

The *Riel* Scoop

MÉTIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2025

Looking Ahead

UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES



JOIN US FOR FAMILY FUN DAY!

Saturday, June 07, 2025

Bring the whole family out for a day full of laughter, cultural connection, and outdoor fun!

DATE: Saturday, June 7, 2025

TIME: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

LOCATION: Big Fish Bay

Join **Lesser Slave Lake Metis District** for a **Family Fun Day** you won't want to miss! We'll have games, activities, a hot dog roast, and lots of space to relax and enjoy the sunshine.

Everyone is welcome — Elders, parents, kids, cousins, friends — the more, the merrier!

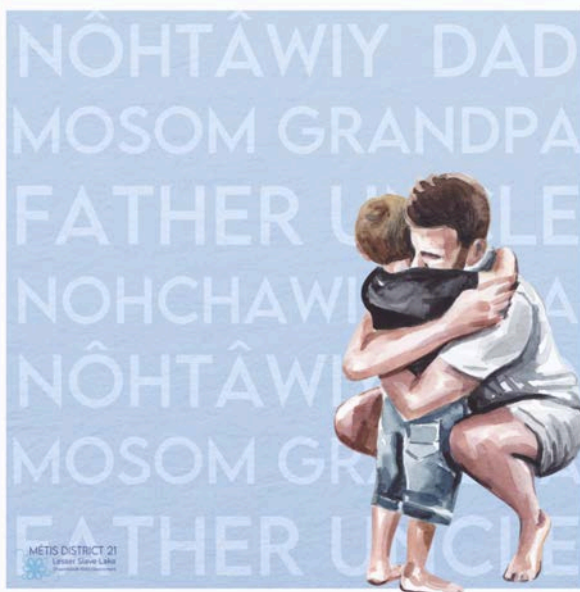
Don't forget your towel, swimsuit, sunscreen, and something comfy to sit on! We can't wait to see you there!



PLEASE NOTE: SWIMMING is subject to the pool being open in Big Fish Bay and is out of our control.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Sunday, June 15, 2025



Today, we celebrate all the amazing fathers out there in every form they come—biological fathers, stepfathers, uncles, grandpas, and more. Your love, guidance, and strength shape our communities and our lives.

Thank you for all that you do to shape our lives ! On this special day, we want to send thanks to all the fathers and father figures – past, present, and soon-to-be – for all their love and support.

From our families to yours, we wish you a Happy Father's Day. We also want to take a moment to acknowledge anyone who may be struggling with the loss of their father on this day. You are in our thoughts and we want to offer our support and love to you as well.

REGISTER FOR YOUTH CULTURE CAMP

July 28 to August 01, 2025

REGISTER YOUR YOUTH TODAY!

Games, Fun, & Traditional Learning Lesser Slave Lake Métis District's Youth Culture Camp is happening July 28 to August 01, 2025

Pack your bags for an unforgettable week of **cultural learning**! Get ready for a fully inclusive campout with cultural activities, outdoor land-based teachings, and more! This camp will be an overnight stay at the designated campground and include activities such as outdoor survival education, traditional plant learning, outdoor orienteering, fishing education, and more!

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at the Métis District 21 Office by email at region5@metis.org or by phone at 780-849-4654.

Whether you're a returning camper or brand new to the experience, we can't wait to welcome you!



REGISTRATION FORMS

REGISTER TODAY

DATE: July 28 to August 01, 2025

WHO: Ages 12 to 29

REGISTER IN PERSON: At the Metis District 21 office

REGISTER ONLINE: [Download the forms here](#), complete them, and email them to region5@metis.org

FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Register by June 25, 2025



We are thrilled to announce that we have a **limited supply of free school materials available for Lesser Slave Lake Metis District students from pre-Kindergarten to grade 12** 📎

To secure your chance for your child(ren)'s free school supplies, sign up for this program before June 25, 2025. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to equip your kids with the necessary tools for a successful academic year, provided by the wonderful United Way Alberta Northwest! 💖

To register your child(ren), please email us at region5@metis.org with the following info (for each child):



TOOLS FOR SCHOOL

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

United Way Alberta Northwest

MÉTIS DISTRICT 21 Lesser Slave Lake

Email us your: (For Each Child)

- Child's first & last name
- The full name of the School they are attending
- The City or town they live in
- The Grade Attending
- Their Gender
- Do they require a backpack (Y/N)

**REGISTRATION CLOSES
ON JUNE 25!**

- ♦ Child's first & last name
- ♦ The full name of the school they are attending
- ♦ The City or town they live in
- ♦ The Grade Attending
- ♦ Their Gender
- ♦ Do they require a backpack (Y/N)

We are here to support our students and ensure they have the resources they need to thrive in their educational journey. Let's make sure every student is well-prepared and ready to excel! ☀️

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** We ask that you register your Metis children for one of the school supply programs ONLY. Either with the Metis Nation of Alberta Otipemisiwak Métis Government **OR** this Tools for School 2025 program to allow enough funding to serve as many families as we can. ❤️

MÉTIS EMERGENCY INFORMATION FOR WILDFIRE SEASON

Spring and Summer 2022

From March 1 to October 31, Northern Alberta is in wildfire season.

