS) – meetings continue with provincial Métis organizations and the federal government. The program will be finalized and started by April 1st. This should give MNBC uninterrupted Employment and Training service.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH

The Minister of Youth is pleased to announce that the Department of Canadian Heritage has given a six-year extension to the Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centers initiative (UMAYC), now renamed Cultural Connections for Aboriginal Youth. The Ministry of Youth will be notifying all Métis Chartered Communities once they issue the Call for Proposal for 2010/2011.

If you have a UMAC project that is taking place in your community, please contact the Director of Youth, Colette Trudeau, with the date(s) of your event, as UMAC project monitoring is a key deliverable in the initiative.

The Ministry of Youth and Métis Youth British Columbia (MYBC) are excited to announce that they are searching for a new logo to represent their name change. The objective is to create a logo that accurately represents the Métis Youth of British Columbia as part of Métis Nation British Columbia. The logo will include Métis Nation British Columbia and the MYBC name. Please submit your logo idea to the Director of Youth, Colette Trudeau at: ctrudeau@mnbc.ca. All entries must be submitted by January 31, 2010. The entry you submit must be original and not a copy that may be subject to copyright laws. Top entries will be recognized on the MNBC Youth Website and the winning logo will be found on all documents, websites, etc involved with MYBC.

The Ministry of Youth is also pleased to announce that the LearnMichif.com project has been funded for one more year. This year's project will consist of Youth recording their interviews with Elders from their own communities and posting the interviews on the website. The Ministry of Youth hopes that the project will help preserve and teach Youth the Michif language by enabling them to recognize their own elders from their respective communities across the Province. MYBC also hopes to include children's lessons, which will be the first of its kind.

Recently, MYBC held a writing contest where youth submitted short stories or poems to win a Roots backpack and be featured on the Youth Celebration portion of the MNBC website. The

Ministry of Youth has submitted the four Finalists to the Whispering Winds Magazine and will announce and showcase the successful applicant on their website.



The Ministry of Youth is looking for talented, up and coming Youth that are doing something great in your communities. The goal is to feature these Youth under the “Youth Celebration” portion on the Youth MNBC website. This will be continuous throughout the year, so please keep your eyes and ears open for any up and coming Métis Youth.

MYBC is currently working on growing the Provincial Youth Database. This is a key tool for Métis Youth across B.C. to stay connected to Youth contests, events, the Annual Youth Meeting, scholarship opportunities and more! The Provincial Youth Database is currently under construction on the MNBC Youth page. Please contact Director of Youth, Colette Trudeau for the application form at this time: ctrudeau@mNBC.ca

MINISTRY OF SPORT

ASRPAPC- Aboriginal Sports, Recreation, Physical Activity Partners Council met recently to discuss new strategies to coordinate efforts as to ensure that physical activity remains a priority and continues as a supportive means to greater overall health and well-being. ASRPAPC continues to strategize and plan for the launch once funding is confirmed.

KidSport 2009 \$200 Grants available to help kids get involved!

The cost of organized sports can be a barrier to participation and limit the choices for some families. With the help of dedicated supporters, KidSport™ works to fulfill its mission of eliminating the financial barriers to sport participation, “So All Kids Can Play!” Kids have the opportunity to reach their highest potential when they have access to physical activity, which can positively impact physical health, development of social skills, self-esteem, and friendships. Established by Sport BC in 1993, KidSport™ is a community-based sport funding program that provides grants for children aged 6 to 18 to participate in a sport season of their choice. For more information and to apply please follow the email link:

http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/index.php?page=british_columbia_welcome

ATHLETES! Please share your story, and motivate others! - MNBC’s Ministry of Sport will be sharing the accomplishments of Métis Athletes on our website and in quarterly editions of Kiwetin’s Whispering Winds. MNBC’s Sport and Health Ministry recognizes that organized sport has a positive influence on our Youth. Mental wellness has been linked to regular physical activity and organized (or team) sports; youth that are physically active are more likely to succeed in school and have greater self confidence, thus more likely to resist drugs, alcohol and harmful tobacco use.

To share your story, please include a brief write-up and two or three good quality digital pictures. Please contact tdavoren@mNBC.ca if you have any questions.



MINISTRY FOR HEALTH

ActNow Program - The ActNow participant survey input is now complete and we begin the next step of interim reporting for the ActNow evaluation process. Tresley Tourond-Bouvier as Health and Sport Program Assistant has been instrumental in the evaluation process and she has worked diligently on both the Leader and Participant surveys. We as a team would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication to MNBC's Health Ministry.

