



## Office of the Provincial President

**TO:** Laura Burnouf, Representative, Northern Region 1

**FROM:** Glen McCallum, President

**SUBJECT:** MANDATE as Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Language, and Identity

**DATE:** June 18, 2026

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Dear Minister Burnouf,

Maarsii, thank you for agreeing to serve the Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN–S) as Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Language, and Identity. In 2025, our citizens elected a new government to stand up for our Métis citizens and to build a strong government that works for everyone. As members of this Provincial Métis Council, we must fulfill this mandate with purpose and force. We must meet a series of unprecedented challenges with a disciplined focus on core priorities. Our journey to self-determination and self-government is grounded in building a governance system that reflects our unique identity, culture, values, and languages. As representatives of this government, you must stay focused on who we are and how we build a government that reflects that. Our distinction-based plan sets the direction by creating delivery systems that are uniquely Métis while ensuring our work remains rooted in our identity as a people.

This mandate letter describes your responsibilities and priorities moving forward. As accountability and transparency are the cornerstones of good government, I am making these letters public, so all citizens are informed of how their government is working for them.

As Minister, your role is to support the President in building a Métis distinct government and advancing the implementation of our distinctions-based plan.

While post-secondary education systems are governed and funded by provincial and



federal partners, you are well positioned to provide leadership, coordination, and advocacy that advances Métis student success, supports language revitalization, and strengthens Métis identity. Although direct delivery of educational programs and institutional operations rests elsewhere, your leadership will help ensure Métis priorities are meaningfully reflected in systems, partnerships, and opportunities available to citizens.

Ministers are expected to carry out their responsibilities on behalf of the President, exercising delegated authority with accountability and transparency. A meeting process will be showed to support coordinated decision-making and provide Ministers with regular opportunities to update colleagues on progress and emerging issues. Ministers will report back to the President through this process, ensuring alignment with our distinctions-based priorities.

### **Ministerial Responsibilities**

I expect you to work constructively with all members of the PMC, MN–S staff, and citizens to deliver on the MN–S priorities. This includes advancing the collective priorities set out in our Distinctions Based Focus Plan (DBFP) which charts a Métis-distinct path forward for the MN–S government based on the priorities of Elders, citizens, and the PMC.

As Minister, you are responsible for the following areas:

- Post-Secondary Education, Language, and Identity;
- All matters relating to the language and identity of the citizens of Métis Nation-Saskatchewan;
- All matters relating to the support of Métis citizens in the pursuit of post-secondary education;
- Work collaboratively with the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, to advance coordinated engagement with Indigenous, federal, provincial, and municipal governments;
- Regular reporting to myself as the President, MN–S, on the status of your ministerial



responsibilities.

## Priorities

In addition to the collective priorities in the Distinctions-Based Focus Plan, you will have specific ministerial priorities, which are outlined below:

- Aim to increase the number of Heritage Michif, Northern Michif, Michif French, nēhiyawēwin (Cree), and Dēnesųtiné language speakers across the province through curriculum development, the creation of language specific resources, and language revitalization programs;
- Ensure that programming for Métis Citizens affirms Métis distinction—identity, culture, values and language;
- Serve as the Chair of the Gabriel Dumont Institute;
- Work towards reducing barriers by providing direct support to post-secondary Métis students, which will promote successful completion leading to equitable opportunities and stronger Métis communities;
- Advocate for increased post-secondary funding from the provincial and federal governments to meet the increase in Métis post secondary students in Saskatchewan;
- Work towards the creation of a way to collect and house oral history, traditional knowledge, and artifacts. Develop a strategy for protection of artifacts and for working with museums, governments, and institutions to repatriate Métis artifacts and knowledge;
- Support research and development, in collaboration with the Minister of Self-Government and Self-Determination, into Métis language legislation that acknowledges the rich linguistic heritage of the MN–S Government and safeguards the vitality of these languages for future generations;
- Support the President in preparing your portfolio for MN–S Self-Government



Agreement (treaty) implementation and in building a Métis distinct government.

### **Working Together**

We must deliver for our citizens as we exercise our inherent right to self-determination, including our right of self-government. Achieving these objectives will require collaboration and coordination with other ministers, as well as working closely with the Regions, Locals, and MN-S staff.

Ministers are expected to empower and support the public service to operationalize their vision through effective planning, clear direction, and disciplined execution aligned with DBFP principles. This includes fostering a respectful, professional partnership where public servants are enabled to apply their expertise to translate priorities into actionable programs and results. Ministers will rely on the public service as a trusted team of technical experts to design, implement, and continuously improve outcomes on behalf of MN-S.

In addressing the tasks before us, we must remain true to what makes us distinct as Métis people. Our identity, culture, values, and language: these things we must keep in mind as they direct our work. MN-S is a dynamic government that celebrates our Elders and our youth, cares for the most vulnerable among us, and strives for a better future for all citizens. If we work together, we can ensure a strong, healthy, vibrant future for all Métis in Saskatchewan.

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Glen McCallum

President, Métis Nation–Saskatchewan

Cc: Matthew Vermette, Acting CEO

