

# The *Riel* Scoop

MÉTIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024

## *Looking* Ahead

UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES



### **CLOSED FOR LABOUR DAY**

Monday, September 02, 2024

**Our office will be Closed** for holidays on Monday, September 02, 2024 for Labour Day. 🍁 We hope you have a wonderful long weekend!

We will be back in the office on Tuesday, September 03, 2024, with regular office hours.



### **MÉTIS HERO TERRY FOX**

Sunday, September 15, 2024

Many Canadians know the inspiring story of Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope, but did you know that this Canadian hero is Métis? ∞

Darrell Fox, Terry's younger brother, proudly shares that their family only discovered their Métis heritage after the passing of their grandmother, Mary Ann Gladue, in 2001. Since then, they have been rediscovering and embracing their Métis roots, gaining a deeper understanding of their family legacy. 🌿



Genealogical research revealed that their ancestors were bison hunters from the Red River communities of St. Norbert and St. Francis Xavier in Manitoba. 🐾 Their family fled to the United States during the Red River Resistance in 1869-70, but their Métis spirit remains strong.

Every year, we celebrate Terry Fox Day to honor his remarkable Marathon of Hope, where ran over 3,000 miles despite losing a leg to cancer. His goal was to fund cancer research and find a cure. Terry's legacy continues to inspire us all, reminding us of the power of dedication, hope, and community. 🏃❤️

## KAIROS BLANKET EXERCISE

Friday, September 27th, 2024

### LIMITED ATTENDANCE | EMAIL US TO RSVP

Join us for an enlightening workshop dedicated to truth, healing, and reconciliation for the past, and justice for the present. It's a powerful step towards decolonization, fostering respect and understanding among Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

**When:** Friday, September 27, 2024, 1:00 pm

**Where:** Multi Recreational Centre Field House, Slave Lake

**RSVP:** [region5@metis.org](mailto:region5@metis.org)



## UNVEILING OF OUR NEW MONUMENT

Friday, September 27, 2024

Join us on September 27th at 10:00 am for a profoundly meaningful event as Métis District 21 reveals **Petohte Niikinahk - Coming Home**, a monument dedicated to honoring the survivors and victims of the Indian residential schools in the Lesser Slave Lake Territory. ❤️

We invite all to join us in this important ceremony as we remember, honor, and support our community.

In advance of National Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30th, this unveiling is a moment to reflect on the painful legacy of Canada's Indigenous residential schools.



Together, we honor the children who never made it home, the survivors, their families, and those who continue to seek justice and healing. This monument will stand as a symbol of remembrance, resilience, and our collective journey towards healing and unity.

**Date:** September 27, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 am

**Location:** Town of Slave Lake Office Courtyard, #10 Main Street SW, Slave Lake

**Who:** Everyone is invited to attend

## FREE MOVIE SHOWING: INDIAN HORSE

Saturday, September 28th, 2024, 2pm

**September 28th, 2024, FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!**

Come join us at the Rex Theatre in Slave Lake to watch an adaptation of Ojibway writer Richard Wagamese's award-winning novel Indian Horse. Please bring a non-perishable food item donation for the Food Bank. Check with the Rex Theatre for matinee show time. \*\*Must purchase your own concession items.

**Rated PG** in Alberta along with **content warnings** such as physical and sexual abuse, racism, and the ongoing trauma and impact of Canada's residential school system, all of which may be triggering and difficult for viewers.



🗨️ **Synopsis of Indian Horse:**

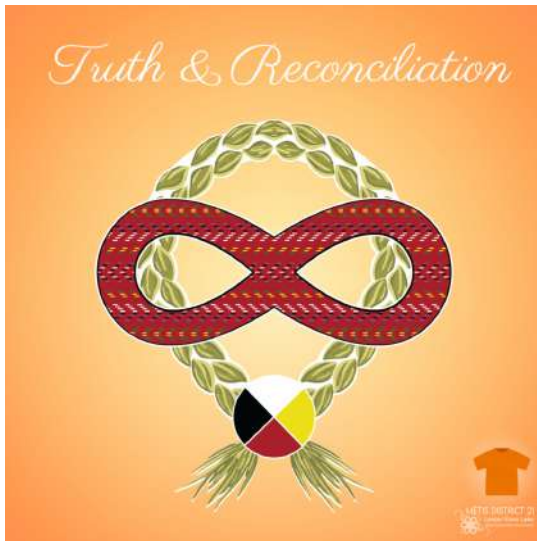
"..In the late 1950's Ontario, eight-year-old Saul Indian Horse is torn from his Ojibway family and committed to one of the notorious Catholic Residential Schools. In this oppressive environment, Saul is denied the freedom to speak his language or embrace his Indigenous heritage while he

witnesses horrendous abuse at the hands of the very people entrusted with his care. Despite this, Saul finds salvation in the unlikelyst of places and favourite winter pastime -- hockey. Fascinated by the game, he secretly teaches himself to play, developing a unique and rare skill. He seems to see the game in a way no other player can."