MNBC's Ministry of Health would like to sincerely thank everyone who participated in the surveys; your input is most valued and it is crucial to informing future programming opportunities in our Health Ministry.

Director of Health, Tanya Davoren will be presenting MNBC's ActNow program as a best practice for Métis Communities at the National Aboriginal Health Organization's (NAHO) Health Conference in Ottawa, November 24-26th. The DVD "A Step at a Time: Making Strides to Better Health" will be showcased to over 700 delegates at the Health Conference.

Métis Princess makes early appearance ☺

Tresley was to start Maternity leave on December 11th, but went into early labour on Monday, November the 23rd and delivered a "little" baby girl named Jovie. Jovie Reese arrived 6 weeks early at 4lbs 8.25oz, 17.25 inches long, she is doing very well at the NeoNatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and getting stronger everyday. We wish Tresley, Jovie and Derek all the best!

H1N1 Information

<http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/kbaltindex.asp>

H1N1 vaccination is now readily available for the general public. Call HealthLink BC at 811 to talk to a nurse about when and where you and your family can get your H1N1 shots.

A third wave is predicted so to stay healthy, remain diligent in good hygiene preventative measures.

Prevention is the best medicine:

- *Wash hands often if a sink is not available use [hand sanitizer](#),
- *Keep common surfaces disinfected,
- *Cough and sneeze into your arm (elbow), instead of your hand,
- *If you are sick, stay home until your symptoms are gone and you feel well enough to participate in all activities,
- *If you get flu-like symptoms and are pregnant, have underlying health problems or if your symptoms get worse, contact your health care provider.

www.fightflu.ca

More H1N1 information can be found on the Health page at www.mnbc.ca



Aboriginal Health Transition Fund

Our five part-time Regional Health Coordinators have been working very hard to advance Métis health in your area Health Authorities.

The following are updates from your Regional Health Coordinators in your area:

Vancouver Island Regional Health Coordinator (Vancouver Island Health Authority)

Romy Pritchard, Cell: 250-896-2786, Email: rpritchard@mNBC.ca

*Métis Chartered Communities in the Vancouver Island Health Authority and include North Island Métis Association, Miki'siw Métis Association, Mid-Island Métis Nation, Cowichan Valley Métis Nation, Alberni Clayquot Métis Association, Métis Nation Greater Victoria

In this reporting period two more patient referrals were accepted. One centred on supporting a palliative care patient in researching his family genealogy. The other referral was to support a mother of a young man who is homeless and wanting to make changes in his substance use.

New planning is underway for the remaining Wellness Days and Women's Breast and Cervical Cancer Workshops. The dates for these workshops for Cowichan Valley, Mid-Island, Miki'siw, and North Island will hopefully be set by Christmas.

A Health Screening Clinic was provided this month at the North Island and Miki'siw Metis Associations at their combined Louis Riel Celebration and Christmas Dinner. It was great to see many people attending, celebrating and also taking interest in the screening clinic.

The VIHA Aboriginal Health Initiative Program Funding grant information has been released. A review of this document and requirements for submitting proposals has been undertaken to support any Chartered Community on the Island in submitting a proposal. For further information please contact Romy Pritchard at 250-896-2786.

Greater Vancouver Regional Health Coordinator (Vancouver Coastal Health Authority)

Holly Tennant, Cell: 604-454-8163, Email: htennant@mNBC.ca

*Métis Chartered Communities in the Vancouver Region include the Vancouver Métis Cultural Society and Holly is also working with the Provincial Health Services Authority

During the month of November, in the Greater Vancouver Health Ministry region, progress was made toward securing funding for the upcoming Métis Women's Health Conference. Proposals for funding were submitted to Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Healthy Living Program, VCHA Aboriginal Health Initiative Program (AHIP), and British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association Physical Activity Strategy. Grant monies received will be used for gatherings, such as the Women's Health Conference, and other local Community health programming.



MNBC Ministry of Health is taking action in addressing food security issues for Métis people. To that end, The Regional Health Coordinator participated in two training sessions at Vancouver Food Bank, which prepared participants to facilitate food preservation workshops. If you have an interest in canning food, or would like to participate in a workshop, please contact Holly Tennant at htennant@mNBC.ca. This Regional Health Coordinator is also being certified this month with Food Safe Level 1, thereby qualifying our staff and organized groups of Citizens to use fully equipped Vancouver Community Kitchen facilities free of charge.