If you are a **Lesser Slave Lake Métis District citizen** with a valid MNA citizenship card and have been evacuated or are at risk due to wildfires, we are here to support you.

Contact our Lesser Slave Lake Metis District Office:

Email: region5@metis.org

Phone: 780-849-4654

You can also access emergency preparedness tips, support programs, and guides for wildfire-affected citizens through the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of Alberta's website listed below that includes staying informed through active emergency alerts, updates on air quality and other factors that may affect physical or mental health, information when preparing to evacuate or evacuating, provincial and federal financial assistance resources, resources available through the Otipemisiwak Metis Government, and general information on how to be prepared in the case of an emergency.

Let's stay safe and connected. Reach out if you or your family need support, contact us directly, and we can point you to the proper supports available — we stand together, always.



Metis Emergency Information For

WILD FIRE SEASON

Lesser Slave Lake Metis District Citizens with valid MNA citizenship cards who have been evacuated and require assistance can contact us at:

region5@metis.org 780-849-4654

MÉTIS DISTRICT 21 Lesser Slave Lake

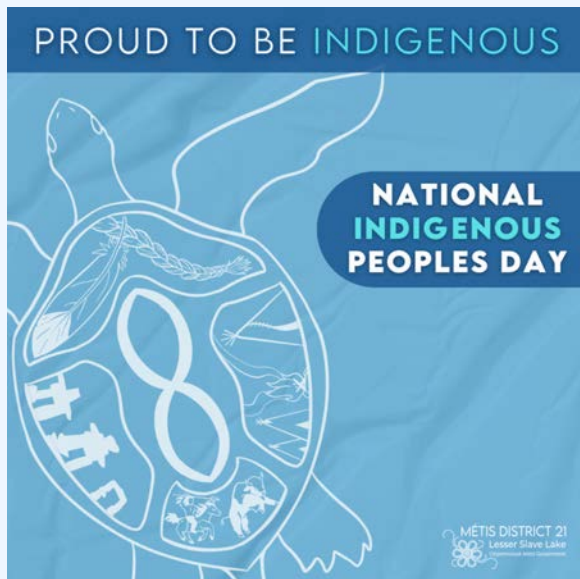
OMG Emergency Preparedness:

<https://albertametis.com/programs-services/environment-climate/emergency-and-wildfire-support-resources/>

OMG Email: wildfires@metis.org

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

Saturday, June 21, 2025



Today, we celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day!

On this day, we honor and recognize the rich and diverse cultures, histories, and achievements of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. We invite everyone to join us in participating in the local events and activities organized to mark this special occasion.

This is an opportunity to deepen our understanding of Indigenous cultures and traditions and to show our support for Indigenous authors, musicians, artists, and businesses. Let us celebrate the unique and beautiful diversity of Indigenous peoples and continue to work towards building stronger relationships and communities.

We hope that you will take this opportunity to learn, celebrate, and show your support.

MÉTIS FEST - SAVE THE DATE

June 13 to 14, 2025

Save the Date: Alberta Métis Fest is back!

Mark your calendars for June 13-14 at the Cultural Gathering Centre, Métis Crossing! Join us for two days of celebration, featuring the Métis Jamboree, Jigging Competitions, Artisan Market, and much more!

Follow the Alberta Metis for more details!

When: June 13-14, 2025

Where: Cultural Gathering Centre, Métis Crossing
For more information, visit the Otipemisiwak Metis Government within Alberta website linked below:

[Learn More Here](#)



BENEVOLENCE FUND

Ongoing Program by the OMG

Otipemisiwak Métis Government **BENEVOLENCE FUND**

You are not alone.



[Apply or Learn More](#)

Have you recently lost an immediate family member and are struggling with funeral expenses?

The Benevolence Fund is here to help eligible Citizens of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government / Métis Nation of Alberta during difficult times.

Who Can Apply?

- You, or the deceased, must be a Citizen of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government/Métis Nation of Alberta.
- You must be an immediate family member of the deceased (spouse, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, or sibling), or identified as next of kin.
- You are responsible for funeral costs and facing financial hardship.