Visit this link to learn more about the film: <https://www.indianhorse.ca/en>

## CLOSED FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION DAY

Monday, September 30, 2024



Our office will be closed on Monday, September 30, 2024, and will resume regular business hours on October 01, 2024. We appreciate your support as we take the time to honour and remember both the children who were lost and the survivors of residential schools.

Let's unite in reflection today It is National Truth and Reconciliation: A time to recognize the painful legacy of Canada's Indigenous residential schools, striving for healing, understanding, and unity.

Every Child Matters is an important movement advocating for Indigenous children's rights, fostering change, and paying tribute to those impacted by the residential school system.

May this weekend touch the hearts of Canadians nationwide, inspiring reflection on the movement dedicated to advocating for Indigenous children's rights, driving change, and honoring those affected by the residential school system.





## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT SLAVE LAKE LOCAL #19

The Slave Lake Local #19 Métis will host a regular meeting on Monday, October 07, 2024. The details of the meeting are located below. 🦅

Please note this meeting is not a part of the Métis District #21, but is organized and run by the Slave Lake Local #19 Métis. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Shane Combs, President of the Slave Lake Local #19 at 780-849-9312.

**DATE:** Monday, October 07, 2024

**TIME:** 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Métis District #31 Office, #353 Main Street North, Slave Lake



# *Metis* Youth & Children ∞

## HUNTERS EDUCATION

2024

Hunting is essential to the Métis way of life and passing knowledge down from one generation to the next preserves our culture and traditions.

The Youth Department offers Hunter's Education courses online and is available to Métis youth ages 12-29 across Alberta!

**Want to register?** Contact Kristen at [kacuna@metis.org](mailto:kacuna@metis.org) or register online **HERE:**  
**<https://vist.ly/3gqeq>**



**HUNTER'S  
EDUCATION**

Ethics.  
Conservation.  
Survival.  
**REGISTER ONLINE!**

# Digital Community

CONNECTION



## MÉTIS CITIZEN SUCCESS STORY FROM OUR DISTRICT

# WALTER ANDREEFF

Métis Citizen Success  
Stories from District 21

“

Walter was honored by Otipemisiwak Métis Government President Andrea Sandmaier 🇺🇸 for **his outstanding contributions to the Self-Government Transition Committee.**

**Walter is a key figure in the Indigenous Advisory Committee,** where he ensures that our Indigenous voices and perspectives are heard and respected.

...represented our region in a live panel discussion at the **United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Montreal in 2022!** 🌍

**Read the whole success story in the description!**

MÉTIS DISTRICT 21  
Lesser Slave Lake  
Otipemisiwak Métis Government

### 📌 Celebrating Walter Andreeff: A Métis Change Maker 🇺🇸

We are incredibly proud to shine a spotlight on our amazing team member, and Métis District 21 citizen, Walter Andreeff! ❤️

Walter has been with Métis District 21 for six incredible years, and his dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed. Recently, at the Inaugural Citizens' Gathering, Walter was honored by Otipemisiwak Métis Government President Andrea Sandmaier 🏆 for his outstanding contributions to the Self-Government Transition Committee. His efforts, along with Knowledge Keeper Jamie Chalifoux, are making a significant impact as we move forward in our journey toward self-governance.

Beyond his work with us, Walter is a key figure in the Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Otipemisiwak Métis Nation of Alberta, where he ensures that our Indigenous voices and perspectives are heard and respected. His work in the Consultation Process for Lesser Slave Lake Métis Territory and on the Credible Assertion Report that is currently under review by the Province of Alberta highlights his commitment to protecting our Métis District 21 traditional lands, plants, and animals. 🐾🌱

Walter's dedication to our community doesn't stop there. He has been actively installing wildlife cameras to monitor the presence of Caribou in our Métis District 21 and District 22 and is a proud member of the National Boreal Caribou Knowledge Consortium (NBCKC). In fact, he even represented our region in a live panel discussion at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Montreal in 2022! 🌍

Walter is not just a passionate protector of our lands—he's also a loving father, a fun-filled friend, and an active member of Slave Lake Local #19 Métis. He's always ready to bring joy to our community, whether it's through his work or by playing the big jolly man in red at our Christmas parties. 🎅

In 2023, Walter was appointed to the Circle of Experts with the Government of Canada, contributing to developing Indigenous Cooperation Agreement Regulations and Policy. His work continues to open important conversations and pave the way for Indigenous rights-holders across Turtle Island (the traditional homelands of our nations).