In November, this MNBC Regional Health Coordinator was also invited to attend the Vancouver Métis Cultural Society AGM, to hold a health screening clinic and hand out Métis recipe books and other informational materials.

Lower Mainland Regional Health Coordinator (Fraser Health Authority)

Tim St. Denis, Cell: 604-341-9216, Email: tstdenis@mNBC.ca

*Métis Chartered Communities in the Lower Mainland Region include North Fraser Métis Association, Nova Métis Heritage Association, Waceyá Métis Society, Fraser Valley Métis Association, and Chilliwack Métis Association.

The H1N1 pandemic has made it necessary for me to test the relationship I have built with the Fraser Health Authority. It has become an issue that, although FHA did not declare Aboriginal people to be “at risk”, they did note that they were attending to the needs of Aboriginals. The issue became one where many flu clinics were set up on First Nation lands where many Metis were uncomfortable visiting. Fraser Health Authority was very gracious in helping to map out clinics that would service Aboriginals off First Nations land. As of November 18, 2009 all flu immunization clinics within the boundaries of the FHA will accept Metis as a priority for H1N1 flu vaccination. For a location near you log on to <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/flu/>. I have sent updates to the Chartered Communities and will continue to do so. Should any Metis citizen be turned away please contact me personally at tstdenis@mNBC.ca

The Health Team attended a training seminar on the topic of Traditional Health at the Metis Skills and Employment Centre in Abbotsford. We were taught about smudging and purification rites, sacred ceremonies, the medicine wheel, sweat lodge protocol, meditation, tobacco and sacred cloth. We were also taught about the use of dried roots, herbs, flowers and fungi in the art of combining these. Both of the moderators were very informative. The spiritual moderator spoke well of his experiences and painted vivid mental pictures of seeing bright lights which scurried everywhere and left through the bushes. The spirits of his ancestors have visited him many times in a process he relates to quantum physics. We went through a meditation which was accompanied by a Cree story of creation.

I have been writing an article on Low Back Pain for the next issue of Whispering Winds. In 2006 a Metis Specific Survey was compiled whereby 3200 Metis households were asked a series of questions in order to analyze the needs of BC Metis. One category of questions pertained to health. It was no real surprise to me to find that 39.3% of the households surveyed had a family member



suffering from Chronic Back Pain. In my article I will be giving recommendations how to prevent back pain as a Chiropractor.

Chronic Disease Self-Management is a program whereby one can learn how to better manage their health while maintaining active lifestyle. It was derived from the Centre of Aging at the University of Victoria. I am attempting to set up a series of workshops at the Metis Employment Centre in Surrey and the new Metis Skills and Employment Centre in Abbotsford. We will be announcing training courses in the New Year.

I have also been traveling throughout the lower mainland to the Metis Chartered Communities to report to the members at their meetings. If the opportunity presents itself, I am always open to provide complimentary health screening.

Thompson / Okanagan and Kootenay Regional Health Coordinator (Interior Health Authority)
Gail Parenteau, Cell: 250-309-3101, Email: gparenteau@mNBC.ca

*Métis Chartered Communities in the Interior Region include Merritt District Métis Association, Métis Heritage and Cultural Council, Kelowna Métis Association, Salmon Arm Métis Association, Two Rivers Métis Society, Vernon District Métis Association, West Local, East Local, South Local, Central Local, Métis Nation Columbia River Society and Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Association.

Activities undertaken this past month are described below:

- Visited Vernon and District Métis Association and collected completed ActNow Participant Surveys and had the opportunity to introduce my position and answer inquiries.
- Attended Metis Nation British Columbia –Ministry of Health and Sport, Traditional Knowledge Training Session hosted at the Metis Skills and Employment Centre, in Abbotsford.
- Participated in, the October Interior Health Authority H1N1 teleconference; as a result, investigated if there were any Flu Immunization Clinics available for Metis and Urban Aboriginal people with-in the Thompson Okanagan Kootenay region, found that Métis hosted or even co-hosted Flu Immunization Clinics were non-existent within this Health Coordinators region. Through discussions I have been advised and assured that our Metis Citizens as well as off-reserve First Nations individuals will be given the recognition of belonging to the H1N1 “high risk” population and will be able to receive their inoculation in a timely manner at the Public Health Inoculation Clinics throughout Interior Health Region. I have initiated plans for a co-hosted Metis Flu Immunization Clinic and am awaiting Interior Health Authority confirmation.
- Conducted a Health Check clinic at, North-Local Golden Invermere/Métis Nation Columbia River, -Chartered Metis Community. Introduced my Health Coordinator position to those gathered and answered inquiries.
- Attended Interior Health Authority, Aboriginal Health and Wellness Plan 2010-2014, Focus Group for Mental Health and Addiction.



