



Resolution Duly Approved by the
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan
Provincial Métis Council on November 14, 2022
#221114-07

**Reaffirming the *UNDRIP Act* and *Kwayskahstahsoowin* –
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Position Paper**

WHEREAS on June 21, 2021, the Government of Canada (“Canada”) enacted the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (the “*UNDRIP Act*”), which codifies Canada’s commitment to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);

WHEREAS “*Kwayskahstahsoowin*” is the Cree word for “Setting Things Right” which the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) believes is the overarching approach that Canada must adopt in the implementation of the *UNDRIP Act*;

WHEREAS UNDRIP is an international human rights document that reflects the “minimum standards” of Indigenous rights around the world;

WHEREAS in carrying out the *UNDRIP Act* and its commitments set out therein, Canada must take into account the diversity of Indigenous peoples and, in particular, the diversity of the identities, cultures, languages, customs, practices, rights and legal traditions of the Métis and their institutions and governance structures, their relationships to the land, and Indigenous knowledge;

WHEREAS the MN-S has made it clear that the Métis expect a relationship with Canada which reflects the exercise of inherent Métis rights and jurisdiction of the Métis as a self-governing people;

WHEREAS the MN-S has set out its position and expectations in the MN-S Position Paper titled, “*Kwayskahstahsoowin*” as it relates to self-government and the affirmation of jurisdictional areas;

WHEREAS the MN-S requires financial and technical capacity to further build and operate a Métis government that is able to deliver services, programs, and other supports to its Citizens such that its Citizens are able to enjoy the rights contained in UNDRIP and are supported by Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*;

WHEREAS the MN-S is best placed to determine its capacity needs given its proximity to, and its relationship with, its Citizens, and Canada’s provision of funding must reflect the MN-S’ input to ensure that current challenges around the chronic lack of capacity are eliminated; and

WHEREAS in the words of Louis Riel, the Métis “will not allow even the Dominion of Canada to trample on our rights”;

(Continued on next page)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) supports the proposal for the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) to call on Canada to meaningfully implement UNDRIP and the *UNDRIP Act* in a manner that is grounded in the rights of self-determination and the right to self-government of the MN-S; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the PMC supports the MNLA adopting the MN-S Position Paper titled “*Kwayskahstahsoowin*” as Appendix A for submission to Canada for inclusion in the UNDRIP action plan as a reflection of what UNDRIP means to the Métis.

Dated this 14th day of November, 2022

Moved by: Michelle LeClair, Vice President

Seconded by: Laura Burnouf, Northern Region 1