**Thank you, Walter, for all you do. We are so fortunate to have you on our team and in our community.** 🙌❤️

**Do you know a Métis Success Story in our District that deserves celebration?** 🎉

## TELL US ABOUT OUR DISTRICT'S CITIZEN'S SUCCESS STORIES!

Do you know someone in our community who has a success story worth sharing? We want to hear about it! Whether it's a personal achievement, a career milestone, or a positive impact on our community, we want to celebrate the successes of our Métis citizens.

**Nominate or recommend someone for our Métis Success Stories feature by filling out the form linked below.** Share their inspiring journey with us! Share their inspiring journey with us!



**NOMINATE A SUCCESS**

[Click here to nominate someone, a team, or a business!](#)

## GET YOUR OWN DISTRICT 21 MERCHANDISE

∞ Come visit our Métis District 21 office during regular business hours to **purchase our new Sweatpants and our new children's Book "The Bear's Gift."** ❤️

∞ Our wonderful models Walter and Brenda are displaying our new District 21 Sweatpants.

🐻📖 Our new Children's Book based on a true story, "The Bear's Gift." Written and illustrated by the talented Angie, this enchanting story is perfect for young readers. ❤️ The books are \$20 each.



The Sweatpants are in limited quantity and in person on a first come first serve basis. The sweatpants are \$35 to \$40 based on size.

*Please note, that we can only accept cash payments at this time.*

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN FIELD WORK?

Our office is looking for fieldwork participants to join us in exploring and protecting our beautiful lands. 🌲 If you have some knowledge of local plants and game animals, and you're free during weekdays in September, this could be the perfect opportunity for you! 🦌🌿

### 📋 CRITERIA:

- ✓ Some knowledge of local plants and game animals
- ✓ Available during weekdays in September 2024
- ✓ Comfortable walking in the bush
- ✓ Must be a Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) citizen
- ✓ Must be 21 years of age or older



If you're interested and meet the criteria, please contact Walter Andreeff at [wandreeff@metis.org](mailto:wandreeff@metis.org) or call 780-380-1468 for more details. 🚗 Honorarium and travel will be provided for those who



are selected and participate. Let's work together to care for our land and heritage! ❤️

# Looking Back

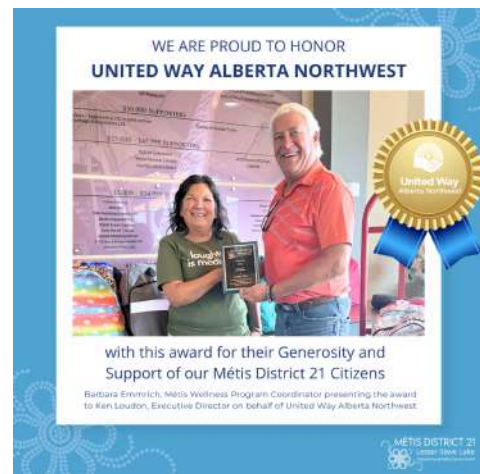
LAST MONTH AT A GLANCE

## UNITED WAY AWARD

Thursday, August 22, 2024

We were proud to present the award for Generosity and Support of our Métis District 21 Citizens to United Way Alberta Northwest ❤️

The lovely Barbara Emmrich, our Métis Wellness Program Coordinator presented the award to Ken Loudon, Executive Director who accepted it on behalf of United Way Alberta Northwest 🏆



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATED

Thursday, August 22, 2024

❤️ We are sending out a huge thank you to the team at United Way Alberta Northwest for the large donation of 93 Backpacks filled with school supplies to match each student's grade to our Métis District 21 citizens that registered! 📚 🍎 🍌 🍷

**WINNER CHERYL**

August, 2024

∞ A huge thank you to everyone who submitted their answers to our Earthquake Poll Survey in May! 🌍 Your feedback is incredibly valuable to us.

And a big congratulations to Cheryl Anderson, the lucky winner of the \$50 Visa Gift Card Prize! 🎉💳 We appreciate your participation and support.