- Participated in two Aboriginal Health and Wellness Advisory Council teleconferences focusing on Direct Service and AHIP funding and preparing to announce the call for funding proposals for AHIP dollars in the very near future.
- Visited the Louis Riel Day open-house at the BC Metis Community Services office in Kelowna.
- Attended “Let’s Talk About Addictions” a regional conference held in Kamloops, focused on Process Addictions such as technology, gaming, gambling, and shopping.

Time was also spent:

- Finalizing initial contact and information gathering with the Métis Chartered Communities within the Thompson Okanagan Kootenay.
- Networking with; Métis Citizens and potential collaborators for Métis Health and Wellness events.
- Gathering and preparing proposal funding information.
- Assisting Métis Citizens with Health Education inquiries.

North Central, Northwest and Northeast Regional Health Coordinator (Northern Health Authority)

Sandra Conlon, Cell: 250-631-2003, Email: sconlon@mnbca.ca

*Métis Chartered Communities in the Northern Region include Prince George Métis Association, New Caledonia Métis Association, North Cariboo Métis Association, North West BC Métis Association, Northwest Métis Association, Tri-River Métis Association, Fort St John Métis Society, Red River Métis Society, Northern Rockies Métis Society, Moccasin Flats Métis Society and the North East Métis Association.

Health Partners that this Regional Health Coordinator is working with:

- University of Northern British Columbia Northwest - Aboriginal Coordinator: Nursing and Education Programs
- Dental Access Fund Committee
- Anti-Poverty Society
- Patient Care Quality Review Board Presentation
- BC Cancer Agency Northern Lead
- Northern Health Aboriginal Program Team Prince George
- Yellowhead Emergency Shelter Opening

Métis Chartered Community engagement and collaboration

- New Caledonia Métis Association Health Screening
- Northwest British Columbia Métis Association AGM and Health Screening
- Terrace Métis Elders Potluck Luncheon and Health Screening
- Connected with several Aboriginal Health Improvement Representatives
- Communication with Chartered Communities regarding Northern Health Authority Aboriginal Health Improvement Grants
- Communication with Chartered Métis Communities regarding H1N1
- Dialogue with Northern Health Authority about Métis access to H1N1 immunizations



- Distributed and collected ActNow Participant Surveys
- Participated in Centre for Mental Health and Addictions [CAMH] *Seminars Using Strength Based Approaches with Aboriginal Youth and Cultural Identity*
- Planned for health involvement in Métis youth workshops including Stress Reduction Workshops
- Encouraged community participation in Chronic Pain Self-Management Program Leader Training Programs

A significant highlight of this month was the time, along with fellow members of the MNBC Health Team, which I spent with Elders Annie Johnson and Tom McCallum in Abbotsford. The experience was educational, inspirational and motivational, giving me a renewed understanding of the important perspective inherent in traditional and holistic teachings.

Chronic Disease Surveillance Program (CDS) – Program Manager Dr Peter Hutchinson, phutchinson@mNBC.ca. Cell: 250-215-0190

After another month of working in partnership with the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport Aboriginal Division to complete and sign the data sharing agreement and finalize the consent form we are still awaiting final approval on both documents. Métis Nation British Columbia is well prepared to move forward with the data linking project, the envelopes are basically waiting to be filled with consent forms, information brochures and personal information update cards. The Métis Nation British Columbia Senate has approved the consent form and the informational brochures. Once the British Columbia government approves the consent the Métis Nation British Columbia legal council will review the consent form and then we will be able to move forward with gaining consent from each individual Métis Citizen.

In an effort to increase the knowledge of Métis peoples experience with cancer we are also developing a partnership with the BC Cancer Agency registry. Over the last month the CDS Program Manager has begun identifying the information held by the BC Cancer Agency Registry that could inform a research partnership. And has been working with BC Cancer Agency Registry staff to complete the agreement that will outline what information is shared and how that information will used.

The CDS Program Manager is also in discussion with the McCreary Centre Society, “a small non-profit organization concerned with the health of young people in British Columbia.” These discussions are meant to inform a partnership that would increase the information on the health and well-being of Métis youth in British Columbia. This information will come from the surveys that have been administered by the McCreary Centre. We will also explore opportunities to inform future surveys and to increase Métis youth participation in the surveys.

