Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund Inc.

2016 - 2017 Annual Report

A message from our Chair
Denise Thomas

Most of the issues that affect the Manitoba Metis Community today are matters we can all relate to. They range from housing shortages and homelessness problems to medical issues that afflict our generations, such as diabetes and cancer. However, there continues to be the need to educate Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples alike on the Metis people and our distinct culture and heritage. While the most recent Supreme Court decisions have brought more awareness and a desire to learn the history of the Metis, we continue to struggle every day to create a platform from which the issues of the Metis people are heard and understood.

Today, the Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund (MMHF) strives to do more to improve the journey of the Metis Community. This past year was dedicated to developing our internal operations and communications planning. We have established a software program that allows the MMHF to streamline our process of constituent data, gifts and donations. With our commitment to the Manitoba Metis Community, volunteers and donors, we will continue our progress towards our vision of enhancing lives for all Metis in Manitoba.

Over the past year the MMHF has worked towards insuring the first annual gala event, “A Night to Remember” on May 12, 2017 is a success. All proceeds from the event will go toward the Children’s Hospital Foundation in support of the Translating Emergency Room Knowledge for Kids (TREKK) program. With the support of the MMF, numerous volunteers, donors, sponsors and through the help of our partner, the Children’s Hospital Foundation, we anticipate the night to be a success.

It is our mission to support the citizens of the Manitoba Metis community by raising charitable funds in order to enhance their lives. This support includes the delivery of programs and services such as housing, youth, education, human resources, and economic development.

As we continue to grow and advance in the charity world, as the Chair for the Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund, I could not be more confident and proud in the abilities and commitment of our organization and our volunteers to grow with us and advance the needs of the Metis.

MMHF Board of Directors

Denise Thomas, Chairperson

Denise Thomas is currently the active chair for the MMHF. Denise was born and raised on a small farm near Inwood, Manitoba to Edgar and Madeleine Sanderson. She resides in Grand Marais, Manitoba. Denise has two sons, Randal and Byron and five grandchildren. She enjoys spending time with her grandchildren. Denise has served 10 consecutive terms on the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) Board of Directors, having served two years as Board of Director and 24 years as Vice-President. She currently serves as the Minister for the Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations Department at the MMF and is the Associate Minister for Land Claims.

John Fleury, Board of Director

John Fleury is currently an active Board of Director for the MMHF. John is a veteran, having served four and a half years in the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry First Battalion. He has been happily married for 39 years to his wife Barbara, and together they raised five children and four grandchildren, with another on the way. In addition to being a Board of Director for the MMHF, John has been a member of the MMF Board of Directors since his election in March 2000. Previously, John served on several boards within the MMF, including Child and Family Services and the Metis Justice Institute. John is the current Minister of Metis Employment & Training, as well as a member of both the Executive Policy Committee and the Provincial Advisory Committee.

Andrew Carrier, Board of Director

Andrew Carrier is currently an active Board of Director for the MMHF. Andrew is a dedicated Metis professional, having over 30 years of experience in social work and human resource management; he provides leaderships and guidance to the Manitoba Metis Community. In addition to being a Board of Director for the MMHF, Andrew is the current Minister of Pemmican Publications, as well as Minister of Michif Languages & Residential Schools. He is also Associate Minister of Economic Development and is part of the Strategic Planning & Policy Committee.

Our Mission

To support the citizens of the Manitoba Metis Community by raising charitable funds in order to enhance their lives. This support includes the delivery of programs and services such as housing, youth, education, human resources, and economic development.