**PROUD OF YOU WALTER!**

Thursday, August 22, 2024

We are beyond proud of our very own Walter Andreef, Consultation Coordinator for Métis District 21! During the Inaugural Citizens' Gathering, Walter was honored with a special gift of recognition from Otipemisiwak Métis Government President Andrea Sandmaier for his incredible contribution and hard work on the Self-Government Transition Committee. Thank you, Walter, for your dedication and commitment to our community. Your efforts are truly making a difference as we move forward in our journey of self-governance.

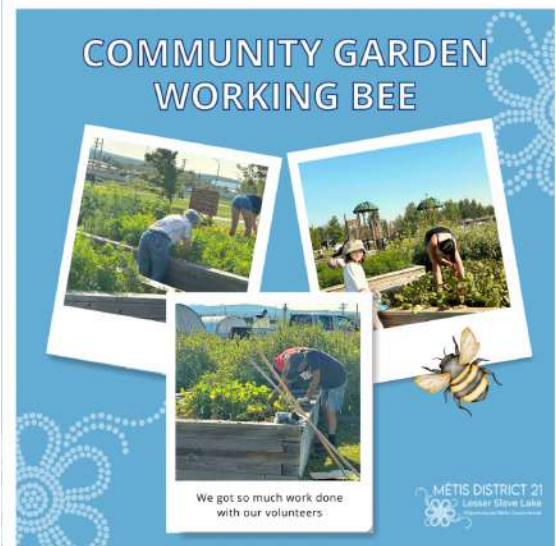
**AN EVENING OF SUNSHINE AND GREEN THUMBS**

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

🌱 A huge thank you to all our amazing volunteers who joined us for the Community Garden Working Bee at Fournier Place Garden! 🧑‍🌾❤️ Your green thumbs and hard work truly made a difference in creating a thriving garden space for our community. From planting to weeding and everything in between, your efforts have helped grow not just our garden, but also the bonds within our community. 🌻

And of course, we hope you enjoyed the BBQ hot dogs and burgers as a token of our appreciation!

🍔🍌 We couldn't have done it without you—let's keep this momentum going and continue to nurture both our garden and our community! ❤️



## THANKFUL TO GATHER TOGETHER



We were thrilled to be part of the historic Inaugural Citizen's Gathering hosted by the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of Alberta!

🇺🇸 It was an honor to connect with our fellow Métis Alberta and District 21 citizens, share our stories, and celebrate our rich culture together. ∞

At our District 21 trade show table, we proudly gave away free Otipemisiwak t-shirts, showcased our new branded sweatpants for sale, and proudly sold our brand new children's book, The Bear's Gift. It was a joy to meet so many of you and share in the excitement of our growing nation! ❤️ ∞



This year marked the 96th consecutive year of gathering, and it was truly a celebration to remember. From important announcements about our self-government, and new department initiatives to the vibrant artist market, amazing Métis Jiggers, delicious meals, and activities for all ages, the event was a testament to our community's strength and unity. ❤️

"With over 700 Métis of Alberta Citizens in attendance, the Inaugural Citizen's Gathering was an incredible success!" said Andrea Sandmaier. We couldn't agree more—thank you to everyone who made this gathering so special. We're already looking forward to next year! ✨



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Share This Email

# Métis Programs

METIS NATION OF ALBERTA



The images below are each a different program, service, or support for all Métis citizens from the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA). Click on the images below to **Learn More** about each one.





Adult Dental

Business

Support Groups

Mental Health

Medical Stay



Transportation



Quit Smoking



Recovery



Therapy



Training



Mental Health



Harvesting



Reconciliation



FASD



Environment



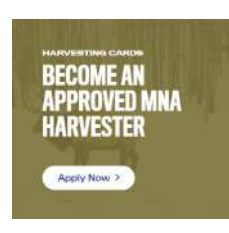
Housing



Climate



Apply Today



Apply Today



Education



Benevolence Fund



MNA Store

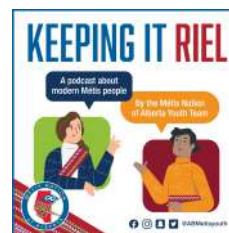
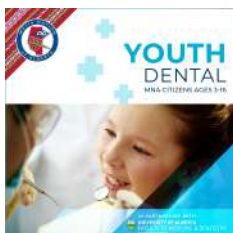


Culture



Financial

## PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR YOUTH ONLY



Adult Dental

Readers

Scholarships

Podcast

Activities



Free Courses



Metis Youth



Hunters

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