Important Details:

- Applications must be submitted within 4 months of the passing.
- Payment goes directly to the applicant (not to the estate or funeral home).
- Only one application per deceased family member will be approved.
- Processing takes approximately six weeks after all documents are received.

Call: 780-455-2200

Email: SSN@metis.org

LSL METIS DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, June 23, 2025

The Lesser Slave Lake District Council will host a regular meeting on Monday, June 23, 2025.

*Please note that this meeting is not a part of the Lesser Slave Lake Métis District, but is organized and run by the Lesser Slave Lake Metis District Committee (Formerly the Slave Lake Metis Local #19).

Should you have any questions, please reach out to Shane Combs, President, at 780-849-9312.

DATE: Monday, June 23, 2025

TIME: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

LOCATION: Métis District #21 Office

LESSER SLAVE LAKE DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

Formerly the Slave Lake Métis Local #19

DATE: Monday, June 23, 2025

TIME: 6:00 pm

LOCATION: Métis District #21 Office,
#353 Main Street North, Slave Lake

Métis Youth & Children ∞

MÉTIS YOUTH CITIZEN FEATURE

🏠🌟 Youth Citizen Feature – June 2025 | Jaidynn Chartrand 🌟🏠

Métis District 21 is so proud to celebrate this month's Youth Citizen Feature, the inspiring and determined Jaidynn Chartrand!

With incredible perseverance, Jaidynn has officially completed her High School Diploma — a huge milestone that didn't come easy, but one she never gave up on.

From dedicating her summers to extra classes, to overcoming the challenges that tested her strength and spirit, Jaidynn has shown us what it truly means to be resilient.



She has grown from a quiet, thoughtful young girl into a young woman finding her voice and walking boldly into her future — one filled with big dreams and higher education. As the oldest sister to Alijah and Everleigh, she leads with heart, humility, and courage.

We're so proud of who you are, Jaidynn — and who you're becoming. Your journey reminds all of us that hard work, Métis values, and believing in yourself can lead to powerful transformation. Please join us in celebrating Jaidynn and all of our incredible Métis youth making their mark across District 21! 💙 ∞

GEAR UP FOR SCHOOL

Ongoing Program by OMG

Gear Up for School 2025/2026 is now OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!

Applications are now open for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government's Gear Up for School Program, supporting Métis students with back-to-school supplies. Apply early – supplies are limited!

ELIGIBILITY:

- Fully registered Citizen of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government
- Reside in Alberta
- Entering preschool, kindergarten, or Grades 1–6 in Fall 2025

QUESTIONS?

Contact the MNA by email at CFSEarlyYears@metis.org or by phone at 780-455-2200

Let's get ready for a great school year!



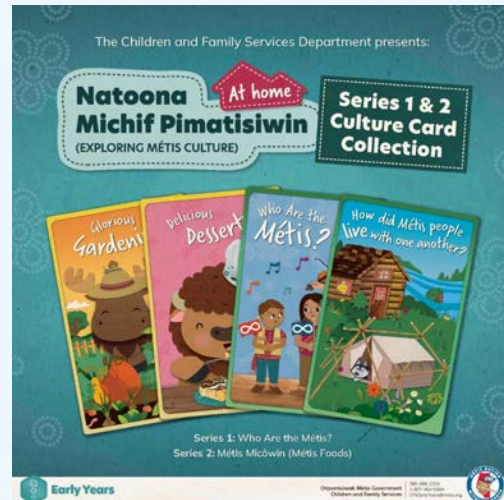
[Apply Here](#)

FREE YOUTH PROGRAMS

Ongoing Program by OMG



[Learn More Here](#)



[Apply Here](#)

Digital Community

CONNECTION ∞

MÉTIS CITIZEN SUCCESS STORY FROM OUR DISTRICT

🌟 **Celebrating The Hardworking and Humble Matt!**

☀️ **Métis Citizen Feature –**
June 2025 | Matt Emmrich 🌿

Métis District 21 is proud to spotlight Matt Emmrich as this month's Citizen Feature — a hardworking and humble man whose journey is grounded in Métis pride, perseverance, and a deep connection to both family and community.

Matt left home at just 16 and carved out a life for himself in Slave Lake, finishing high school at Lakeside Outreach while working to support his goals.

Since 2017, he's built an incredible career at Alberta Plywood, earning his Red Seal Millwright and now serving as Maintenance Chargehand — a role that speaks to his leadership and dedication.

Matt comes from a strong Métis lineage: his Kokum helped preserve the Michif language, and his Moshum played a role in founding the MMF in Manitoba. Their legacy lives on through him — and now through his two beautiful daughters, who he raises with love and pride. In recent years, Matt has dedicated a summer week to chaperoning the Lesser Slave Lake Metis District Youth Culture Camp and volunteers his time at other Metis events.