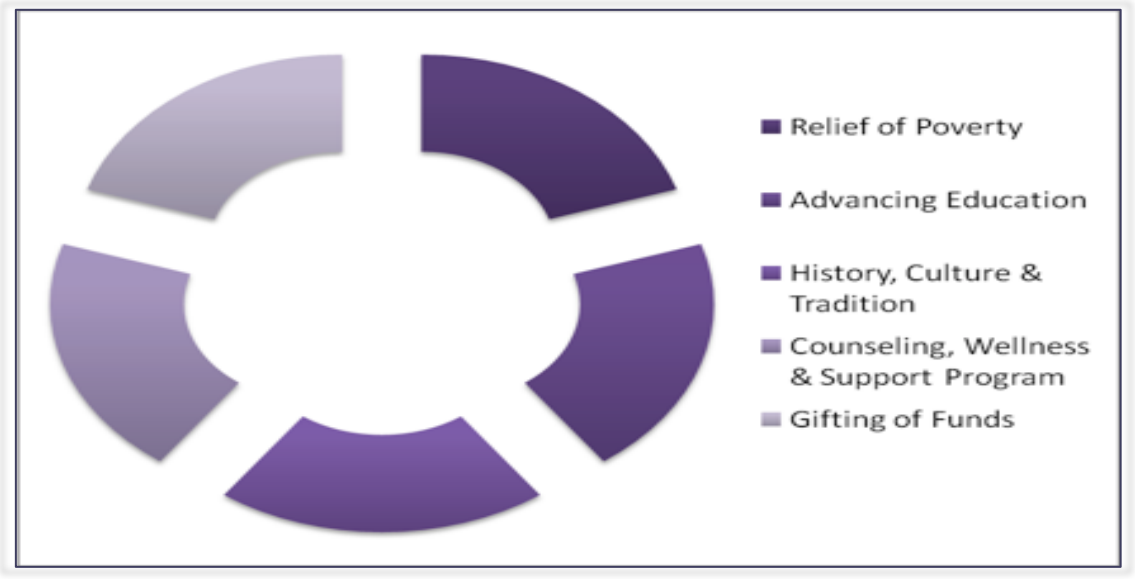
History

The Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund Inc. (MMHF) is the registered charitable organization of the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF). The MMHF officially became a recognized Canadian Charity in 1988 and continues to operate as the charitable arm of the MMF till this day. In 2007 the MMHF re-registered its name and purposes to align with the newly established mission and vision of the charity.

The MMHF follows and respects its organizational purposes set forth by its Board of Directors and as outlined in the charities' incorporation documents which is governed by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). All activities and partnerships are vetted through the MMHF purposes to ensure compliance.

The MMHF purposes are as follows:

- To relieve poverty by providing basic amenities and counselling assistance to economically disadvantaged Metis people and families;
- To advance education by providing independently and/or in conjunction with other qualified donees, scholarships, skills and vocational training. And other academic programs and educational materials, for the benefit of economically disadvantaged Metis people;
- To educate the public on the history, customs, traditions and language of the Metis people;
- To benefit the community by providing education, counselling, wellness programs and support services to Aboriginal people;
- To gift funds to qualified donees as defined in subsection 149.1(1) of the *Income Tax Act*.



Save the Date postcard for the first annual MMHF fundraiser "A Night to Remember".

Membership

In the 2016/2017 fiscal year the MMHF utilized every opportunity to discuss the benefits and purposes of becoming a member of the charity. The MMHF attended various events that are held every year through the MMF. This allows the MMHF to inform and meet individuals from across Manitoba with limited expense.

The MMHF attends the seven regional meetings hosted by the independent regional arms of the MMF. This opportunity allows the MMHF to reach out to people that live in rural areas that would normally not be reachable through other means of communication.

During the meetings Metis citizens are invited to visit the MMHF booth to learn more about the organization, its purposes, activities and community involvement. Individuals are encouraged to fill out a membership form to receive further information regarding the MMHF, in addition to any donation they may or may not wish to contribute.

Further to the Regional meetings, the MMHF also attends the MMF Annual General Assembly (AGA) where over 3000 Metis citizens come together. This venue allows the MMHF the ability to reach those individuals who may not get the opportunity to attend the regional meetings. Last year the MMHF registered more than 100 people at the 2016 AGA.

Information acquired through the membership drives are then taken back and entered into the MMHF database, where they are contacted for notifications on events, fundraisers, activities, and chances to win prizes. Today the MMHF is pleased to announce that the organization has over 300 members. It is the membership that makes the MMHF events and activities successful, without the commitment of these individuals the MMHF would not succeed in making change. The MMHF looks forward to many more opportunities to meet potential members and to continue to make a positive impact in the Metis community.

Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund Inc.

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Manitoba Metis Heritage Fund

Mission Statement

The mission of the Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund Inc. (the "Fund") is to support the people of the Manitoba Metis Nation by raising charitable funds in order to enhance their lives. This support includes the delivery of programs and services in areas such as housing, youth, education, human resources, and economic development.

Registration and Privacy Statement Form

Applicant Information (please print or type)
Title, Name:
Mailing Address:
City, Province, Postal Code:
Phone 1 | Phone 2
Fax | Email
Please indicate your preferred method of contact: _____ Would you like to be notified about upcoming events: YES or NO

Confidentiality Notice

By signing this Registration and Privacy Statement Form, you acknowledge that you have read the attached Privacy Statement of the Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund Inc., and consent to the use of your personal data and information as set out therein, including but not limited to the right of the Fund to contact and share your personal data and information with the Manitoba Metis Federation Inc.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for joining the Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund

For more information on the Manitoba Métis Heritage Fund please contact:

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