A Statement from MN–S Justice Minister on ILEX file

For the past decade, the Métis Nation–Saskatchewan government has provided an arms length support to the Île-à-la-Crosse (ILEX) Residential School Survivors' Steering Committee (Committee). This support assisted the Committee in securing settlement agreements with both Canada and Saskatchewan.

In the spirit of transparency and accountability, I want to clarify MN–S's role in negotiations. Although MN–S participated in the settlement negotiations, MN–S did not seek or recieve compensation intended for the survivors under the settlement agreements. MN–S received funding from the government of Canada which was used to assist survivors and the Committee in their pursuit of justice. MN–S has now stepped aside as survivors move into the final phase of their long pursuit of justice.

MN–S is honoured to have advocated for survivors when they needed it and to have helped bring negotiations to agreement before more survivors were lost, including former Committee chair, Louis Gardiner.

As the Minister responsible for the survivors' file, I will remain supporting the Committee until the governance is completed on the legacy fund and a call out for board members takes place for a newly established independent non-profit organization led by ILEX residential school survivors and intergenerational survivors. That process begins this weekend in Saskatoon. MN–S will continue to assist where needed. At the same time, we are pleased to step back as survivors receive the compensation they are owed.

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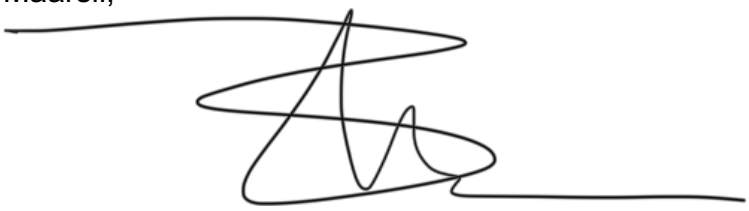

Brennan Merasty
MN–S Justice Minister