When he's not working, you'll likely find Matt on the golf course, strumming his guitar, or tending to his garden — a man of many talents and deep roots. Please help us honour Matt for his achievements, his resilience, and his ongoing contributions to our community. ❤️ ∞



NOMINATE A DISTRICT CITIZEN TO FEATURE!

Do you know an **Adult or Youth** Metis Citizen in our District who deserves a local feature and/or has a 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 our Métis citizens.

Nominate or recommend someone for our Métis Citizen Features by filling out the form linked below. Share their inspiring journey with us! Share their inspiring journey with us!

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



NOMINATE A CITIZEN!

Why did the Métis
family bring bannock
to the picnic?



Because they
“kneaded” something
delicious!

MÉTIS DISTRICT 21
Lesser Slave Lake
Otipemisiwak Métis Government

STAY CONNECTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us online

READ ALL ABOUT IT ON FACEBOOK!



[Our Facebook](#)

CATCH US ON INSTA!



@District21Metis

[Our Instagram](#)

NEW TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FROM RLI

Programs provided by Rupertsland

NORTHWEST TATTOO ARTIST TRAINING PROJECT



Grande Prairie, AB • July 7 – December 19

What You'll Get:

- First 5 weeks are online!
- 6-month intensive training (equivalent to a 3-year apprenticeship)
- Hands-on learning with professional mentors & guest artists
- Kit & materials included
- Certificate in Body Artistry and safety certification from the Alberta College of Body Art

Requirements:

- 18+ years old
- High school diploma or equivalent (or pass a basic skills test)
- Must show hand-drawn art skills (portfolio required)

Apply By:
June 10



[Apply Here](#)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER CERTIFICATION



Training runs from October 27, 2025 to November 21 online and from November 24 to December 19 in Smoky Lake, AB

Be on the scene and start your journey towards a career as an Emergency Medical Responder

Emergency Medical Responder training is the first step in Alberta towards a career as a paramedic.

All applicants are required to have valid CPR Level C and Standard First Aid certifications.*

*See the linked form for further qualifications.

Applications are open until August 30!



[Apply Here](#)

Looking Back

LAST MONTH AT A GLANCE

THANK YOU, CNRL FOR YOUR DONATION

May 20, 2025



A heartfelt thank you to our friends at CNRL (Canadian Natural Resources Limited) for their generous donation of \$3,500 towards our Family Fun Day!

Your continued support allows us to better serve our communities in our Lesser Slave Lake Metis District.

In the photo, you can see Lee Cardinal from CNRL presenting the donation cheque to our dedicated team members Brenda, Walter, and Barbara.

QUILTS OF LOVE, STORIES OF HEALING

May 2025

Métis District 21 is honoured to share a beautiful moment of care and recognition from the Quilts for Survivors program. ❤️ This week, they gifted a handcrafted quilt to our own Métis Citizen, Christine Proulx — a gesture of warmth, healing, and deep respect.

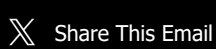
With the mission "to create comfort and healing through the making and giving of quilts," this national program supports Residential School Survivors and survivors of trauma through the art of quilting. ♦ Each blanket is lovingly crafted by volunteers across Canada and serves as a powerful reminder: You are seen. You are valued. You are loved.

Christine is deeply thankful for this gift, and we are grateful to the Quilts for Survivors team and community of makers for continuing to wrap our survivors in care, one stitch at a time.

If you or someone you know is a survivor and would like to receive a quilt, you can make a



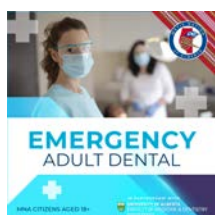
request
here: <https://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca/>



Metis 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



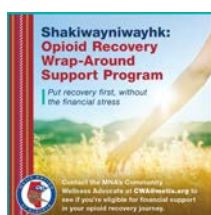
Medical Stay



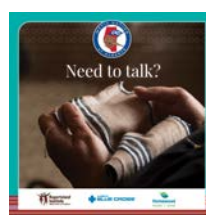
Transportation



Quit Smoking



Recovery



Therapy



Training



Mental Health



Harvesting



Reconciliation



FASD



Environment



Housing



Climate



Apply Today



Apply Today



Education



Benevolence Fund



MNA Store

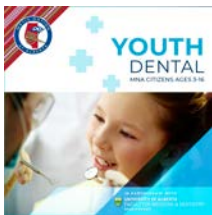


Culture



Financial

PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR YOUTH ONLY



Adult Dental



Readers



Scholarships



Podcast



Activities



Free Courses



Metis Youth



Hunters



Métis District 21 Lesser Slave Lake | 353 Main Street NW | Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A1 CA

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