The CDS Program Manager also presented at Statistics Canada Aboriginal Strategies Conference in Edmonton, AB. The presentation was a description of the data matching project and identification of barriers to matching data. The presentation was well received and provided an opportunity to network with other agencies that are contemplating or currently involved in similar work. There was also identification of alternative strategies to access the data.



Other work the CDS Program Manager was involved in included; statistical support to MNBC staff, proposal writing and discussions for the planning of a women's health conference to be hosted by MNBC, refining questions for interviews with Métis people and service providers on the use of statistical information, completed 2nd quarter reporting for the Public Health Agency of Canada funding for the CDS data matching program, and a continued investigation of the privacy legislation and interpretations as they pertain to the goals and mandates of the MNBC.

Angel Fisher – Part time Health Registry Clerk.

For the month of November I worked on the task of entering maiden names of female Citizens of Métis Nation British Columbia into the MNBC database and alphabetize the filing. Since the last update I have also attended the Traditional Knowledge Training which was held at our new school in Abbotsford. This month I have worked on calling Citizens who were sent a Health mail out for the Vancouver Island and Lower Mainland and had returned mail, by doing this it will benefit for future mail outs to have updated Citizen information. I also worked with entering some Act Now surveys and learning the procedures for Health Travel Expenses.

Thank you for reading through all the many exciting things happening with Métis Health. If you have any questions regarding the Métis Public Health Surveillance Program (MPHSP) please do not hesitate to contact: Program Manager Dr Peter Hutchinson, phutchinson@mNBC.ca 250-215-0190 or myself Director of Health, Tanya Davoren, tdavoren@mNBC.ca at 250-308-7920. Peter and

I anticipate that information and consent forms will be mailed out in December, if not in the first few weeks of the New Year!

MNBC CENTRALIZED REGISTRY

Application Processing Time:

Current application processing time is approximately six (6) months.

Application processing time does fluctuate from between four (4) to (10) months over the course of a fiscal year.

Statistical Reporting Refinement Update:

Please see attached statistical report

West Coast and Southern BC Registry Clerks:

The Central Registry would like to welcome to the team Dianna Williams, Southern BC Registry Clerk. Dianna is based out of the Kamloops MRHDA office and is pleased to assist individuals with the Citizenship application process. Included below is her contact information:

Dianna Williams
Southern BC Registry Clerk
#208-444 Victoria Street
Kamloops, BC V2C 2A7
Phone: 250-320-7055
Email: dwilliams@mNBCregistry.ca



The Central Registry would like to welcome to the team Linnette Brockenborough, West Coast BC Registry Clerk. Linnette is based out of the Duncan MRHDA office and is pleased to assist individuals with the Citizenship application process. Included below is her contact information:

Linnette Brockenborough
West Coast BC Registry Clerk
#156 D Government Street
Duncan B.C. V9L 1A2
Phone: 250-310-7400
Email: lbrockenborough@mnbcregistry.ca

Citizenship Application File Archiving Reminder:

Due to the large volume of incomplete files, the Registry has implemented an archival process. Applicants with an inactive file for one (1) year or longer; will be contacted by the Registry Clerk with a final notification of the list of items that are required to complete their application. If the items are not received by the Clerk within thirty (30) days, the file is archived and forwarded to the Vancouver head office. If an applicant would like to re-start their application process in the future, they will need to supply a new application package. This has been very successful in prompting applicants to complete their files, as well; it has significantly reduced the number of inactive files housed with each Clerk. To date, the Central Registry has archived 1500 files.

Provincial Residency Policy Reminder:

Effective April 1, 2009, all new and existing applicants 18 years and older applying for a Métis Nation British Columbia citizenship card are required to provide proof of British Columbia residency. This residency must be established for a minimum of ninety (90) consecutive days immediately prior to the date of application. Any of the following documents will be accepted as proof of residency and must include the applicant's name and address:

- Current income support (social assistance) pay stub
- Current bills for BC residence (for 3 consecutive months) i.e.: Utility/telephone/cable/gas
- Current BC residential property tax bill
- Residential insurance; tenant insurance
- Residential rental or lease agreement
- School Registration or Report Card

The following documents are not accepted as proof of British Columbia Residency:

- Canadian immigration documentation
- Canadian citizenship certificate or permanent residency card
- Federal identification cards i.e.: RCMP, or Department of National Defense



- British Columbia driver's license
- Canadian passport
- Government employee identification cards
- Student identification cards
- Cheque cashing cards
- British Columbia care card
- Social Insurance Card

Intent of policy

This policy will be applicable to adult applicants over the age of 18 years and its purpose is to prevent individuals living outside of the province of British Columbia from being accepted by the MNBC Citizenship Registry.

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE REGARDING THE PROOF OF RESIDENCY POLICY:

Children under the age of 18 years will not be required to provide proof of residency. The report card or school attendance record will only apply to individuals over 18 (i.e. college students that may have no other proof of residency).

The Regional Registry Clerks have reported that the response to this change has been favorable over all. Applicants understand that this policy was implemented to protect the integrity of the Registry and this additional documentation requirement assists the staff in verifying that MNBC citizenship cards are issued only to individuals that are able to prove they are residents of the province of British Columbia.

Please contact your Regional Registry Clerk if you have questions regarding the Provincial Residency Policy.

Central Registry Policies and Procedures:

The Central Registry is currently in the process of developing a Central Registry Policies and Procedures manual this will be completed for Board of Directors review and approval mid-November 2009.

Harvesting Card Implementation:

The Central Registry continues to work with BCMANR to provide assistance with the processing of harvester card applications and card issuing.



Total Applicants to Date	
Approved Issued Cards	4530
Approved Pending Card Order	19
Approved Pending Community Acceptance	108
Active/Incomplete	1809
Pending	0
Deceased Citizen	27
Deceased Applicant	14
Deceased Total	41
Appeal Option Notification	158
Appeal in Progress	22
Appeal Decision in Favor of Applicant	0
Appeal Decision in Favor of Registry	27
Appeals Total	49
On Hold For Renewal	139
Moved Out of Province	38
Archived Files	1513
TOTAL	6652

INAC	
Registered	4
Not Registered	3935
Unconfirmed	4226
TOTAL	8165

Regional Breakdown: Being Worked On	
Kootenay	294
Lower Mainland	829
North Central	578
North East	262
North West	201
Thompson Okanagan	592
Vancouver Island	560
TOTAL	3316

Gender	
Male	4042
Female	4123
TOTAL	8165

Adult	
Male	3543
Female	3634
TOTAL	7177

Youth 10-15	
Male	258
Female	231
TOTAL	489

Youth 6-9	
Male	120
Female	115
TOTAL	235

Child 0-5	
Male	120
Female	140
TOTAL	260

No Birth Date Specified	
Male	2
Female	3
TOTAL	5

Regional Breakdown: Approved	
Kootenay	541
Lower Mainland	1051
North Central	861
North East	238
North West	351
Thompson Okanagan	838
Vancouver Island	669
TOTAL	4549



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CEO Malonie Langthorne and Minister responsible for Economic Development Dan Pope are currently working with OFI/INAC on various proposals to support the MNBC Ministry of Economic Development. A submission to support a part-time Industry Engagement position has been approved. Please check the MNBC website in January 2010 for job posting www.mnbc.ca.

MNBC has requested funds from OFI/INAC to support a week long Métis Festival to be held in Abbotsford BC at the Métis Skills and Employment Centre. This will provide an opportunity during the Olympics to showcase Métis Culture, and provide an event for Métis Artisans across BC to sell artwork, crafts, clothing, etc. MNBC will also be looking for food vendors, and volunteers. MNBC will be seeking a part time staff to market this event provincially. There will be admission to this event, as well as revenue generation through food sales, and table rentals. MNBC will be seeking partnerships with Industry, and Aboriginal Partners as well to sponsor and support this event. Future events could be held in other locations across the province, and the intent is for this Festival to be an annual event.

MNBC has also received 35k to assist with a draft five year Economic Development Strategy, a full time Director of Economic Development will be hired in 2010 to implement this strategy. A three year agreement is currently being negotiated with OFI/INAC for 150k per year over three years.

On December 15th-17th MNBC representatives 5 in total will be meeting in Calgary Alberta for a Métis Economic Development Symposium and Métis Economic Development Roundtable hosted by Minister Strahl. Please see the December 2009 Presidential Update for further information.

2010 WINTER GAMES UPDATE

Please see website under 2010 Site Live at www.mnbc.ca, more frequent updates will be sent out as the games are drawing near, these updates will be sent to communities and as well posted on the website.

At this time I would like to extend warm wishes to you and your families during the upcoming holiday season and wish you all a very safe and prosperous New Year. The New Year 2010 will mark a very exciting time for the MNBC and on behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff, thank you for your continued support!

Thank you

Bruce R. Dumont
President

Kishchee tey mo'yawn aen li Michif wi'yawn
(Proud to be Métis)

